

Yellow Headed Dwarf Gecko

The yellow-headed dwarf gecko is a diurnal, arboreal lizard. They are generally a darker blue or black with a yellow head. This species thrives in man-made habitats and is commonly found throughout Tanzania. Males cannot be kept together as they are aggressive to one another but females can be housed together. Expected life span is between 5 to 10 years.



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

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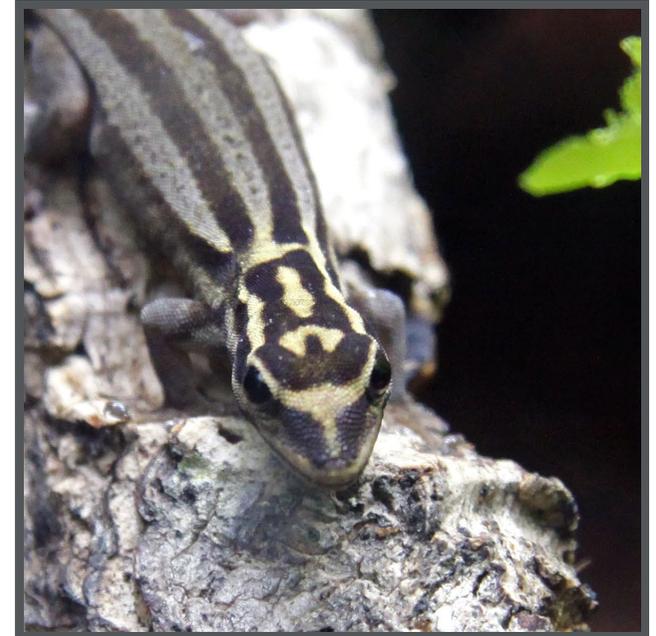
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Care & Advice Sheet

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Size & Housing

These geckos rarely reach longer than 3 inches in length including tail. Glass terrariums are recommended as they maintain humidity well. The geckos 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. Adult geckos thrive in larger spaces that exceed their minimum needs.

30 x 30 x 45cm / 12 x 12 x 18" – Minimum for 1 Adult

45 x 45 x 60cm / 18 x 18 x 24" – Minimum for 2-3 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. As many live or artificial plants as possible 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 33°C – this is best achieved 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 and at night the temperature can drop by a few degrees.

Food & Water

Yellow-headed dwarf 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:

- Small Locusts
- Fruit Flies
- Small Crickets

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 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 misting.

Handling

These geckos are best kept as display animals. They are very jumpy and fast moving and will run away and hide when trying to be held. They will drop their tails if frightened however, it will grow back.