# Madagascan Day Gecko

The Madagascan day gecko is a diurnal, arboreal lizard. They come in colourations of electric green which is their most distinguishing feature. These lizards must be kept solitary or in a pair. When housed together these geckos will become aggressive but it is still a risk when introducing a pair (two individuals are not guaranteed to get along). This is also a potential risk when introducting a new mate to a lizard that may have lost its partner.



# 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 radiaton.

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**

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# Madagascan Day Gecko



# Care & Advice Sheet

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These geckos usually reach 23–28cm in length including tail. Glass terrariums are recommended as they maintain humidity well. They have special sticky toes which allow them to climb and stick to the glass. Young geckos should be kept in smaller terrariums as they may struggle to find their food.

 $45 \times 45 \times 60$ cm /  $18 \times 18 \times 24$ " – Minimum for 1 Adult  $60 \times 45 \times 60$ cm /  $24 \times 18 \times 24$ " – Minimum for 2 Adults



## Substrate & Furnishings

Substrates that maintain high humidity are recommended such as humus bricks or coco fibre. Orchid bark or rainforest barks are also suitable and can be mixed with soil based substrates. Live or artificial plants should be used with plenty of rocks, logs, bark and branches creating high climbing areas. 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. Lack of UV will result in physical deformities and ill health. Lighting is best controlled by a timer. They are most comfortable with a hot spot up to 35°C – this is best achieved 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 in the enclosure and at night the temperature can drop to minimal 24°C.

#### Food & Water

Madagascan day geckos are fruit eating geckos.

The easiest option is the powdered day gecko
diet (Repashy) that has been specially formulated
to maintain all the vital nutrients that these geckos
need. This is acceptable but live food on
occasion will help to maintain maximum health
such as:

- Locusts
- Waxworms (treat)
- Crickets

dusted with a calcium supplement 3 times a week and multivitamins (Nutrobal) once a week.

Fresh water should be offered daily. The enclosure should be misted 1–2 times a day to keep the humidity between 55–65%. The substrate should never be soggy but nearly dry before the next

Insects should be gut loaded before feeding and

## Handling

misting.

These geckos are best kept as display animals.

They are very jumpy and fast moving and will run away and hide when being held is attempted.

They will drop their tails if frightened however, it will grow back.