

## *Melanistic Lacerta (Timon lepidus)*

# CARE SHEET

Lacertas are a great daytime display animal that will keep you entertained for hours! These are Melanistic lacertas, meaning they are a black morph. Here's a basic care sheet to get you started:



### **Enclosure:**

- Minimum size for adults: 48" L x 24" W x 24" H (bigger is better)
- Young lacertas can be housed in a smaller temporary enclosure such as the ZooMed 25 gallon
- Shape: Tall and wide – arboreal (tree-dweller) set up
- Ventilation: Well-ventilated enclosure

### **Habitat:**

- Substrate: Commercially available reptile-safe soil such as Reptisoil or Texas Herp Haus' propriety blend is preferable
- Decor: live plants, reptile-safe faux plants, and vines and branches to climb on, cork hides, stacked rocks for basking
- Water Dish: Large dish with fresh water should be accessible at all times
- Misting System: Daily misting or an automatic misting system, set to mist 2-3 times per day for 1-2 minutes

### **Temperature:**

- Daytime ambient air temperature should be 85°F
- Basking spot should be at about 100°-115°F
- Any heat source should be regulated by a proportional thermostat (Herpstat) to prevent heat related injury or death

### **Humidity:**

- Maintain humidity at 40-60% by misting the enclosure 1-2 times daily for 1-2 minutes each time

### **Lighting:**

- High output UVB bulb (10-12%) recommended for vitamin D3 synthesis & disease prevention

### **Diet & Feeding:**

- Offer live insects, such as superworms, Dubia roaches or crickets (dusted with calcium powder) daily
- Fresh veggies such as greens and berries weekly or as a treat

### **Cleaning:**

- Spot clean daily, unless completely bio-active (you have added isopods and springtails to assist with cleaning)
- Fully clean every 4-6 weeks, with reptile-safe disinfectant

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Still Have Questions??? Text Michelle at 501-282-9244 or email us at [herphaus@proton.me](mailto:herphaus@proton.me)

