

HEDGEHOG GOSSIP

MAGAZINE

Sophia Loren



EDITION 02

@AWESOMEKRIMPVARKIES

Table of *Contents*

01 A u t h o r ' s n o t e

02 H e d g e h o g 1 0 1

03 V a n j o n k - o u d

04 N C R

05 H e a t E x h a u s t i o n

06 R e c i p e

07 F u n F a c t

08 P o e m

09 M o n t h l y P l a n n e r

Author's note

Hello, my fellow spike slaves!

What a mix of weather didn't we have during the month of September. All four seasons in one month. The poor tenrecs didn't know if they must come out of torpor or go back to sleep. Which made a lot of tenrec owners nervous! On the hedgehog side, just as we turn off the heat lamps and heat pads, we are scurrying to get it back on! Finally, summer is here, and everybody can relax now. As I was on my way to work this morning, I feasted my eyes on all the green lush around me.

Everything washed clean after the first rain, the birds are signing joyful songs and butterflies are darting around the flowers. Make time for yourself to enjoy nature this summer. Go out, listen to nature's music. The whispering of the wind in the trees, the thunder orchestra in the sky, the silver flutes of birds and insects humming along in harmony. Close your eyes and take in the aromas around you and your soul will be at peace. Take your spikey out with you to enjoy God's creation.

But please do not close your eyes when little Spike is running around! The little bugger can run fast!

Greetings,

Lizl van Vreden

Hedgehog 101 course announcement :

The South Africa's Hedgehog Breeders Association (SAHBA) announced the launching of a new course. The Hedgehog 101 course will be presented in March 2024. This course contents are all about the African Pygmy hedgehogs. It covers the history of the African Pygmy hedgehog as a pet, the care taking, illnesses and more. The course will be on a self-study, long distance learning method. Anyone who owns a hedgehog or plans to own one can benefit from this course. Even experienced owners will benefit from it, as the contents covers in depth details on most subjects. SAHBA will have then two courses featured in 2024. The Breeders Course who is strictly for breeders, and the Hedgehog 101 course. The cost of the Hedgehog 101 course is R200. For more information, please contact Lizl van Vreden @ 072 090 3479 or Elize Campher @ 082 820 0810



HEDGEHOG 101

Van jonk tot oud!

On the Awesome Krimpvarkies WhatsApp group we have hedgehogs and tenrecs, and of course their loyal slaves! Members are young and old and anything in between.

We would like to introduce you to our youngest and oldest members.

Emma is a four-year-old tenrec enthusiast and is the proud owner of a tenrec with the adorable name of Ysvarkie. Emma and her family enjoy puzzle building and of course, spending time with Ysvarkie. Ysvarkie had won a price in a competition once, and we are looking forward to seeing more of them in future competitions, as they are surely a force to be reckon with when it comes to creativity! Of course, there is mom Amorie behind the scenes that helps steering things in the right direction.

Tannie Tokkie is our eldest member at 79 years of age. She enjoys out door hiking and fun runs, and surely must be the fittest member on our group! Tannie Tokkie is the loyal owner of Crunchie, a sweet little hedgehog that have royal bathroom manners. Which must come naturally, as Crunchie's royal name is in fact Queen Nefertari. Crunchie also had made her mark in terms of participating in competitions and won prices for that.

When it comes to our beloved spikey friends, age is just a number!



Emma with Ysvarkie



Ysvarkies' winning photo



Tannie Tokkie with Crunchie



Crunchies' winning photo

Northern Cape Rescue - Indigenous hedgehog

*Warrenton, Northern Cape- On the 11 of October a raid was conducted on people who illegally are in possession of animals that are against the law to be kept without legal permits. Amongst them was a Southern African Hedgehog, *Atelerix Frontalis*. Northern Cape Nature Conservation decided to hand over the hedgehog to Alma Celeste Stafford from Solid Earth Meerkat Sanctuary. The little hedgehog had to undergo an operation first before he could settle in at the sanctuary. His bottom lip had an old injury that was never attend to while being illegally kept as a pet. The vet had to cut loose the lip and re-stitch it back properly. Because he was kept for an unknown period as a pet, and due to his injury, that are a risk to become a problem again later, he can never be released again.*



But this is not the end of the line for him!

