



Ragazzi's Red-Footed Gecko Care Sheet

Species name:

Ptyodactylus ragazzii

Adult size:

6-7 inches

Lifespan:

10-15 Years

Breeding age:

7-8 Months Old



Ptyodactylus ragazzii, commonly known as Ragazzi's fan-footed gecko, is a small lizard species native to arid regions of Egypt and Libya. With a distinct appearance characterized by its fan-like toes and granular scales, this gecko species thrives in rocky habitats, utilizing its unique feet for climbing vertical surfaces with ease. Typically nocturnal, *Ptyodactylus ragazzii* emerges at dusk to hunt insects and small invertebrates. Its coloration blends well with its surroundings, offering effective camouflage against predators. Despite its limited distribution, the species is adaptable, demonstrating resilience in harsh desert environments.

Housing:

Enclosure: A vertically oriented terrarium is ideal, as these geckos are arboreal. An 18"x24"x18" terrarium is recommended for one or two adult geckos.

Substrate: Use a dry substrate that does not absorb water and increase humidity, a soil/sand mix for example would be perfect.

Temperature:

Maintain a temperature gradient within the enclosure. Provide a heat source, such as a heating pad or ceramic heat emitter on one side, to achieve a warm side.

Warm side temperature of around 32°C

Cooler side around 25-29°C

Night-time temperature: 18-22°C

Lighting:

Ragazzi's fan Tailed Geckos do not require UVB lighting however there are studies that indicate it has benefits towards their health and well-being. A shade dwelling UVB light can therefore be used at the owner's discretion.

They will also require a day/night cycle. It is recommended they are provided with around 14 hours of light during the summer and down to 10 hours in the winter.

Feeding:

Diet: Feed a well-balanced diet consisting of commercial crested gecko diet, supplemented with live insects like crickets and small mealworms. Offer fruit puree or mashed fruit occasionally.

Feeding Schedule: Feed every other day for adults and daily for juveniles. Dust insects with a calcium supplement at least twice a week.



Hydration:

Water Bowl: Provide a shallow water dish for drinking. Mist the enclosure to maintain humidity levels around 40-50% and provide water droplets for the gecko to lick.

Handling and Enrichment:

Gentle Handling: Fan Footed Geckos are generally docile but can be jumpy. Handle them gently and infrequently to minimize stress.

Enrichment: Provide climbing opportunities and branches. Artificial plants and hiding spots can help create a more stimulating environment.

Health Care:

Health Checks: Regularly observe your gecko to see if you notice any changes in behaviour, appetite, or appearance. If something does not seem right seek professional advice promptly.

Hygiene: Keep the enclosure clean, removing waste and uneaten food promptly.

Quarantine: Quarantine new geckos before introducing them to existing ones to prevent the spread of disease.

Ragazzi's fan tailed geckos make fascinating and low-maintenance pets when provided with the right care. Always do thorough research and consult with a veterinarian for specific advice based on your gecko's individual needs.