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Iguana Care and Husbandry

Nutrition

Feed these items frequently:
Mustard greens
Kale

Hibiscus flowers
Collard greens
Mulberry tree leaves

Turnip greens
Dandelion flowers, stems,
leaves (no pesticides)

Feed these items in moderation:

Romaine lettuce
Green onion stems
Spinach
Carrot tops
Celery tops

Rabbit pellets (soak in water)
Beet greens
Parsley
Cauliflower (small pieces)
Chard

Watercress
Lettuce (red, green leaf)
Iguana diet (can)
Broccoli leaves (not stems or
flower parts)

Chop all food into amounts smaller than 1/3 of the iguana's head to avoid intestinal blockage.

We recommend mixing calcium powder with greens to avoid bone disease. You may also give vitamin supplements.

Cage Setup

We recommend a 29 gallon or larger cage. Provide branches/shelves, as they are tree climbers and their habitat should allow them this activity.

Cover the bottom of the cage with newspaper, grass, Carefresh, rabbit pellets, or indoor/outdoor carpet.

Clean the cage at least once weekly.

Never keep iguanas together in the same cage, as this could result in bite wounds, infections, or even the death of the non-dominant iguana.

Keep the humidity in the cage at 50-80%, or set a large dish of water in the cage for soaking. You should also soak the iguana daily in the bathtub or large plastic container.

The cage should have a full-spectrum UVA/UVB bulb, or access to direct sunlight. The cage should be lit for 10-14 hours/day. The light source should not be higher than 18 inches above the basking area to allow maximal effect of the UVB rays.

Temperature should be 95-105° F on the hot side of the cage (the basking side), and 75-85° F on the cool side. Night time temperatures should not drop below 75° F. You can use heat lamps, under tank heaters, and ceramic heat emitters to help maintain the correct temperature in the cage. The amount required depends on the type and size of the cage.

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