



Reptile Systems

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ZONE 3
UVI 2.9 - 7.4

Yemen / Veiled Chameleon

Chamaeleo calytratus



Distribution

Yemen, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia



Adult Size

8 - 18cm
(3 - 7 inches)



Life Span

Female 4-6 years
Male 6-8 years



Experience

Beginner



Handling

Will tolerate
some handling



Natural habitat

The natural range is really varied from plateaus of mountain regions to forests and valleys.

Housing

Yemen Chameleons require a lot of ventilation, mesh / screen cages are usually recommended. It is important to provide plenty of horizontal branches for climbing and lots of broad leaf plants for cover.

The minimum enclosure sizes would be



Adult males

61 x 61 x 122cm (23 x 23 x 48 inches)

Adult Females

46 x 46 x 92cm (18 x 18 x 36 inches)

Heating

Yemen Chameleons will tolerate a wide range of temperature ranged but prefer a range of 23-35°C (75-95°F)

Basking spots maximum temperatures should be



Basking spot maximum

32°C (90°F)

Ambient daytime range

24 - 26°C (85-80°F)

Ambient night-time range

22°C (75°F)

The basking and ambient temperatures are easily achieved using Reptile Systems Basking Spot Lamps in combination with a Reptile Systems Medium Black Clamp lamp always remember to run basking spots lamps through a suitable dimming thermostat.

Lighting

Yemen Chameleons fall into a Zone 3 under the Ferguson scale this ranges from 2.9 - 7.4 UVI the ideal photo period would be 12 hours with all the lights on and 12 hours with all the lights off.

The recommended temperatures and UVI are easily achieved using and Reptile Systems Zone 3 T5 / T8 Lamp.



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Substrate



Many keepers will not use a substrate with Chameleons due to them spending their time within the tree canopy, however it is important to provide female chameleons with a lay box which should be a 50:50 sand soil mix damp enough to hold a tunnel so that when she is ready she will have somewhere to lay.

If you do wish to dress the base of your enclosure then you can use a range of substrates such as orchid bark / cypress mulch, coir, and leaf litter.

Water / humidity

Chameleon's are unlikely to drink from a water bowl, but they will drink from leaves or a dripper / misting system.

Yemen Chameleon's require an ambient humidity of 35 - 40% with humidity spikes twice a day of 85-90%.



Diet / Nutrition



Yemen Chameleons are in the majority insectivorous and should be offered a wide variety of insects. It is important to remember to gut load your insects prior to feeding this can be easily achieved using Reptile Systems Insect Food.

Yemen chameleons will also eat plants, so it is important that any live plants used within an enclosure are non-toxic and it is recommended that they have access to a bowl of leafy greens / weeds / flowers.

Reptile Systems Calcium Ultra should be used 3 times a week as a dust on insects and Reptile Systems Vit-a-min should be used twice a week as a dust on insects (as a guide for adult animals).

Handling

Yemen Chameleons can be handled, the temperament of each animal can vary so you will have to use your own judgment as to how much handling, if any, your individual pet will tolerate. With any new reptile it is suggested that a 2 week settling in period is given in which handling does not take place. Handling should be limited to 20-30 minutes at a time, so your animal does not get too cold.



Suggested Reptile Systems Products

Medium Black Clamp Lamp

Multi directional ceramic lamp fitting with reflector.

Basking Halo Spot

Provides UVA and heat.

Zone 3 T5 lamp

UVB fluorescent full spectrum lamp, requires a ballast unit.

Zone 3 T8 lamp

UVB fluorescent full spectrum lamp, requires a ballast unit.

Zone 3 Eco Unit

UVB fluorescent full spectrum lamp, reliable electronic controller, and reflector kit.

T8 Electronic Controller

Flicker free ballast unit for T8 lamps.

Proten New Dawn LED

LED light source to support live plants.

Calcium Ultra

Essential for strong bones.

Vit-a-Min

Highly palatable multivitamin.

Insect Food

Premium gut loading food for prey items.

This care guide with slight adjustments could be applied to Panther Chameleons, Cuban Knight Anole and Madagascan Giant Day Gecko

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