

Prehistoric Pets Care Sheet

Kenyan & Egyptian Sand Boas

(*Eryx colubrinus*)

General Information

Kenyan and Egyptian sand boas are found throughout north-east Africa. Their habitat is dry and hot and they are excellent diggers. Kenyan sand boas are small snakes and adults can reach 20-25 inches. Males are smaller than females and have larger spurs located near vent. These snakes are fairly easy to breed and can produce 10-20 babies in a clutch. Kenyan sand boas are secretive snakes and will do best if provided with some type of hiding place. With proper care you can expect your sand boa to live 10-20 years or more. Prehistoric Pets promotes responsible snake ownership and we recommend locking cages that prevent accidental escape. Escaped snakes can have a negative impact on the general public which can lead to a ban of snake ownership.



Temperature

Sand boas need to be maintained between 88-95 degrees during the day. Nighttime temperatures should range between 70-75 degrees. If you keep your snake too cool it can regurgitate, so make sure the temperatures are maintained.

Housing

Sand boas can be housed comfortably in a 29 gallon terrarium as adults. Ideally the larger the snake the more room you want to provide. Never place a cage near a window where sunlight can directly shine on your cage. Cages placed in direct sunlight can easily overheat and ultimately lead to the death of your snake.

Bedding

Our recommendation is to use some type of sand as bedding for these boas. The bedding should be 3-4 inches deep to allow the boa to completely cover itself.

Food

Sand boas feed on pinkie and fuzzy mice as babies and juveniles. As your snake grows it will soon move up to adult mice. We recommend that you feed baby and juvenile sand boas one time per week. Adult sand boas can be fed once every 7-10 days to maintain proper body weight. Like most snakes, sand boas typically will not eat when they are preparing to shed. After your snake has shed you can return to your normal feeding regiment. If your snake doesn't eat make sure you remove the rodent from the cage. Rodents, when they are hungry, can bite snakes and can injure or kill them.

Cleaning and Handling

The terrarium should be cleaned as necessary. Any fecal matter should be cleaned out several times a week. The bedding should be completely changed once a month and fresh clean water should be provided at all times. The inside of the terrarium can be cleaned out with an appropriate reptile cage cleaner, we recommend Natural Chemistry's Healthy Habitat. Sand boas can be handled on a daily basis and always wash your hands before and after handling them.

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Prehistoric Pets Inc. (909) 465-6085

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