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Vampire Crab

Geosesarma sp.

Care Sheet

Average Size

2 inches long

Average Lifespan

2 years

Diet

Vampire Crabs are scavengers. Prepared crab foods can be used along with other items such as, small pieces of fruit, greens, freeze dried crickets, mealworms and shrimp. A source of calcium such as a cuttlebone is recommended.

Feeding

Vampire Crabs are scavengers and prefer always having food available.

Housing

Habitat - Vampire Crabs are native to Java and Indonesia alongside rivers, streams, and ponds. Vampire crabs spend most of their time on land but will venture into water to scavenge and to molt.

Size - Vampire Crabs are generally peaceful with their own species and can be kept in a group of 3 or less in a 10-gallon enclosure. For more specimens a larger tank is recommended.

Substrate - Vampire Crabs can be kept in a variety of substrates. A sand/soil substrate is commonly used with the addition of sphagnum or terrarium moss. Leaf litter and cork bark are great additions for natural hides. The tank should be divided into 80% land and 20% water. It is recommended that the water portion be filtered. If not using a filter, regular water changes are recommended for water quality.

Temperature - Temperatures between 75-82°F are perfect for Vampire Crabs which can be achieved with a heat lamp, under tank heater or submersible aquarium heater.

Humidity - The humidity of the enclosure should be kept relatively high at 80% humidity.

Watering - As long as the enclosure is setup with a water portion, a water bowl is not required.

Lighting - Vampire Crabs do not require specialized lighting. Lights may be used as a heat source, viewing or for plant growth. There is no current proof that the animal requires UVB light, although some keepers prefer to provide UVB.

Plant and Fish bulbs are not UVB bulbs.



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