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Mountain Horned Dragon

Acanthosaura sp

Lifespan: 10 to 12 years.

Size: 7 to 12 inches

Sexing: Males have visible bulges just below the tail.

Enclosure: One Mountain Horned Dragon can be housed in an Exo Terra 24x18x24 tank, but a larger tank like a 24x18x36 is recommended. A baby/juvenile can be kept in a 18x18x24 for the first part of its life. ***Piscus recommends: Exo-Terra reptile tanks.***

Hiding/Climbing Spots: Mountain Horned Dragons love to climb. Provide a lot of plants (fake or live) and vines for them to climb and hide on. Cork and wood sticks can also be used to add as much climbing space as possible. Provide a water dish large enough for the animal to curl its entire body into for bathing and to help with shedding.

Humidity: The enclosure should be well ventilated and misted well to keep the humidity high (65% to 80%) and to aid the process of shedding and prevent health problems. Use a hygrometer to maintain a constant humidity level. ***Piscus Recommends: Exo terra spray bottle, or Mistking system***

Substrate: Loose Forest substrate with sphagnum moss in parts to help with humidity. Leaf litter can also be added to add more hiding places and add to enrichment. ***Piscus recommends: Exo-terra Plantation Soil, Zoomed reptisoil, Jurassic ABG mix***

Heat: Maintain a temperature of as low as 23°C at night to as high as 28°C during the day near the basking spot (75 °F to 85 °F). Never exceed 30°C as that could kill your dragon. Use a heat bulb on one portion of the tank so the animal can escape the warm area if they need to. ***Piscus recommends: ExoTerra and Arcadia bulbs and fixtures.***

UV Lighting: Use of a full spectrum T5 bulb for 8-10 hours per day is required. UVB bulbs lose effectiveness and need to be replaced every 8-12 months. ***Piscus Recommends: Arcadia T5 Pro D3+ 6% UVB kit***

Feeding: A horned dragon's diet should include crickets and worms (meal worms, super worms, butter worms, phoenix worms, wax worms). Feeding 4-5 week crickets every day to every two days is sufficient. A varied diet of different types of feeders is recommended. Nightcrawlers can be given as the occasional treat.

Vitamins & Supplements: Dust crickets with calcium supplement every feeding and a multivitamin supplement every 2-4 feedings. Be sure to use a calcium supplement with Vitamin D₃. ***Pisces Recommends: Repashy Calcium Plus and Supervite***

Handling: Mountain Horned Dragons can be very tame once they are used to being handled but can scratch and bite if they feel threatened. They will naturally try and climb to the highest place available. If your dragon is not used to being handled, wear gloves until it becomes used to human hands.

Safe Handling of Reptiles*: As with all living creatures, reptiles can carry microorganisms (including Salmonella) which can make people ill. To reduce the chances of infection, always follow these safe handling steps:

- Always wash your hands thoroughly after you handle your pet, its food and anything it has touched.
- Keep your pet in a habitat designed for it; do not let your pet reptile roam around the home without proper supervision.
- Keep your pet, its food dishes and cage components out of the kitchen.
- Don't nuzzle or kiss your pet.
- Infants, children under 5 years of age, pregnant women, the elderly, and those with a compromised immune system have a greater risk of infection. Extra caution should be taken when they are in contact with any animal. Children under 5 should handle reptiles only under adult/parent supervision.

Your New Pet: It is the responsibility of any pet owner to provide their pet with regular veterinary care to maintain their pet's health and to prevent illness. Should you experience any problems with your new pet, contact Pisces Pet Emporium. We will make every effort to assist you, but we may refer you to a qualified veterinarian if the problem is beyond our ability to treat. A pet is a large responsibility and should not be purchased without due consideration. Pets should never be released into the wild.

Pisces Recommended Setup:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Glass Terrarium (Exo Terra Medium X-tall 24x18x36) ❑ Exo Terra/NewCal pets branches and cork branches for climbing ❑ Zoomed/Jurassic cork rounds/flats for hiding/climbing ❑ Plants (live/ Exo Terra, Pangea, Komodo artificial plants and hanging plants) ❑ Exo Terra Misting bottle or a Misting system ❑ Jurassic leaf litter and other dried forest floor goods ❑ Exo Terra/Zoomed or Pet-Tekk water dish (large enough to soak) ❑ Exo Terra plantation soil, Zoomed Reptisoil or Jurassic ABG mix for substrate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Hydroballs + screen mesh for drainage layer (if doing a bioactive) ❑ Jurassic sphagnum moss or terrarium moss for humidity ❑ Exo Terra 150W Daylight Basking Lamp & Flukers 8.5in Dimmable Deluxe Clamp Lamp ❑ Arcadia T5 Pro D3+ 6% UVB kit ❑ Infrared Heat Bulb (if needed for nighttime heat) ❑ Repashy Supervite Multi-Vitamin ❑ Repashy Calcium Plus ❑ Crickets and cricket keeper ❑ Exo Terra digital thermometer and hydrometer or combometer |
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