



Green Keel-Bellied Lizard Care Sheet

Species Name:

Gastropholis prasina

Adult size:

10-15"

Lifespan:

10-15 Years



The Green Keel-Bellied Lizard is native to the tropical rainforests of West Africa, including countries like Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Liberia, and Ivory Coast. These arboreal reptiles are known for their striking green coloration and are often found in the dense vegetation of the rainforest canopy. Their slender bodies and prehensile tails make them excellent climbers.

In the wild, these lizards are primarily insectivores, feeding on a variety of invertebrates like crickets, roaches, and beetles. They are also known to consume some plant matter, such as fruits and vegetation.

Enclosure:

Terrarium Size: A vertically oriented enclosure is essential to mimic the lizard's arboreal habitat. A 24"x24"x36" terrarium/vivarium is suitable for a single adult, but larger enclosures are recommended for multiple individuals.

Substrate:

Use a substrate that retains humidity, such as coconut coir or a mixture of sphagnum moss and eco earth. The substrate should be kept moist, but not waterlogged.

Climbing Structures:

Provide plenty of branches, vines, and other climbing structures. Live or artificial plants can be added to create a more naturalistic environment.

Temperature:

Basking Area: Maintain a basking spot temperature of 29-32°C.

Cool Side: Keep the cool side of the enclosure around 24-27°C.

Nighttime Drop: Allow for a nighttime temperature drop to around 21°C.

Lighting:

Use a UVB light of around 7% to provide the necessary ultraviolet rays for proper calcium metabolism.

A 12-hour day cycle should be provided.

Diet:

Green Keel-Bellied Lizards are insectivores, and their diet should consist mainly of gut-loaded insects. Offer a variety of insects such as crickets, roaches, mealworms, and silkworms. Additionally, supplement their diet with calcium and multivitamin powder.



Hydration:

Ensure a constant supply of clean, chlorine-free water. Mist the enclosure regularly to maintain humidity levels to 60-80%. Green Keel-Bellied lizards will drink from droplets created through misting however water bowls can be provided.

Handling:

While these lizards can tolerate handling, it's important to approach them calmly and avoid sudden movements. Allow the lizard to initiate contact, and be mindful of their stress levels. Limit handling to minimize stress and provide a secure environment within the enclosure.

Health Monitoring:

Regularly check for signs of illness, such as changes in appetite, lethargy, or skin issues. Consult with a reptile veterinarian if you notice any abnormalities.

By providing a well-designed habitat and proper care, you can ensure the health and well-being of your Green Keel-Bellied Lizard.