



Long Tailed Lizard Care Sheet

Species Name:

Takydromus sexlineatus

Adult size:

20-25 cm

Lifespan:

5 Years



Long-tailed lizards (*Takydromus sexlineatus*), native to East Asia, are known for their exceptionally elongated tails, often several times the length of their bodies. These agile reptiles inhabit grasslands, forests, and agricultural areas, where they adeptly navigate through dense vegetation. Their sleek, slender bodies and long limbs make them proficient climbers and swift runners, which is crucial for evading predators and catching prey. Primarily insectivorous, long-tailed lizards feed on a diet of small insects and arthropods. Their bright green colouration helps them blend into their surroundings, providing effective camouflage. In captivity, they require a well-ventilated, spacious terrarium with plenty of vertical space and plant cover to support their active lifestyle and climbing habits. These lizards are relatively easy to care for, making them popular among reptile enthusiasts. Their distinctive appearance and lively behaviour make long-tailed lizards a captivating addition to any reptile collection.

Enclosure:

Terrarium Size: A vertically oriented enclosure is essential to mimic the lizard's arboreal habitat. A 45X45X60CM 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 22-35°C.

Cool Side: Keep the cool side of the enclosure around 23-26°C.

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

Lighting:

Use a UVB light of around 12% to provide the necessary ultraviolet rays for proper calcium metabolism.

A 12-hour day cycle should be provided.

Diet:

Long Tailed 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%. Long Tailed 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 Long Tailed Lizard.