



Eastern Casque-Headed Iguana Care Sheet:

Species Name:

Laemanctus longipes

Adult size:

50-70cm

Lifespan:

8-10 Years

Breeding age:

2 Years



The Eastern Casque-headed Iguana, *Laemanctus longipes*, is a striking reptile native to Central America. It boasts an elongated snout and a prominent casque on its head, aiding camouflage in forest environments. Its slender body facilitates swift movement among branches, where it preys on insects and small vertebrates. Displaying territorial behaviour, it defends its space with vigour. Despite facing challenges such as habitat loss, this species persists as a symbol of Central American biodiversity. With its unique features and ecological role, the Eastern Casque-headed Iguana captivates both scientists and enthusiasts alike.

Enclosure:

Size: A spacious enclosure is essential. For a single adult Casque-Headed Iguana, a minimum enclosure size of 90x45x90cm is recommended. A larger enclosure is even better.

Substrate: Use a substrate that retains moisture well, such as coconut coir or cypress mulch. This helps maintain humidity levels.

Temperature:

Basking Area: Provide a basking spot with a temperature of 30-32°C.

Ambient Temperature: Maintain an ambient temperature in the enclosure between 22-25°C during the day and no lower than 15-20°C at night.

Humidity:

Maintain a humidity level of 70-90%. This can be achieved by misting the enclosure regularly and providing a shallow water dish.

Lighting:

Use a full-spectrum UVB light of 6% to allow proper calcium metabolism. Provide a 12-hour light and 12-hour dark cycle to mimic natural daylight.

Diet:

These Iguanas are insectivores with a diet consisting of:

Feeding: Offer a varied diet of insects (crickets, roaches, mealworms), leafy greens, and vegetables.

Supplements: Dust insects with calcium and vitamin supplements 2-3 times a week.



Behaviour and Enrichment:

Climbing: Provide branches and perches for climbing to mimic their natural behaviour.

Swimming: Create a shallow water dish large enough for the dragon to soak and swim.

Hide spots: Include hiding spots within the enclosure to allow the dragon to retreat and feel secure.

Handling:

Handle your Iguana gently and regularly to build trust. Support their body when handling to avoid stress or injury.

Health:

Health checks: If you notice any changes in behaviour, appetite, or appearance, seek professional advice promptly.

Cleanliness: Clean and disinfect the enclosure regularly, removing faeces and uneaten food promptly to maintain a healthy environment.

Remember, understanding and replicating the natural environment of the Casque-Headed Iguana is crucial for their well-being. Always conduct further research and consult with experienced reptile keepers or veterinarians for the best care practices.