

Sunny Stick Insect Care

Sheet



Overview

- Scientific Name: *Sungaya inexpectata*
- Origin: Philippines
- Ease of Care: Beginner
- Potential Adult Size: 5-8 cm
- Life Span: 1 year
- Behaviour: Nocturnal
- Diet: Herbivore
- Handling: Beginner

TOP TIPS

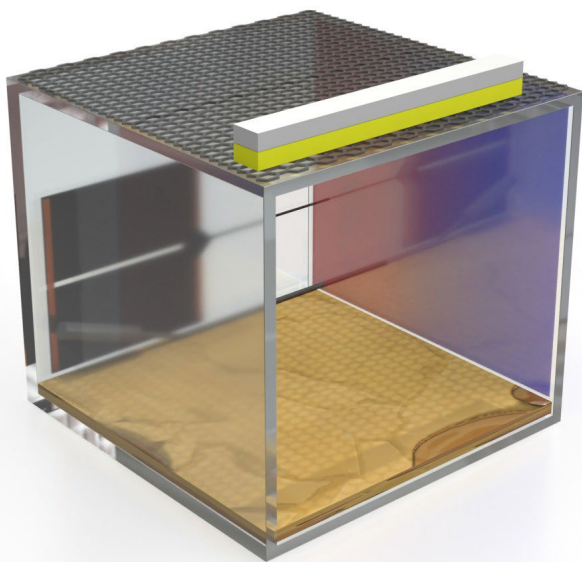
- ✓ Provide logs, cork bark, and branches for enrichment within the enclosure
- ✓ Leaves being used as a food source (bramble, oak for example) will live longer if the branch is kept in a small thin vase and topped up with water as needed

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Housing: Terrarium
- Heating: Heat Mat (if required)
- Lighting: LED
- Substrate: Jungle Bio (HSJB10), Coir (HSCB), Arcadia EarthMix (RARE10)
- Water: A light spray every few days

ENVIRONMENT

Terrarium Setup



HOUSING

Individual – HabiStat Invertebrate Starter Kit (HSISK) or similar

Group of 3 – HabiStat Glass Terrarium 30x30x45 (HGT3045)

RUNNING COSTS

- Average Cost: 1p Per Day
- Average kW per day: 0.040

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: Not Needed
- Background Temp: 21°C-26°C (70°F-79°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 15°C-20°C (59°F-68°F)
- Humidity: 70%-80%
- UVI: N/A

Heating

Sunny Stick Insects are a nocturnal species and require a suitable light and heat gradient in the enclosure to simulate a complete 24 hour period.

If you are unable to reach the minimum recommended temperatures and require a gentle heat source, using a Heat Mat (HHM6) on the outside rear of the Terrarium running through a Mat Stat (HTMB1) will provide the needed heat.

Mat 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

While this species does not require UVB lighting, a day/night cycle is still needed.

If you have a large enough Terrarium, laying an Arcadia JungleDawn LED Bar (RAJDP1) on the mesh roof of the terrarium will provide a day/night cycle when used for 8 to 12-hours a day.

Substrates and Decoration

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

- Jungle Bio (HSJB10), Coir (HSCB), Arcadia EarthMix (RARE10)
- Cork Branch (HDB500) will offer enrichment and shelter within the enclosure

DIET & WATER

Ensure Sunny Stick Insects are offered a constant supply of suitable leaves from a sustainable source.

Young/Juvenile & Adult:

- Bramble, Hawthorn, Beech, Ash, Chestnut, Ivy, Rose Bush Leaves

To keep the species hydrated, spray the enclosure every few days with a fine mist, as they will drink the water droplets.

Sunny Stick Insects also keep hydrated from the water within the leaves they eat.

SUPPLEMENTATION

Sunny Stick Insects do not require any additional supplementation.

ADDITIONAL INFO

- Female Sunny Stick Insects are pathogenic, meaning all eggs they lay are fertile
- Like most Stick Insects they can shed limbs to escape predators. When young, they can regenerate lost limbs.

HEALTH & HYGIENE

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

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Top-up any water for the food source branches	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

Any handling should be done gently and carefully and for short periods only. The Sunny Stick Insect can produce a substance from their mouth as a defense mechanism which could cause minor skin irritation.

Things to look out for that will need veterinary assistance:

- Molt (shedding) problems
- Going off food

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

DATA MONITORING

Sunny Stick Insect *Sungaya inexpectata*. Complete this Sheet at the same time every day e.g. 12pm

	Hotspot Temp Not required	Background Temp 21°C-26°C (70°F-79°F)	Humidity Day 70%-80%	UVI N/A	Night Time Temp 15°C-20°C (59°F-68°F)	Feeding
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						

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