



Green Mountain Horned Lizard Care Sheet:

Species Name:

Acanthosaura lepidogaster

Adult size:

30 cm

Lifespan:

5-8 Years

Breeding age:

2 Years



Acanthosaura lepidogaster, commonly known as the mountain horned dragon, is a species of lizard found in Southeast Asia, particularly in Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. This arboreal lizard thrives in tropical forests and is known for its distinctive spiny appearance, with sharp scales along its body and a row of spines on the back of its head and neck. Its colouration, typically brown or grey, provides effective camouflage among trees and foliage. *Acanthosaura lepidogaster* is an insectivorous species, feeding on various insects and small invertebrates.

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Enclosure:

Size: A spacious enclosure is essential. For a single adult Green Mountain Horned Lizard, a minimum enclosure size of 48"x24"x48" 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 24-27°C.

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

Humidity:

Maintain a humidity level of 60-80%. 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 Lizards are insectivores, their diet should consist of crickets or locusts.

As a treat mealworms, wax worms, or morio worms can be provided. These shouldn't be given as the main diet due to their tough exterior which can cause impaction in high volumes.



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 lizard to soak and swim.

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

Handling:

Handle your Horned Lizard 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 Green Mountain Horned Lizard is crucial for their well-being. Always conduct further research and consult with experienced reptile keepers or veterinarians for the best care practices.