



## Central Netted Dragon

*Ctenophorus nuchalis*

**Natural distribution:** Found from the Western Australian coast to western New South Wales and Queensland in hot, arid sandy environments.

**Adult size:** Snout to vent length 100mm

**Temperature in captivity:** Day time air temperature between 28 - 33°C, while night time should not be lower than 16°C.

The Central Netted Dragon should be able to regulate its' body temperature at around 35°C by moving to and from a basking spot above 35°C at 100 - 150mm above the bottom of the vivarium (usually on a sloping rock or branch ornament). **Reptile One Daylight Basking Lamp** or **Reptile One Fan Heater** positioned over the sloping ornament is ideal. The soft air movement created by the **Reptile One Fan Heater** circulates the air in the vivarium more efficiently, while the wattage size of the heat lamps are determined by the size of the vivarium and internal décor. Central Netted Dragons are diurnal (day time) reptiles and will require the day lights/ heat lamps to be turned off at night. To keep your Central Netted Dragons warm at night, place a **Reptile One Heat Mat** under a **Reptile One Cave** or **Log**, this will allow the Central Netted Dragon to settle on the mat while feeling protected by the ornament. The **Reptile One Heat Mat** can be left on all the time so do not position directly under the **Reptile One Daylight Basking Lamp**. (The heat mat should not be greater than 25% of the floor area).

**Enclosure and Equipment:** Reptile One have a range of enclosures and cabinets that are suitable for Central Netted Dragons, minimum suggested size would be 60cm with a choice of glass or timber finishes. The recommended list of equipment to include with your chosen vivarium:

**Lighting:** **Reptile One Fluorescent Reflector** with a **Reptile One UVB10.0 Tube** positioned a minimum 30cm above the basking spot, will provide useful UV to enhance dietary calcium absorption and vitamin D3 production essential to Central Netted Dragons.

**Heating:** **Reptile One Daylight Basking Lamp** or **Reptile One Fan Heater** position and size discussed in the temperature section.

**Substrate:** The aesthetic properties of the **Reptile One Desert Sand** will enable you to create a near replica of the natural environment. In conjunction with the sand; **Reptile One Bedding** for Lizards can be used to give different surface texture. Reptile One have a variety of artificial plants that will provide shade areas in the vivarium enabling the Central Netted Dragon a natural retreat when they need to.

**Ornaments:** A choice of Reptile One decorative rocks and tree branches will give you the ability to provide the sloping basking sites plus the added they are easy to clean.

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

**Drinking and Feeding Dishes:** Reptile One have a range of corner or round drinking dishes, we suggest to use shallow dishes to allow the Central Netted Dragon to stand in the dish without drowning, care should be taken not to create wet areas from water spillage, as Central Netted Dragons have a low tolerance to humidity. It might be necessary to drip water onto the lips of juvenile Central Netted Dragons daily to get them to drink, be sure to ask what the juvenile have been used to when you purchase them. The feeding dishes are used to feed the green vegetables or wet food in; this prevents the Central Netted Dragon from ingesting sand and causing complications that require Veterinarian assistance.

**Diet:** Central Netted Dragons are basically omnivorous requiring a balance of Insects (crickets, cockroaches or mealworms) and a mix of green or red vegetables (spinach, coloured lettuce, tomato, peppers or yellow flower petals). Juvenile Dragons will need to be fed daily the vegetable mix and insects while the adults, if active fed daily or if not so active, two to three times per week. The insect should be dusted with **Reptile One Vitacal** twice a week, all uneaten food should be removed in the afternoon daily.

**Handling:** It is recommended before purchasing your Central Netted Dragon to have a demonstration on the best way to hold juvenile and adult Dragons. **IT IS IMPORTANT TO WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE AND AFTER HANDLING CENTRAL NETTED DRAGONS.**

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

It is illegal to remove native reptiles 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 reptiles. Please do not release any captive reptiles into the wild as this will disrupt the natural order of our environment.