

OVERVIEW						
<p>The African scorpions of the genus <i>Hadogenes</i> are adapted for living beneath rocks and in rock fissures in arid climates from savannah to desert scrub. Their bodies are compressed and they hold their longish tails off to the side rather than curling vertically like most scorpions. They are large scorpions that overpower their prey. Their venom is fairly mild and is only used occasionally to help subdue a larger, struggling meal.</p>						
ENVIRONMENT						
Conditions »	Day Temp	76-82°F	Night Temp	70-78°F	Humidity	40-60%
Heat Source »	<p>Undertank heat mats or low wattage terrarium bulbs providing red or blue “nocturnal” light may be used. Any heat should be provided in manner that creates a gradient from the warmer to cooler end to the enclosure, and should be thermostat-controlled to ensure excessive heat is avoided.</p>					
HOUSING		<p>Small plastic terrariums (e.g., Kritter Keepers) or small aquariums with a tight-fitting locking lid may be used. A 5 ½ to 10 gallon aquarium is favored by most keepers. The substrate should be mainly dry, but one area at one end of the enclosure may be moistened and covered with a flat rock like slate to provide moisture when desired. Several inches of coconut coir mixed with equal amounts of beach sand (or a “cactus” potting soil) works well. Scatter a couple of pieces of cork bark or flat rocks throughout the cage. A water dish is unnecessary and would likely be filled in with soil each night during the scorpion’s activity. However, a small dish like a 2-liter soda bottle cap may be used. Lightly mist the enclosure with lukewarm purified water twice a week in the evening and feed well and the scorpion will receive sufficient moisture.</p>				
DIET		<p>A variety of insects will be eagerly accepted, including crickets, roaches and kingworms (superworms). Feed small meals (adult cricket) every few days or a larger meal once a week.</p>				
KEEPER SAFETY						
<p>Large scorpions typically have weak venom and use their large claws to overpower their prey. However, people vary in their sensitivity to venom and a sting is best avoided! Also, the large claws can deliver a painful pinch. Scorpions are terrarium pets that are best left alone. Use a stick or wooden spoon to herd the scorpion into a glass or cup when it becomes necessary to move, such as during cage cleaning.</p>						