



Mali Uromastyx

Uromastyx maliensis

Adult Size	Up to 16 inches	Life Span	About 35 years
Male/Female Differences	Females are smaller and less colorful. They are usually tan colored with black dorsal spots while males are bright yellow with black markings. Females also have shorter claws than males.		
Compatibility	An Uromastyx is very territorial but may be kept in groups with only one male as long as there is adequate space.		
Origin	The Mali Uromastyx comes from African regions.		
Climate	It is necessary for the Mali Uromastyx to have a hot and dry climate.		
Day Cycle	Diurnal, meaning they are active during the day and asleep during the night.		
Temperature	During the day, it is ideal to keep the temperature between 85-110 degrees Fahrenheit. During the night, keep the temperature between 75-85 degrees Fahrenheit. There should also be a basking area provided by a heat lamp that heats the area 110 degrees Fahrenheit.		
Lighting	Full spectrum UVB bulbs as well as a basking light are necessary for proper absorption of calcium that benefit heart and kidney functions.		
Humidity	The humidity level in their environment should be maintained at 20%. This may be monitored by a hygrometer.		
Habitat/Territory	Rocks and branches are great for the Uromastyx. Placing a rock underneath the basking lamp allows the Uromastyx to feel the heat from both the top of its body as well as from the belly. Although they love it hot, branches and enclosures kept at cooler areas are recommended to help regulate body temperature.		

Substrate/Bedding	A reptile carpet should be used as a substrate. Also provide a burrowing box filled with calcium sand to promote instinctual burrowing.
Hiding Place/Den	They love to have hiding places in order to feel secure so provide decorative rocks, logs, and plants that are stationary in order to prevent injury.
Cage Type	For the Mali, the larger the tank the better. A 36" glass terrarium with a screen top is recommended for proper ventilation. The size of the terrarium may vary with the size of the Mali.
Diet	Being herbivores, Mali's should be mostly fed with nutritious leafy greens and vegetables. Fruits should also be provided as an occasional supplement. Good supplemental fruits can include red berries, melons, and plums in small quantities.
Supplements	A calcium supplement dusted on the food is necessary.
Diet Precautions	Mali's should not be overfed. As a supplement, they can occasionally be fed insects however too much may become hard to digest.
Feeding	Mali Uromastyx must be fed every day with about one to two tablespoons of food.
Water Source	Provide a shallow and small bowl of fresh water. This should be changed out everyday.
Grooming	A very light misting of the terrarium as well as of the Mali is sufficient for their grooming.
Oral and Foot Care	It is vital to wash food and water dishes to prevent mouth infections. Provide safe climbing areas for healthy muscle development.
Proper Handling	The Mali should be allotted about 3 to 4 days in order to adjust to its new home. After it becomes comfortable, careful handling for short periods of time is fine.
Habitat Maintenance	A proper cleaning of the entire terrarium is recommended to keep the Mali healthy. The tank and the fixtures inside should be completely washed out and disinfected every two to three weeks. Spot clean as necessary.
Health Concerns	Mali's may be susceptible to parasites if the terrarium is not often cleaned. Egg binding could be a result from poor calcium levels and or from the first infertile egg cycle. Mali's may face kidney problems, which can be due from protein rich diets or poor calcium and phosphorous levels. Trim nails when necessary. Respiratory problems may be caused by low heat conditions and excess moisture.

