

MOON CRAB

- Moon crabs are found mostly in Costa Rica.
- Will grow up to 2 ½ inches long and can live up to 12 years in captivity.
- These crabs are one of the most colorful crabs, with a bright red, orange, purple and blue shell.
- Moon crabs are social creatures and will live longer, healthier lives if kept in pairs or in a small group.

Diet

Moon crabs will eat just about anything, but should not be fed everything. Good foods would include those that they would find naturally in the wild, such as mango, papaya, coconut, or other types of fruits as well as vegetables of all kinds. Crabs may eat different kinds of meats, however be sure that the meat is cooked thoroughly for the safety of your pet. They will also eat live foods such as crickets, mealworms, or waxworms. A calcium supplement should be sprinkled on their food several times per week.

Offer a small amount of fresh food daily and remove any uneaten portions from the day before. Crabs will not eat if they are not hungry, so overfeeding is not an issue. If there is no food left over in the cage when you feed each day increase the portion sizes, if there is too much food left over you may feed less; adjust your feeding portions accordingly.

Moon crabs need a very large amount of water to survive; at least two water dishes should be in the enclosure at all times, not only as fresh drinking water but also to help maintain high humidity levels.

Housing

The minimum size tank for a pair of moon crabs is a ten gallon tank and a fifteen gallon tank would fit three to four crabs comfortably. These creatures enjoy living in a group, but care should be taken not to overcrowd them as they can become very aggressive toward one another.

Humidity levels are detrimental to a moon crabs health; the humidity level should be at a constant level of about 70%. They also like to burrow and will prefer a deep layer of sand covered by another couple inches of moist peat moss.

A low wattage light bulb is the best way to maintain heat and humidity levels. The enclosure should be kept between 78 – 85° at all times.

Handling & Care

Some crabs will tolerate significant amounts of handling, others will insist upon pinching or staying curled up when picked up. It all depends on the crab! Daily handling is a must if you wish for your pet to become and remain hand-tamed.

Because of the high humidity levels mold and bacteria can grow quit quickly in a moon crabs enclosure, be sure to remove the crabs, clean the substrate frequently, and completely wipe down and disinfect the tank at least once a month.

Wash your hands with anti-bacterial soap after handling any animal.



MOON CRAB CHECKLIST

- 15 Gal Tank
- Screen Top
- Water Dishes (2)
- Décor/Hiding Area
- Vitamin/Mineral Supplement
- Heat Source
- Soil/Substrate
- Thermometer
- Hygrometer
- Small Transport Carrier
- Crab Book