Alma has enclosures that are intended to be natural environment for meerkats, that serves the purpose just as great for a hedgehog. He will thus have a protected semi-natural life. The Northern Cape wild-life authorities are eager to bring in females to mate with him. The females will then be released again, and a new generation of wild indigenous hedgehogs will be born free. The population of Southern African hedgehogs in the Van Zylsrus area are declined to almost nothing. and this will be a great opportunity to restore the balance.

Huge applause to Alma who open her heart and sanctuary to this little guy. If you want to contribute, please find banking details below and follow her page Alma Celeste Stafford Solidearth on FB.

Solidearth Standard Bank

Account: 240 911 059

Cheque

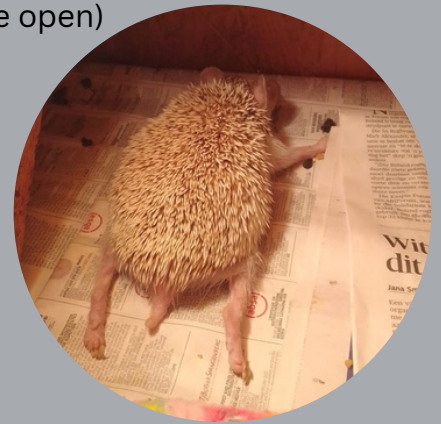
Swift Code: SBZAJJ

**It is illegal to keep an indigenous hedgehog as a pet
without a valid permit.**

Heat exhaustion

SIGNS to watch out for :

- Splooting (Hedgehog is lying flat on his tummy with legs wide open)
- Panting
- Weakness
- Reluctance to move •Convulsions
- Lethargy
- Loss of appetite
- Hot to the touch



How to prevent it :

- Put an ice pack (wrapped in a plastic bag so that everything and your hedgehog doesn't get wet) in the hedgehog's cage, preferably near his sleeping area.
- You can use an aircon or fan etc. in THE ROOM OR AREA where the cage is. Make sure it's not blowing directly on the hedgehog's cage

Treatment :

- 1.Remove the hedgehog from the hot area.
- 2.Call your vet if the animal does not respond
- 3.Lower his temperature by wetting his ears, feet and fur with cool water. Cooling must take place gradually.
- 4.Cooling too quickly or allowing his body temperature to become too low can cause other life-threatening medical conditions.
- 5.Take the hedgehog to your vet
- 6.Place him on a wet towel and keep cooling him on the way to the vet.
- 7.Replace your hedgehogs drinking water with ice water or add a block of ice or two to their current water
- 8.Spritz your hedgehog with some water -Let him/she walk in cool water only covering his feet or give them a cool bath, not cold. When wetting the hedgehogs' ears, just dip your fingers in some cool water and rub it softly, make sure NO WATER enters the ear as this will cause ear problems for your hedgehog.

Ideal Cage Temperatures :

The cage temperature should always be between 23 and 26 degrees, anything below 23 degrees is considered too cold and anything above 26 degrees is considered too hot.

Photo credit : Marica Steyn - Hufflepuff (RIP 2023/10/22)



HEDGY MEATBALLS

With mince meat and carrots

By **Awesome Krimpvarkies**

INGREDIENTS

- *1× Cup raw mince meat*
- *1× Cup grated carrots*
- *1× Raw egg*
- *2× Spoons mashed potatoes / sweet potato / pumpkin*

DIRECTIONS

1. Mix all the ingredients together.
2. Pre-heat the oven on 180°.
3. Form meatballs.
4. Place the meatballs on a greased oven pan.
5. Bake in the oven until brown / golden brown.

NOTES

These meatballs can be frozen and defrosted as needed. It is safe as a daily treat.

FUN FACT

1. Hedgehog babies get their teeth at 3 weeks old which is their permanent teeth.

2. In Mythical folklore hedgehogs are considered as wise. We agree with them !



Magical Spell by Lizl van Vreden
Illustration by Nan Valerie : Printerest

Magical Spell

**Once upon an ancient time
Lived a creature, oh so divine!
Every day at dusk he will rise
They say he is old and wise**

**Rustling through the undergrowth and leaves
His sight makes me softly heaves
I saw him moving under the vines
Be care full now, not to get poked by his spines**

**For they say,
If you got poked, your heart shall swell,
Forever binding in a hedgehog magic love spell!**





MONTHLY PLANNER

MONTH

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

TOP PRIORITIES

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

NOTES

Blank area for notes.

