



Mossy New Caledonian Gecko Care Sheet:

Species name:

Rhacodactylus chahoua

Adult Size:

20-25cm

Life Span:

10-15 Years

Breeding Age:

15-18 Months



Mossy New Caledonian geckos are fascinating and unique reptile's native to New Caledonia. These arboreal geckos are often kept as exotic pets due to their striking appearance and relatively docile nature. Proper care is essential to ensure their well-being. Below is a care sheet to guide you in providing the best environment for your Mossy New Caledonian gecko:

Housing:

Enclosure: Use a vertically oriented enclosure to mimic their natural arboreal habitat. A terrarium with dimensions of at least 18 inches by 18 inches by 24 inches is suitable for one adult gecko.

Substrate: Provide a substrate that retains humidity, such as coconut coir or cypress mulch. Ensure its deep enough for burrowing behaviour.

Branches and Hideouts: Include various branches and hiding spots to allow your gecko to climb and feel secure. Cork bark and artificial vines can be used to create a visually appealing environment.

Temperature:

Maintain a temperature gradient within the enclosure. Keep the daytime temperature around 22-26°C and allow a slight drop at night.

Provide a basking spot with a temperature of around 29°C. This can be achieved with a low-wattage heat lamp or emitter.

Lighting:

Use UVB lighting to simulate natural sunlight. Provide 10-12 hours of light per day, and replace the UVB bulb every 6-12 months.

Humidity:

Humidity Level: Maintain a high humidity level of 60-80%. Mist the enclosure twice daily to ensure proper humidity, and use a hygrometer to monitor levels.

Humid Hide: Include a humid hide with damp moss to allow the gecko to retreat and shed effectively.

Feeding:

Diet: Mossy New Caledonian geckos are omnivores. Offer a varied diet consisting of commercially available crested gecko diet, live insects (appropriately sized crickets, roaches, and mealworms), and fruit baby food.

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



Handling:

Handle your gecko with care and be patient, as they can be shy initially. Avoid excessive handling, especially during shedding or when they are stressed.

General Tips:

Monitoring: Regularly observe your gecko for any signs of illness, stress, or abnormal behaviour.

Cleaning: Keep the enclosure clean by removing faeces, uneaten food, and maintaining proper hygiene.

By following these guidelines, you can create a suitable and enriching environment for your Mossy New Caledonian gecko. Always do further research and consult with experienced reptile keepers or veterinarians to ensure the well-being of your pet.