

Mourning Gecko Care Sheet



Overview

- Scientific Name: *Lepidodactylus lugubris*
- Origin: Asia
- Ease of Care: Intermediate
- Potential Adult Size: 8 to 10cm
- Life Span: 10 years
- Behaviour: Cathemeral
- Diet: Insectivore
- Handling: Advanced

TOP TIPS

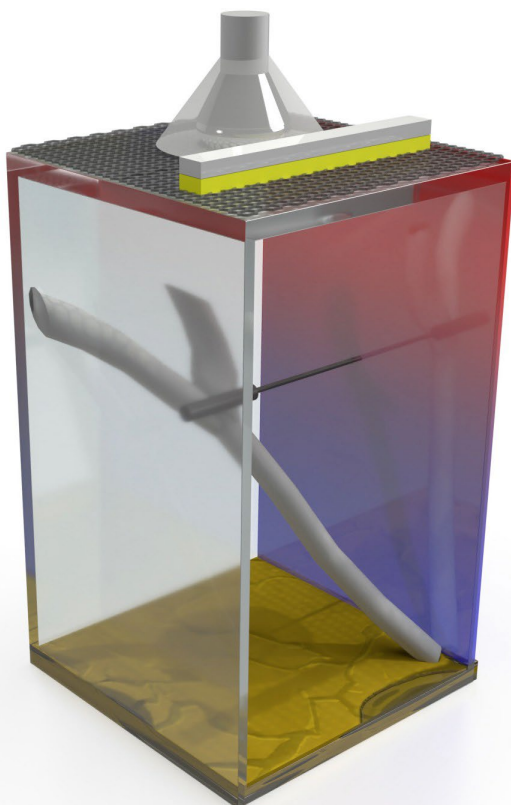
- ✓ For a natural way to feed and hydrate add an arboreal feeding ledge
- ✓ Use a substrate that helps to maintain humidity
- ✓ Add live and artificial plants to provide shelter
- ✓ Ensure temperatures do not get too hot
- ✓ Mourning Geckos will drink water droplets, make sure to spray their tank

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Housing: Terrarium
- Heating: Heat Bulb
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: Jungle Bio, Arcadia EarthMix
- Water: Arboreal feeding ledge

ENVIRONMENT

Arboreal Terrarium Setup



HOUSING

The Glass Terrarium 45 x 45 x 60cm (HGT4560)

RUNNING COSTS

- Average Cost: 14p Per Day
- Average kW per day: 0.492

Additional Costs:

Rainmaker - 1p Per Month (based on 3 hours per month, which is roughly 6 mins per day)

(3 hours use = 0.005 kWh)

Humidifier - 70p Per Month (based on 2 hours overnight use, per day)

(2 hours use = 0.082 kWh)

Calculations are based on using the recommended timings, heating, and lighting provided throughout the care sheet, and the Electricity unit rate of 28p per kWh.

Enclosure Readings

- Hot Spot: 26°C -29°C (79°F -84°F)
- Background Temp: 22°C-26°C (72°F-79°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 20°C-25°C (68°F-77°F)
- Humidity: Day 60-80% & Night 100%
- UVI: 1-2

Heating

Mourning Geckos are a cathemeral species and require a suitable light and heat gradient in the enclosure to simulate a complete 24-hour period.

The HabiStat Crested Gecko Accessory Kit (HSCGAK) provides all the light, heat, and safety elements for the enclosure in one handy kit.

Use the Arcadia Reflector Clamp Lamp & Ceramic Holder (RARTG75) with the Heat Bulb (HBB100) running through the 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.

Lighting

Lay the Arcadia Pro T5 UVB Kit, 7% (RARTP8S) on the mesh roof of the terrarium.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufacturer's recommended distances, providing a UVI of 1-2.

DIET & WATER

Ensure Mourning Geckos are offered appropriately sized insects and specially formulated Crested Gecko food.

Young/Juvenile – Several appropriately sized feeders 2 to 3 times per week such as:

- House Brown Crickets – 3rd (LSC200)
- Locust – 1st Hopper (LSHA20)
- Calci Worms – (LCW40)

Specially formulated Crested Gecko food once a week.

Adult – Several appropriately sized feeders per week such as:

- House Brown Crickets – Standard (LS75)
- Locust – 3rd Hopper (LMHC14)
- Dubia Roaches – Medium (LDLM12)

Specially formulated Crested Gecko food once a week.

Always provide a source of fresh water using the Arboreal Feeding Ledge (HSFLD).

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

Using the Rainmaker (HSRM) will also help to maintain humidity levels.

To provide humidity overnight, use the Humidifier (HDH01) during the early hours of the morning.

Substrates and Decoration

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

- Jungle Bio (HSJB10), or Arcadia EarthMix (RARE10)
- Cork Branch (HDB1), Grapevine (HSGV) and Tea Tree Branch (HSNTB) will offer shelter and enrichment within the enclosure.
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the animal to use as shelter

SUPPLEMENTATION

Mourning Geckos need additional supplementation in the form of a calcium and multi-vitamin powder such as Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) and Arcadia Earth Pro Calcium Mg (RAREPCM80). Follow the on-pack instructions.

ADDITIONAL INFO

- Mourning Geckos can drop their tail if they feel threatened or under attack. The tail will not grow back once it has been dropped.
- When a Mourning Gecko sheds, the process begins by the Gecko rubbing its face against an object to loosen the skin; the Gecko will then eat the skin as it is shed.

HEALTH & HYGIENE

We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your animal 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 animal, their food, enclosure and any other equipment.

HANDLING & CARE

While this species can tolerate gentle handling, this can at times be very stressful for the animal, so any handling should only be done in short periods.

Things to look out for that will need veterinary assistance:

- Skin shedding problems (retained shed)
- Going off food
- Dropped tail

Should your animal display any signs of distress, changes in regular behaviour, or anything visually different, please seek help from your Reptile Veterinarian.

DATA MONITORING

Mourning Gecko *Lepidodactylus lugubris* Complete this Sheet at the same time every day e.g. 12pm

	Hotspot Temp 26-29°C (79-84°F)	Background Temp 22°C-26°C (72°F-79°F)	Humidity Day 60-80% Night 100%	UVI 1-2	Night Time Temp 20°C-25°C (68°F-77°F)	Feeding
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						

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