



Niger Uromastyx Care Guide

Presented by Custom Creatures Pet Shop

Basic Info

Species: *Uromastyx geyri* (commonly called Niger or Saharan *Uromastyx*)

Lifespan: 15-20+ years

Adult Size: 10-14 inches

Temperament: Generally calm, active, and personable with regular interaction

Best for: Intermediate to experienced keepers due to heat and diet needs

Enclosure Setup

Tank Size:

- 40-gallon breeder minimum for juveniles
- Adults require 75-120 gallon enclosures for proper space
- Prefer horizontal floor space over vertical climbing

Temperature & Heating:

- Basking spot: 120-130°F
- Cool side: 80-85°F
- Night temps: can safely drop to 65-70°F
- Use a strong basking bulb (halogen or mercury vapor)

Lighting:

- UVB is essential (T5 HO ReptiSun 10.0 or Arcadia 12%)

- Provide 12-14 hours of daylight exposure

Humidity:

- Maintain low humidity: 10-30%
- Ensure good airflow and avoid misting

Substrate:

- Fine sand, excavator clay, or tile
- Provide diggable areas or burrow options

Décor & Enrichment:

- Use flat basking rocks, slate ledges, and caves
- Include hides on both warm and cool sides

Diet & Feeding

Feeding Frequency:

- Daily for juveniles
- Adults can be fed 5-6 times per week

Primary Foods:

- Leafy greens: dandelion, collard, mustard, endive, escarole
- Squash, lentils, split peas, flowers (hibiscus, nasturtium)
- NO insects or animal protein - strictly herbivorous

Supplementation:

- Calcium (without D3): 2-3x/week
- Multivitamin: 1x/week
- Do not oversupplement with D3 - rely on proper UVB exposure

Water & Hydration:

- Do not mist or soak - hydration comes from diet
- A shallow water dish can be offered but is often ignored

Handling & Behavior

Handling:

- Uros can be shy at first but often grow calm with handling
- Always support their full body and avoid tail grabbing

Behavior to Expect:

- Diurnal and basking-heavy
- May dig, bask for long periods, or retreat to burrows
- Tail-wagging or puffing is defensive behavior

Supplies Checklist

- 40+ gallon enclosure (larger preferred)
- High-output basking bulb & ceramic heat emitter (if needed)
- T5 HO UVB fixture
- Slate tiles or natural sand/clay substrate
- Hides, rocks, and ledges
- Calcium (no D3) and multivitamin powders
- Food dish and daily greens/veggie supply
- Digital thermometers and heat gun

Contact Us

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We're here to help!