

Curly Tailed Lizard

Curly-tailed lizards are attractive pets to own whether male or female. They are part of a family of curly tail lizards where there are currently 28 known different species of curly-tails. They are native across the Caribbean and each species is differentiated by the area that they are found. Males are generally more colourful than females but this is sometimes recognised depending on the position of light reflecting off of their bodies. Males should not be kept together due to aggressiveness.



Glossary

Reptile – A cold-blooded vertebrate with scaly skin.

Amphibian – A cold-blooded vertebrate that begins life as an aquatic animal and grows into a terrestrial adult with lungs.

Terrestrial – A ground dwelling animal.

Arboreal – An animal that lives in trees.

Diurnal – Awake in the day.

Nocturnal – Awake during the night.

UVB – Ultraviolet radiation.

Colubrid – A family of snakes.

Hybrid – Offspring from animals of different species.

Morph – Colourations created due to genetics.

Musk – Unpleasant odour released when an animal is stressed or feels threatened.

Live plants are only available on special order

If you require any further information, please ask our pet care advisors who will be very happy to help.

Opening Times

Monday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am – 4pm

Chessington Garden Centre

Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2NG

Tel: 01372 725 638

Email: info@chessingtongardencentre.co.uk

Web: www.chessingtongardencentre.co.uk



Please recycle me once you've finished reading.


Chessington

Curly Tailed Lizard



Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden



Size & Housing

These lizards will rarely exceed 7 inches in length. In some species of curly-tailed lizards the males are larger than the females but in other species, the females are larger. This will depend on which species you have. Wooden vivariums or glass terrariums are ideal for curly-tailed lizards. These lizards are terrestrial but will happily explore and climb so the larger the enclosure, the better.

60 x 45 x 45cm / 24 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 1 Adult
90 x 45 x 45cm / 36 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 2 Adults



Substrate & Furnishings

Substrates such as mouldable clays, desert bedding, reptile sands or barks can be used. Live or artificial plants should be used with plenty of rocks, logs, bark and branches creating high climbing areas that reach the warmest basking area. Provide a moist hide filled with damp moss if they have trouble shedding. Spot pick the enclosure daily and full clean once or twice a month using a reptile specific disinfectant.

Please Note – Not all live plants are reptile friendly.

Lighting & Temperature

Provide essential UVB (12%) to create a daytime cycle of 10–12 hours a day. This is best controlled by a timer. They are most comfortable with a temperature around 32°C with the basking area reaching 35°C – achieve this by using a heat bulb or ceramic heat emitter with a guard controlled by a thermostat at all times. There should be a temperature gradient across the enclosure with a night time drop to 18°C minimum.

Food & Water

Curly-tailed lizards are mainly insectivores and should be fed a variety of appropriate sized insects such as:

- Crickets
- Mealworms
- Roaches
- Locusts
- Waxworms (treat)

Insects should be gut loaded before feeding and dusted with a calcium supplement 3 times a week and multivitamins (Nutrobal) once a week. Fresh water should be offered daily. The enclosure can occasionally be lightly misted.

Handling

These lizards are best kept as attractive display animals. They are very quick and skittish and are unlikely to tolerate handling. Only handle when necessary such as cleaning or physical observations such as injuries. They will get nervous easily and may hide for extended periods of time if overhandled or frightened.