



# Monkey Tailed Skink

Corucia zebrata



# **Distribution**Solomon Island



Adult Size

81cm (32 inches)



Life Span

15-20 years



Experience

Moderate



Handling

Can be handled



## Natural habitat

Monkey tailed Skinks are strictly arboreal usually found in the upper canopy of forested areas.

## Housing

Monkey tailed Skinks do best within a wooden vivarium because wood is an excellent insulator of heat and so a wooden vivarium will make it easier to control the crucial temperatures required inside the habitat. The minimum enclosure size would be 120 x 60 x 182 cm (48x24x72 inches) this allows sufficient length to allow for the creation of a temperature gradient. If you can provide a larger enclosure, then this will benefit your animal.



#### Heating

Monkey tailed Skinks will need a temperature range of 18-29°c (18-85°f)

Basking spot maximum	Ambient daytime range	Ambient night-time range
29°c (85°f)	23-27°c (80-85°f)	18-21°c (65-70°f)



The basking and ambient temperatures are easily achieved using Reptile Systems Basking Spot Lamps in combination with a Reptile Systems Medium or Large Black Clamp lamp.

If additional night-time heat is needed this can be achieved using a Reptile Systems Ceramic Heat Emitter Lamps in combination with a Reptile Systems Medium or Large Black Clamp lamp.

Always ensure that heating products are run through a suitable dimming thermostat and ensure they correctly caged off so that your animal can not burn itself.

## Lighting

Although Invertebrates were not included in the initial Ferguson zone studies, we believe that UVB lighting can benefit all animals that would have access to it in the wild.

We would recommend using a Reptile Systems 2.4% 3U Compact lamp in conjunction with a Reptile Systems Compact Light Unit.









#### Substrate

For a naturalistic enclosure, a mix of sand and soil with the addition of orchid bark / cypress mulch and leaf litter to add interest and textures for your animal.

## Water / humidity

Monkey tailed Skinks should be provided with fresh water daily, in a reasonable sized bowl with is heavy enough that your pet can not tip. Monkey tailed Skinks require an ambient humidity of 60-80%.



## Diet / Nutrition

Monkey tailed Skinks herbivores and will eat a range of leaves and fruit, leafy greens should make up the vast proportion of their diet.



You should offer a wide variety vegetation ideally of safe weeds and flowers that you can grow yourself or forage. We understand that not everyone is confident identifying safe wild food plants or indeed has the time to do so in this case Reptile Systems Tortoise Mix can be an ideal alternative.

Reptile Systems Calcium Ultra should be used 3 times a week as a dust on vegetation Reptile Systems Vit-a-min should be used twice a week as a dust on vegetation (as a quide for adult animals).

#### Handling

Monkey tailed Skinks can be handled, however they do have sharp claws so care should be taken. With any new reptile it is suggested that a 2 week settling in period is given in which handling does not take place. Handling should be limited to 20-30 minutes at a time, so your animal does not get too cold.



# **Suggested Reptile Systems Products**

Medium / LargeBlack Clamp Lamp Multi directional ceramic lamp fitting with reflector. Basking Halo Spot

Provides UVA and heat.

Zone 2 T5 lamp

UVB fluorescent full spectrum lamp, requires a ballast unit.

Zone 2 T8 lamp

UVB fluorescent full spectrum lamp, requires a ballast unit.

Zone 2 Eco Unit

UVB fluorescent full spectrum lamp, reliable electronic controller, and reflector  $\mbox{kit}.$ 

T8 Electronic Controller Flicker free ballast unit for T8 lamps. ProTen New Dawn LED LED light source to support live plants.

Ceramic Heat Emitter
Perfect from creating ambient heat with no light

Reptile Systems Mercury Vapor Provides a source of UVA, UVB and heat.

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