



Blotched Blue Tongue Lizard

Tiliqua nigrolutea

Natural distribution: Blotched Blue-tongues occur throughout cool temperate south-eastern Australia, in lowland and coastal areas of southern Victoria, throughout the high country of Victoria and New South Wales and much of Tasmania and Bass Strait.

Adult size (including tail): 450-550mm

Temperature in captivity: Day time air temperature 20-24°C, night time should not be lower than 12°C.

The Blue-tongue should be able to regulate its body temperature in a basking spot (range of 26-28°C) on the floor of the vivarium.

Reptile One Daylight Basking Lamp or **Reptile One Fan Heater** positioned over the selected basking spot is ideal; the soft air movement created by the **Reptile One Fan Heater** circulates the air in the vivarium more efficiently, the wattage size of the lamps are determined by the size of the vivarium and internal décor.

Blotched Blue Tongues are diurnal (day time) reptiles and will require the day lights/ heat lamps to be turned off at night, to keep your Blue Tongue warm at night, place a **Reptile One Heat Mat** under a **Reptile One Cave** or **Log**, this will allow the Blue Tongue to settle on the mat while feeling protected by the ornament. The **Reptile One Heat Mat** can be left all the time so do not position directly under the **Reptile Daylight Basking Lamp**. The heat mat should not greater than 25% of the floor area.

Lighting: **Reptile One Fluorescent Reflector** with a **Reptile One UVB5.0 Tube** positioned 30cm above the basking spot, will provide useful UV to enhance dietary calcium absorption and vitamin D3 production essential to Blue Tongues.

Enclosure: Reptile One have a range of enclosures and cabinets that are suitable for Blue Tongues. We suggest a minimum size for juveniles would be 60cm and adults 90cm with a choice of glass or timber finishes.

The aesthetic properties of the **Reptile One Bedding** for Lizards will provide an ideal substrate and allow for ease of cleaning up after your Blue Tongue. Your Blue Tongue will benefit from the inclusion of artificial plants to provide shade areas in the vivarium similar to the lizard's normal environment.

Ornaments: A choice of Reptile One decorative rocks and tree branches will give you the ability to provide natural retreats.

Backgrounds: The range of Reptile One artificial rock backgrounds allows you to choose a natural look for your vivarium.

Diet & Feeding:

Blue Tongues are basically omnivorous requiring a balance of Insects (crickets, cockroaches, mealworms), snails, slugs or earthworms and a mix of green and red vegetables (spinach, coloured lettuce, tomato, red or green peppers, mushrooms or rose petals). Occasionally some boiled egg can be added to the mix, fruits will also be taken with relish, some Blue Tongues will develop preferences so try a range of fruits like; apple, banana, pear, fig, melon, plum, kiwi fruit, raisins or strawberries, depending on what is in season.

Food is best offered to Blue Tongues in the late morning through to midday, after they have had time to bask and have become active. Food can be left in the enclosure until the Blue Tongue has finished eating, it is best to remove leftovers as soon as possible that day. Blue Tongues will prefer their food presented in a shallow bowl. We suggest feeding juvenile Blue Tongues 5 times per week while adults can be fed 3 times per week.

Water dishes should be stable and replenished daily.

Handling:

It is recommended before purchasing your Blue Tongue to have a demonstration on the best way to hold juvenile and adult Blue Tongues. **IT IS IMPORTANT TO WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE AND AFTER HANDLING BLUE-TONGUES.**

Seek advice from a reptile specialist veterinarian for all health issues.

It is illegal to remove Blue-tongues from the wild in Australia without the appropriate Government permits, please check your states regulations on the appropriate permits to enable you to keep captive bred Blue-tongues. Please do not release any captive Blue-tongues into the wild as this will disrupt the natural order of our environment.