



Asian Forest Scorpion Care Sheet

Species Name:

Heterometrus spinifer

Adult Size:

10-12cm

Lifespan:

7-8 years

Breeding Age:

1-3 years



Asian forest scorpions, belonging to the genus *Heterometrus*, are formidable arachnids found across Southeast Asia's lush forests and tropical regions. These scorpions, often dark brown or black, boast robust pincers and a long, curved tail armed with venomous stingers. Growing up to 6 inches, they're among the largest scorpions globally. Nocturnal hunters, they prey on insects, small vertebrates, and even other scorpions. Despite their venom, their sting is usually non-lethal to humans, causing pain and discomfort akin to a bee sting. Asian forest scorpions thrive in humid habitats, often hiding beneath rocks, logs, or in burrows during daylight hours.

Housing:

Enclosure: As terrestrial creatures your Asian Forest scorpion will enjoy a vivarium which is longer than it is tall, a 60x45x45cm glass terrarium is ideal.

Substrate: Using a substrate that retains moisture is important for this scorpion, ideally a mix of orchid bark and a loose substrate like coconut coir or moss.

Temperature:

Maintain a basking spot temperature of 28-30°C.

Provide a gradient, with the cooler side around 22-25°C.

Use a heat source like a basking light and a heat mat for heating.

Night time temperatures can drop to 18-21°C.

Lighting:

Asian Forest Scorpions do not require any UVB lighting however, they will benefit from a 10-12-hour day/night cycle. For a cool effect at night, you can shine an LED light on your scorpion and see that it will glow in the dark!

Diet:

Feeding: Offer a varied diet of insects (locusts, crickets, and worms) every 2-3 days



Humidity and Hydration:

A humidity of 70-80% should be maintained.

Provide a shallow dish for drinking water or a dish with bug gel to allow the scorpion to drink droplets from the surface. Mist the enclosure occasionally to maintain humidity levels and aid in shedding.

Enrichment and Handling:

Place hiding spots, rocks, and branches for climbing to create a stimulating environment.

Provide a secure hide for them to retreat and feel safe.

Health Considerations:

Regularly monitor for signs of illness, such as lethargy, changes in appetite, or difficulty shedding.

Quarantine new reptiles before introducing them to existing enclosures.

Remember that the care requirements for Asian Forest Scorpion may vary slightly based on individual needs, so observe your animals behaviour and make adjustments accordingly. Always prioritize the well-being and health of your pet by providing a well-maintained and enriched environment.