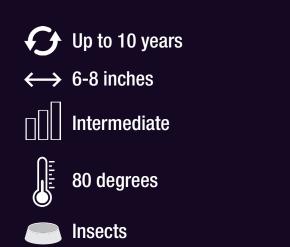


EMPEROR SCORPION





Because of their calm demeanor, larger size, and ease of care, Emperor scorpions have become a popular pet in the US in recent years. Although some people still flinch at the idea of owning a scorpion, those that have, find them to be among the most unique and fascinating pets. These guidelines are the basic necessities for your new pet. Please do your research and consult your veterinarian for further guidance.

TANK SET UP

A 10 gallon glass aquarium with a screen top works best, as it holds humidity and is easy to heat. This species of scorpion does not require a huge amount of space, and may be kept communally, as long as they are the same size and have their own hiding spots.

SUBSTRATE

Bedding that will hold moisture, such as Forest Floor bedding, cypress bedding, coconut husk, or EcoEarth, are preferred. Place moss on top of the bedding in one area and keep moist.

TEMPERATURE

Emporer scorpions should be kept in the low to mid 80's. The temperature should drop at night, as it would naturally. Keep a heat pad under the tank, or on the back of the tank to achieve the 80 degrees F. If you cannot achieve that temperature, try adding a low wattage red heat bulb.

LIGHTING

Emperor scorpions prefer to be in darkness. You may use a low wattage (40-60W) blue day bulb for the day cycle, if needed. If the terrarium is in a bright room, and has enough heat, you may not need to simulate the day light.

HUMIDITY

These scorpions need a humidity level of 60% - 80%. A shallow water bowl should be provided at all times. It not only serves as a source of drinking water, it helps provide the proper humidity. This along with the sphagnum moss, should help keep the humidity at an acceptable level.

FEEDING

Scorpions are insectivores, and will feed on appropriately sized crickets, mealworms, and waxworms. Crickets are their staple diet. Gut-load the crickets prior to feeding your scorpion. There is controversy whether calcium should be applied to the insects. Over-calcifying can cause trouble with the exoskeleton of the scorpion. Having too little calcium can have the reverse effect. The ideal solution is to gut load the crickets, and make sure the crickets are full of calcium prior to being offered to your scorpion.

ACCESSORIES

Scorpions need a shallow water dish, vines on the floor of the terrarium, and a hide or two, depending on how many scorpions you are housing together. Having one hide per scorpion will give them a sense of security.

Developed in partnership with The Ontario County Humane Society