

# Bosc (Savannah) Monitor



## OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Varanus exanthematicus*
- Origin: Eastern and Northern Africa
- Ease of Care: Advanced (due to potential adult size, large vivarium requirement, and large appetite)
- Potential Adult Size: 3.5 to 5 feet
- Life Span: Upwards of 15 years
- Behaviour: Diurnal
- Diet: Insectivore / Carnivore
- Handling: Advanced
- Humidity: 50-60%

## TOP TIPS

- ✓ To keep your Bosc Monitor stimulated, vary their food

## HOUSING

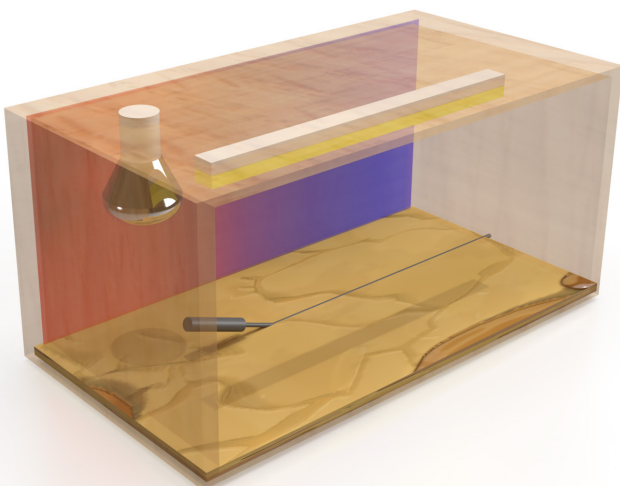
Young/Juvenile Bosc Monitor - HabiStat Standard Vivarium 4ft x 2ft x 2ft (DVF4824)  
Adult/2ft + Bosc Monitor - An 8ft x 3ft x 3ft custom-built enclosure would be required for an adult, as they can grow up to 5ft long

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Housing: Vivarium
- Heating: Heat Bulb
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Jungle Bio, Arcadia EarthMix Arid, HabiStat Orchid Bark
- Water: HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish

## ENVIRONMENT

### Terrestrial Vivarium Setup



### Heating

The Bosc Monitor (*Varanus exanthematicus*) is considered a diurnal reptile and requires a suitable light and heat gradient in the enclosure to simulate a complete 24-hour period.

Provide a warmer/hot area towards one end of the enclosure, using an overhead heat source to offer a heat gradient. Use an Arcadia Pro Ceramic Lamp Holder & Bracket (RADCHP) with the HabiStat Heat Bulb (HBB150) and the HabiStat Heater Guard (HHG24) protecting the bulb, all running in conjunction with a HabiStat Dimming Thermostat (HTDW).

Dimming thermostats are designed to regulate temperatures using a thermostat probe (also known as a sensor). Correct placement of the

probe is critical to avoid overheating and injury to the animal.

Check temperatures and humidity regularly using a reliable thermometer and hygrometer to ensure that there are no extreme fluctuations.

- Background Temp: 30°C - 35°C (86-95°F)
- HOT Spot: 38°C - 40°C (100-104°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 23°C - 26°C (74-79°F)

## Lighting

Fit the Arcadia Pro T5 14% (RARTP54D) on the inside roof of the Vivarium with the Arcadia Lamp Guard Pro (RALGP5) protecting the UV tube.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufacturers recommend distances.

## Substrates and Decoration

Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your enclosure, but we recommend the following as examples:

- HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB25), Arcadia EarthMix Arid (RAREA10), HabiStat Orchid Bark (HSOBC60)
- HabiStat Cork Branch (HDB1), HabiStat Cork Bark (HDCB5), HabiStat Grapevine (HSGV) will offer shelter and enrichment within the enclosure

## DIET & WATER

Bosc Monitors are primarily an insect eating species and consume large amounts, so dietary variety is important. Occasionally they can eat thawed rodents or poultry as a treat.

Always provide a source of fresh water. The HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSCEL) will provide a safe and sturdy option.

To maintain and regulate humidity within the enclosure, mist as required.

## SUPPLEMENTATION

Bosc Monitors need additional supplementation in the form of a calcium and multi-vitamin powder such as Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) and Arcadia Pro Calcium Mg (RAREPCM80).

Please follow the packaging instructions.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Bosc Monitors can grow to around 5ft in length. Therefore, they require a very large enclosure with a minimum enclosure size of 8ft (L) x 3ft (D) x 3ft (H).
- Bosc Monitors love to dig, so a deep substrate is essential.
- When choosing to look after this species, it is important to consider their adult size. A baby Bosc Monitor looks cute and tiny, but they have specialist care needs as an adult.

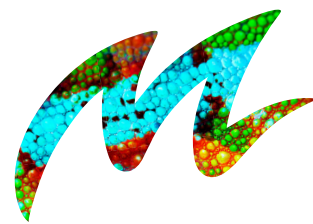
# HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your Bosc Monitor healthy and happy:

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Change old water for fresh water	Spot clean	Check vents on enclosure are not blocked and allow air to pass through freely
Weekly	Disinfect water bowl or dish	Agitate substrate to prevent any bacterial build-up and remove any dirty bedding	Wipe down glass and walls with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Take out old substrate and replace with new substrate	Wipe down inside the enclosure and disinfect décor with a reptile safe disinfectant

Always wash your hands, surfaces and equipment with warm water and disinfectant immediately before and after handling or feeding your Honduran Milk Snake, their food, enclosure and any other equipment.



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