



## Bearded Dragon Husbandry & Diet Information Sheet:

### Quick Facts:

**Life Span:** up to 12 yrs.

**Sexual Maturity:** 1-2 yrs

**Average weight:** 280-500g

**Size:** 12-22 inches

**Breeding:** Females lay eggs 2-3 months after breeding, incubate eggs @ 82-84F for 65-75 days. During incubation when the shell indents or collapses, they hatch in 24 hrs. **Males:** Have large femoral pores on the inside of their thighs **Females:** have no femoral or reduced femoral pores.

**Common Problems:** Internal Parasites (coccidian and pinworms), Hypocalcemia and Metabolic Bone Disease (no UVB and poor Ca) diet, Dystocia, Thermal Burns, Trauma wounds

### Quick Set-Up List:

- ✓ **Set-up:** Babies 20 gal tank, Adults 75 gal
- ✓ **Heating & Lighting:** Ceramic Heater, under the tank heater, and UVB light
- ✓ **Daytime Temp:** 85-90F **Basking Spot:** 105-110F
- ✓ **Humidity:** 30%
- ✓ **Substrate:** Newspaper or Repticarpet. They INGEST sand, other small particulate bedding material and this can cause a serious problem.
- ✓ **Solo or in groups?** Males house by themselves or with a female. Females can be housed together
- ✓ **Comments:** Very friendly, good pets for kids

**BACKGROUND INFO & BEHAVIOR:** These gentle dragons are known to be the best lizards for beginner herpers and children. They rarely bite, whip their tails, and enjoy being handled. Their direct eye contact with owners make them some of the most expressive reptiles as pets. When stressed and cold, their beards can change to a dark color, shades of dark brown to black. Males should NOT BE housed together, as they fight aggressively, especially for food, and many wounds (loss of digits or arms) will occur. During territorial displays, their throats turn black and distend. Males and females can be sexed by their femoral pores as stated above. Do NOT feed them fireflies, they are toxic to Bearded Dragons.

**ENCLOSURE:** 55-75 Gallon Long with wood branches and a rock for basking. There should be an under the tank heater, with UVB lighting (full spectrum). Please MAKE SURE you have a UVB light. The substrate should be reptile carpet or newspaper. Avoid bark, sand, millet, walnut shells, or any substrate that is small enough to be ingested, as MANY dragons present with substrate impactions. A shallow bowl of water should be in the tank. The temperature range should be 80-85F in the daytime with a basking site at 90-95F. At night, the temperature should NOT DROP BELOW 75F. Please soak them in a shallow bowl of warm water twice a week for 10 minutes. This encourages drinking and defecation.

**DIET:** Beardies are omnivorous and their diet should be half insects and half salad :) They can be fed crickets, butterworms, phoenix worms, hornworms, superworms, mealworms, silkworms, and an occasional waxworm. Avoid giving the waxworms, superworms, and mealworms often, as they are very high in fat. On occasion you can offer large dragons a pinkie. The appropriate reptile salad will ensure the proper amount of vitamins and minerals needed to prevent deficiencies. Dandelion greens, collard greens, mustard greens, watercress, red leaf lettuce, romaine lettuce, escarole, and endive are all healthy veggies for your pet. Dill and parsley make great treats. These dark leafy greens are high in calcium and in vitamins A and C. Avoid a lot of kale and spinach, as it binds up their nutritional calcium. Please visit the USDA Nutritional Database to learn which greens have great vitamins and minerals at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/foodcomp/search/>.

These guys like petals and blossoms as well, so try hibiscus, clover, dandelion, and grape leaves (pesticide and herbicide free). Please gut-load the insects for 24 hours on a high calcium cricket feed before offering them to your pet. Reptimin Vitamin supplement may also be used to mix with food to help with Vitamin A.

Any changes in appetite and defecation should be noted and you should call the veterinarian. To learn more about your reptile, visit [www.reptilechannel.com](http://www.reptilechannel.com), [www.kingsnake.com](http://www.kingsnake.com) and [www.anapsid.org](http://www.anapsid.org). It was a pleasure working with your pet today, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

**Top 10 reasons to visit  
the vet!**

- ✓ Weight Loss
- ✓ Trauma & Fight  
Wounds
- ✓ Wheezing & Open  
mouth  
breathing
- ✓ Swollen Limbs
- ✓ Prolapsed organ from  
vent
- ✓ Poor Appetite
- ✓ Diarrhea
- ✓ Constipation
- ✓ Unresponsiveness
- ✓ Sand in the Stool

**Terms of Use:**

This informational pamphlet is provided as a courtesy to our clients and is intended for educational purposes only. The information contained herein reflects general guidelines and should not be construed as definitive veterinary advice or a substitute for professional consultation with a qualified veterinarian. The specific needs of individual pets may vary, and it is crucial to consult with a veterinarian to ensure that your pet receives care tailored to its unique requirements.

While we endeavour to provide accurate and up-to-date information, veterinary medicine is a rapidly evolving field, and some information may become outdated or be superseded by new research findings. The clinic assumes no responsibility for errors, omissions, or variances in treatment outcomes based on the information provided in this pamphlet.

Furthermore, the references to products, medications, or treatments within this pamphlet do not imply endorsement by the clinic. Pet owners should verify the appropriateness of any product or treatment with their veterinarian.

In case of any signs of illness, discomfort, or behavioural changes in your pet, it is imperative to seek immediate veterinary attention. Early diagnosis and treatment are critical to the effective management of veterinary health issues.

For further information or to schedule an appointment, please contact our clinic directly. Our team is committed to providing the highest level of care for your pet.

This pamphlet is the property of Zodiac Pet & Exotic Hospital (“ZPEH”) and is not intended for commercial use or distribution without express permission from ZPEH.

**使用條款：**

本資訊手冊旨在為我們的客戶提供教育性資訊，僅供參考。手冊中的資料提供了一般性指導，不應視為專業獸醫建議，亦不可取代合資格獸醫的專業諮詢。不同寵物的需求可能各異，因此我們強烈建議您諮詢獸醫的意見，以確保您的寵物能獲得切合其特殊需求的適切照護。

儘管我們致力於提供準確且最新的資訊，但獸醫學是一個不斷進步的領域，手冊中的部分資訊可能隨著新研究結果而不合用。本診所對於本手冊中提供的資訊所引起的任何錯誤、遺漏或治療效果的差異不承擔責任。

此外，本手冊中提及的任何產品、藥物或治療方式並不代表本診所推薦它們。寵物主人應該與獸醫確認任何產品或治療方案的適切性。如果您的寵物出現任何疾病徵兆、不適或行為轉變，您應立即尋求獸醫協助。早期診斷與治療對於有效維持寵物的健康狀況至關重要。

如需更多資訊或預約診療，請直接聯絡我們。我們的團隊致力於為您的寵物提供最高水準的護理。本手冊為星寵動物醫院（“醫院”）所有，未經醫院明確許可，不得用於商業用途或轉載用途。