



Rhacodactylus leachianus

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Rhacodactylus leachianus

- Discovered 1829
- Native to Grande Terre, the largest New Caledonian island
- Largest *Rhacodactylus* species, reaching 14-17 inches
- Called “devil in the trees” by New Caledonians because of the growling noises they make



Housing



- Due to their large size these geckos need a large enclosure (pictured, a 55 gallon aquarium)
- Best housed alone or in a breeding pair
- Day temperatures should range from high 70s to low 80s
- The enclosure should reach 50-75% humidity

Decor

- A water dish is needed at a size they can get into
- They require a moist place to hide to aid with humidity
- Provide plenty of places for them to hide
- These geckos are arboreal and need plenty of branches, vines, and leaves to climb and explore on

Food

- These geckos eat fermenting fruit in the wild and should be offered a prepared commercially available alternative.
- They should be fed every other day, and it is recommended to feed them at night as they are nocturnal creatures.



In Captivity



- These geckos are territorial and can be aggressive.
- Handling them often is recommended to acclimate them to touch.
 - These geckos have powerful bites and need to be handled with care.
- In captivity they can live up to 20 years.
- They can lay 2 eggs per clutch about 5 times a year.

References

- ◉ **New Caledonian Giant Gecko Care Sheet (New Caledonian Giant Gecko Care Sheet)**
<http://www.reptilesmagazine.com/Care-Sheets/Lizards/New-Caledonian-Giant-Gecko/>
- ◉ **Rhacodactylus leachianus (Wikipedia)**
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhacodactylus_leachianus
- ◉ **Discover The Giant Gecko (New Caledonian Giant Gecko Care Sheet)**
<http://www.leachianus.com/discover-the-giant-gecko.html>