



Cricket Care Sheet

Species Name:

Acheta domesticus

Adult Size:

20mm

Lifespan:

2-3 Months



Crickets are a staple live food for herptiles due to their high nutritional content, providing essential protein, fat, vitamins, and minerals.

They're particularly favoured for reptiles and amphibians, offering a balanced diet crucial for their health and growth. Crickets are relatively easy to breed, requiring minimal space and resources. Their rapid reproductive cycle allows for continuous production, making them a sustainable option for breeders. However, maintaining optimal conditions for breeding, such as temperature and humidity, is necessary for success. Regular gut-loading with nutritious foods enhances their nutritional value, ensuring they remain a vital component of herptile husbandry.

Housing:

Enclosure: Crickets require more ground space than they do height, so a large plastic container will be suitable.

Substrate: Use a dry substrate to mimic their natural habitat such as sand, dry coir, or bug grub can be used as a food source and a substrate.

Temperature:

Their enclosure should have a warm spot kept at 28-32°C and the ambient temperature should be kept at 25-30°C.

Like most animals they will benefit from a cooler night no lower than 20°C.

Lighting:

Locusts do not require UVB lighting to survive, they will benefit from a 10-12 day/night cycle.

Diet:

Feeding: Crickets are herbivorous, they will feed on wild plants such as dandelions, wild rocket, bindweed, and cat's ear. Alternatively, they will eat leafy greens, fruits, and commercial bug diets.



Humidity and Hydration:

A humidity of 30-60% should be maintained.

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

Enrichment:

Provide rocks and branches for them to climb on, for breeding ensure you have a deep layer of substrate or a deep dish with moist soil for the locusts to lay their eggs in.