

Care Guide

Russian Frog Eyed Gecko

(*Teratoscincus spp.*)

Facts:

Average adult size: **6 - 8 inches**

Average life span: **10 - 20 years with proper care**

Diet: **Insectivore**



The frog-eyed gecko has a range in Southern Russia from the eastern coast of the Caspian Sea to western China, Iran, northern and southern Afghanistan, northwestern Pakistan, and in the coastal regions of the Arabian peninsula from Qatar through the United Arab Emirates.

This is a nocturnal species that lives in desert and semi-desert areas, where it digs burrows up to 32 inches deep in sand dunes until it reaches the damp layers.

The frog-eyed gecko has a threatening behavior. It will stand high-legged and wiggle its tail horizontally; it produces chirping noises with its large plate-like scales and presents an imposing sight to an aggressor. Should this not be sufficient to frighten an intruder, it will bark and throw itself into an attack. It will bite fiercely. This behavior is only seen in the males.

Feeding & Nutrition:

Diet

- A variety of insects, including crickets, mealworms (in an escape-proof bowl), and dubia roaches.
- Frog eyes are voracious and frequently aggressive feeders. They will tackle prey of many sizes and types, and even attempt to swallow prey too large for them. They should never be offered anything larger than 3/4 the width of their heads to allow proper swallowing and digestion.
- Dust feeders with a calcium and multivitamin supplement at each feeding.
- They should be fed once every other day, as many prey items they can eat in 5 minutes. The best time to feed them is right before dusk as they are still warm and waking up for the night.

Water

- Fresh, clean, chlorine-free water should be available at all times in a dish.

Housing:

Habitat

- Appropriately sized habitat, such as a 20L gallon aquarium. These animals are fully terrestrial and like to burrow so they should be provided ample ground space.
- **Hide/Burrow** - Provide a hideaway(s) to help feel secure and replicate native surroundings. Burrows or hideaways should be lightly sprayed every day.
- **Substrate** – non-silica based sand is a perfect substrate for these burrowers, but other types of clay based sands may be even better due to the added mold-ability of the clay.
- **Humidity** - They also need extremely low humidity, a screen top is the best way to accomplish this.
- **Temperature** – Day 80-85 F / Night 75 F
- **Lighting** – Full spectrum lighting with UVB is best.

Note: The information in this Care Guide is not a substitute for veterinary care. If you need additional information, please contact your veterinarian as appropriate.

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- **Do not house males together and do not house different reptile species together.**

Habitat Maintenance

- Thoroughly clean the habitat at least once a week: place Gecko in a secure habitat; scrub the tank and furnishings with a 3% bleach solution; rinse thoroughly with water, removing all traces of bleach smell. Dry the tank and furnishings completely and add clean substrate.

Care:

Handling, Grooming & Hygiene

- Geckos regularly shed their skin; ensure humidity of habitat is at appropriate level to allow proper shedding.
- Handle frog-eye geckos gently. When picking them up and holding them, allow the gecko to settle in your hand and allow it free movement. Never restrain them roughly.

Health

- Active and alert
- Clear eyes
- Body and tail are rounded, filled out
- Healthy skin
- Clear nose and vent
- Eats regularly

Normal Behavior

- Keep handling to a minimum as over handling can cause them stress.
- Never grab a Gecko by its tail as they may detach their tail.

Recommended Supplies:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Size Habitat | <input type="checkbox"/> Basking Bulb |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food (crickets) | <input type="checkbox"/> UVB (recommended) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mealworm dish | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcium Supplement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substrate | <input type="checkbox"/> Vitamin Supplement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excavator | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket Keeper |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> Cricket Food |

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