

Rhino Rat Snake Caresheet

Background Information

Rhino Rat Snakes are a stunning colubrid species native to the tropical rainforests of Vietnam and China, usually found at elevations of 1000m above sea level in river valleys and streams. Growing up to 5ft in length this constricting species as a hatchling starts off SILVER and then changes into a bright green coloration, occurring at around 18 months of age onwards. If the colour of this species isn't impressive enough, as the name suggests they have a horn on the tip of their snouts. The reason for this, however, is still unknown. Care must be noted when handling Rhinos of any age as their horns are fragile.

Level of Experience	Intermediate
Habitat	Tropical Rainforest
Life Span	15 years could reach up to 20
Active Time of Day	Crepuscular
Natural Prey	Rodents
Terrestrial / Semi Arboreal / Arboreal / Aquatic / Fossorial	Arboreal
Reproduction	Mate: Spring Lay: Summer
Clutch Size	7 - 10
Breeding Weights / Length / Age	Males: 160g+ / 3ft / 2 years of age Females: 300g+ / 3ft / 3 years of age
Brumation Time	2 months
Brumation Temperature	12 – 15 'C
Incubation Time	2 months
Incubation Temperature	28 – 29 'C

There are no colour variations however some adults stay metallic silver instead of changing into their green phase during maturity – this is a rare occurrence.

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Captive Requirements and Welfare

Rhino Rat snakes should have plenty of height as they are an arboreal species. Some people say that this species needs a humidity level of 75%. However they have been kept in drier conditions with no problems at all. They'll just soak in their water bowl and also take advantage of a humid moss hide. Personally I would suggest going for a glass vivarium as opposed to a wooden one as it is better at maintaining humidity. RUB's are not an option due to the arboreal nature of this species. Hatchlings should be feeding consistently before being purchased as they are very troublesome to get started. Always make sure that the Rhino you purchase is feeding well. They also may be a tad shy when young but regular handling will tame them down to being quite placid.

Vivarium size	30x30x30cm for hatchling 3ft x 2ft x 1.5ft for adult
Daytime Temperature (cool – warm)	23 – 30 'C
Nighttime Temperature	21 – 22 'C
Heating Equipment(on timer)	Spot bulb during day, heat mat at night
Substrate	Most Natural: Orchid Bark Alternatives: Not Advised
Hides	2 at minimum: one on each side - a moss hide is important as the Rhinos like a humid area
Decor	Branches and fake plants allow the opportunity to climb and aids in shedding
Water	Fresh water topped up when needed clean out water bowl every few days to prevent slime build up. Rhinos appreciate a big bowl as they like to bathe often.
Food (Feeding)	Hatchlings often need assist feeding but once feeding they're good eaters. Then increase the size appropriately. Always place in a separate box for feeding to avoid substrate ingestion.
Cleaning	Spot pick weekly, full clean monthly

