

Mali Uromastyx

Scientific Name: Uromastyx Dispar

The name, Uromastyx, comes from Ancient Greek language and means "tail" (oura) "whip" (mastigo). When threatened the, Mali will use its tail to lash their enemy, often with serious results.



The Mali, originates from the Middle East and Northern Africa. They thrive, quite well, in hot and dry environments, spending their time basking, foraging for food items, and digging burrows.

Average Size: The average size of the Uromastyx is approximately fourteen-to-sixteen inches.

Life Span: The Uromastyx can live fifteen-to-thirty-five years.

Feeding:

- Uromastyx are omnivores, which means they eat both plant and animal matter.
- Bulk of Uromastyx are leafy greens, vegetables and fruits.
- Uromastyx can't process large amounts of animal protein. Keep animal matter, minimal.
 - o Offer only one or two insects, as a treat, each week.
- Examples of good plant matter to offer your Uromastyx include Mustard Greens, Collard greens, Kale, Dandelion greens, and small servings of Romaine Lettuce.
- Never feed your Uromastyx iceberg lettuce, Shredded carrots, zucchini, squash, bell pepper, green beans and peas.
- Fresh fruit shouldn't make up more than ten percent of their diet.
 - o Do not feed citrus fruits that are high in acidity.
 - o Grapes, raisins, cantaloupe, watermelon, peaches and pears are good options.
- Ensure food items are cut up into small servings so your pet can easily eat and digest.
- Freeze dried fruit and veggie mixes are okay.
 - o Simply rehydrate with warm water and drain the excess liquid.

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Feeding: (con't)



- Provide your pet Uromastyx with Calcium powder supplement with Vitamin D3, four-to-five times per week, and a multivitamin powder, once per week.
 - o Simply sprinkle these supplements on your pet's fresh food items.
- Uromastyx also enjoy eating millet and safflower seeds occasionally.
- A water bowl is not necessary, as all water sources are from fresh food items.
- Offer water once or twice a week in the cage.

Cage Setup and Maintenance:

- We suggest the following cage sizes for your pet:
 - o Uromastyx more than fifteen inches: six feet by two feet.
 - o Uromastyx ten-to-fifteen inches: four feet by one and a half feet.
 - o Uromastyx under ten inches: three feet by one foot.
- Your pet Uromastyx will require heating pads on the hot side of his or her enclosure while the rest of the enclosure can be a little cooler.
 - o Your pet Uromastyx may require two heat lamps.
- Uromastyx loves to burrow, and should be provided with a layer of sand one-to-two inches thick. Sand is easy to clean, safest for your pet and a great heat conductor.
 - o Similar substrates can be used such as ground English Walnut shells, Excavator clay, Eco Earth, if used dry.
 - o Young Uromastyx should be kept on terrarium liners or paper towels to prevent accidental ingestion of their substrate.
- Be sure to provide several hide boxes throughout the cage.
- Be sure to provide a high basking area.
- Use driftwood, branches, fake plants or cacti in the cage to provide security.

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Cage Setup and Maintenance: (con't)



- No water bowl is needed in the cage.
- Your Uromastyx pet is fairly easy to care for:
 - o Remove all uneaten food items as soon as possible.
 - o Spot clean your cage, several times per week
 - o Clean cage décor as needed
 - o Empty and fully disinfect cage with a reptile specific disinfectant, every month.

Lighting and Humidity:

- Your Uromastyx pet will require a UVB bulb, rated for a desert animal.
- UVB bulb should be replaced every ten-to-twelve months
- Uromastyx will require a HOT basking site of one-hundred-and-twenty-degrees.
- Use a thermometer to register temperatures.
 - o Under any circumstances should you GUESS temperatures.
- Keep a thermometer on the hot side and another on the cooler side.
 - o Temperature on the cooler side should read high seventies °F to low eighties °F.
- Humidity levels should not exceed forty percent.

Petware
House

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Handling:

Uromastyx make great pets to handle, as they are friendly, curious, and gentle. Young animals can be skittish, and even some adults keep that skittish nature. Overall, these lizards tolerate handling well and are good natured pets that rarely, if ever, attempt to bite.

