



Mourning Gecko Care Sheet:

Species name:

Lepidodactylus lugubris

Adult size:

3-4 Inches

Lifespan:

10-15 Years

Breeding age:

9-10 Months



Mourning Geckos are small, nocturnal geckos native to the islands of Southeast Asia and the western Pacific. They are commonly found in areas with high humidity, such as rainforests and tropical habitats and are arboreal in nature. Mourning geckos are unique among geckos because they are parthenogenetic, meaning females can reproduce without mating.

Enclosure:

Size: A vertical enclosure with dimensions of at least 12"x12"x18" inches is suitable for a pair or small group of mourning geckos.

Ventilation: Ensure good ventilation while maintaining high humidity levels.

Substrate: Coconut coir or a mix of coconut coir and sphagnum moss works well to maintain humidity.

Climbing Surfaces: Provide plenty of branches, vines, and plants for climbing and hiding.

Lighting:

Mourning geckos are nocturnal and do not require UVB lighting, but a low-wattage LED light can be used for 12 hour a day-night cycle.

Temperature:

Maintain a temperature range with a basking spot of around 29°C and a cool end of around 24°C during the day. A slight drop in temperature of around 21°C at night is recommended.

Humidity:

Keep humidity levels around 70-80%. Mist the enclosure regularly, especially in the evening.

Hydration: Mourning geckos often drink water droplets from surfaces, so misting the enclosure will help provide drinking water.

Diet:

Feeding: Mourning geckos are insectivores. Offer a variety of small live prey such as fruit flies, pinhead crickets, and small roaches.

Supplementation: Dust prey with a calcium supplement with vitamin D3 twice a month.



Social Structure:

Group Housing: Mourning geckos are social and can be kept in small groups. Ensure there is enough space and hiding spots to minimize aggression.

Breeding: Parthenogenesis: Females can reproduce without a male, but a male presence may stimulate increased reproduction.

Egg Deposits: Mourning geckos lay eggs on surfaces, and the eggs should be left in the enclosure for the female to attend to.

Health Monitoring:

Regular Checks: Monitor your geckos for any signs of illness, such as lethargy, weight loss, or changes in skin condition.

Veterinary Care: If you observe any health concerns, consult a reptile veterinarian experienced with geckos.

Providing a well-designed enclosure with proper environmental conditions, nutrition, and social opportunities will contribute to the well-being of mourning geckos in captivity. Regular observation and attention to their unique natural history will help create a suitable environment for these fascinating creatures.