

# Dwarf Sand Gecko



## OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Tropicolotes steudneri*
- Origin: North Africa
- Ease of Care: Intermediate
- Potential Adult Size: 7 cm
- Life Span: Around 8 years
- Behaviour: Crepuscular
- Diet: Insectivore
- Handling: Advanced

## TOP TIPS

- ✓ Provide Cork Bark in their enclosure for natural hiding spots

## HOUSING

1 to 5 Geckos - HabiStat Glass Terrarium 60x45x45cm (HGT6045)

When housing more than one Dwarf Sand Gecko, extra caution and observation must be taken in case of any territorial disagreements.

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED

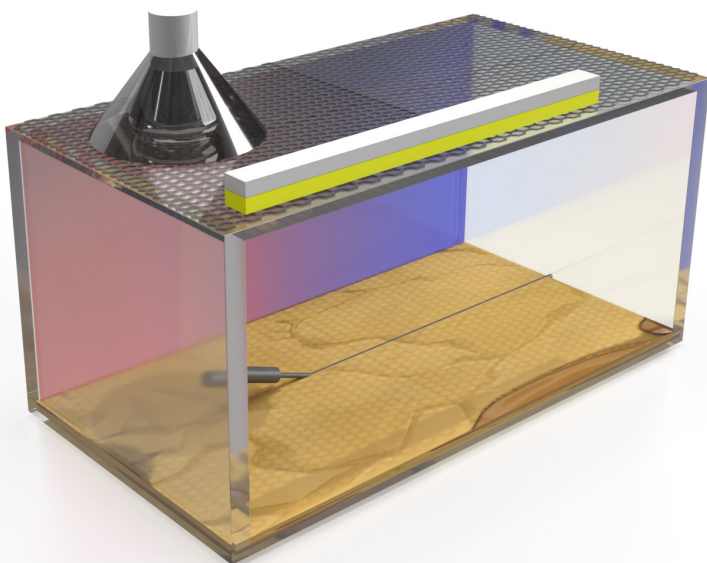


- Housing: Terrarium
- Heating: Heat Bulb
- Thermostat: Dimming Thermostat
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Leopard Gecko Bedding, HabiStat Desert Sand
- Water: Water Bowl

## ENVIRONMENT



### Terrestrial Terrarium Setup



### Enclosure Readings

- Background Temp: 24-29°C (75-85°F)
- Hot Spot: 35°C (95°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 18-24°C (65-75°F)
- Humidity: 60%-80%
- UVI: 1-2

### Heating

Dwarf Sand Gecko (*Tropicolotes steudneri*) are an ectothermic (cold-blooded) animal and take all their heat requirements from external sources.

The HabiStat 75w heat bulb (HBB75) should be set up using a ceramic bulb holder such as the Arcadia Reflector Clamp Lamp with Ceramic Holder (RARTG75), which can be placed on the mesh roof of the Terrarium.

The 75w heat bulb should be used in conjunction with a HabiStat dimming thermostat high range (HTDWHR)

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 regularly, using a reliable dual thermometer and hygrometer to ensure that there are no extreme fluctuations.

## Lighting

Place the Arcadia Pro T5 UVB Kit ShadeDweller 7%, or alternatively the Arcadia LumenIZE Pro T5 UVB Kit, ShadeDweller 7% (RARLZ8S) on the mesh roof of the Terrarium. This will supply realistic UVB levels within the enclosure.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufacturers recommended distances providing a UVI of 1-2.

## DIET & WATER

Ensure a Dwarf Sand Gecko has a varied diet throughout their lifetime, with a mixture of insects.

Insects such as Crickets, Calci-Worm, and Fruit Fly are some of their favourites.

Always provide a source of fresh water, such as the HabiStat Sandstone Water Dish (HRSSC).

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

## Substrates and Decoration

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

- HabiStat Leopard Gecko Bedding (HSLGB10), or HabiStat Desert Sand (HSDSR10)
- HabiStat Cork Branch (HDB1), HabiStat Grapevine (HSGV) and HabiStat Cork Bark (HDCB5) 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

Following a supplementation regime that involves calcium and multivitamin powders such as HabiStat Pure Calcium (HMC40), HabiStat Reptavite (HMRV40), HabiStat Repton (HMR40) and Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) will be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the animal.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Being a small species of around 7cm fully grown, handling is not recommended
- As a small species, feeding smaller sized livefood is essential. Calci-Worms, Fruit Fly, and small Crickets are great examples for a varied diet

# HEALTH & HYGIENE



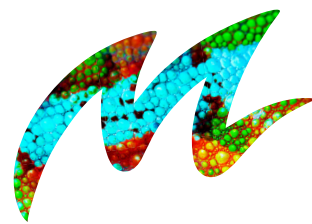
We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your Dwarf Sand Gecko healthy and happy:

	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 to allow any dirty bedding to be removed	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 your animal, their food, enclosure, and any other equipment using Habistat Anti-Bac Spray (HABS) for any surface, and Habistat Hand Sanitiser (HABG) for hands.

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# DATA MONITORING



Complete this Sheet at the same time every day e.g. 12pm

	<b>Hotspot Temp</b> 35 C (95 F)	<b>Background Temp</b> 24-29 C (75-85 F)	<b>Humidity</b> 60%-80%	<b>UVI</b> 1-2	<b>Night Time Temp</b> 18-24 C (65-75 F)	<b>Feeding</b>
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						