

# TURTLE Care Sheet Northern Long Neck Turtle

Chelodina rugosa

Inhabits slow flowing rivers, swamps, billabongs, semi-permanent waterholes and the flood-plains of Northern Australia.

Adult size (shell size): Up to 350mm

# Temperature

Water temperature 25-28°C. Water temperature can be maintained with a Reptile One Glass Terrarium Heater which includes a glass heater protector to ensure your safety as well as that of the turtle. Air temperature in the enclosure ranging between 28°-30°C.

#### **Enclosure**

Reptile One have a selection of enclosures that have non-abrasive turtle platforms securely attached. The platforms provide a basking and drying area for the turtle, using a Reptile One enclosure offers you options for filtration: Reptile One Turtle Pro enclosure have a hang-on filter, turtle safe platform and background along with a secure wire lid as a package. Other Reptile One turtle enclosures have a turtle safe platform; these enclosures allow you to use the Reptile One Terrarium Canister Filter to help maintain optimum water quality. (Read and follow filter maintenance instruction to optimse the efficiency and maintain the warranty). Substrates in the turtle enclosures can be washed Aquarium gravel, the gravel should be at a depth to cover the pre filter plate of the Reptile One Terrarium Canister Filter by approximately 30mm. To help maintain optimum water quality use the Reptile One Terrarium Gravel Cleaner to remove 25%-30% of the terrarium water weekly, ensuring to siphon the gravel over the entire bottom of the terrarium. Replenish the terrarium water by adding Reptile One Water Conditioner to remove chlorine and chloramine from tap water and regularly check pH using a Reptile One pH Test Kit to maintain the recommended pH of 7.0.

#### **Ornaments**

A choice of Reptile One decorative rocks and tree branches along with turtle safe artificial plants can recreate a natural looking terrarium.



## Diet & Feeding

In general Northern Long Neck Turtles are carnivorous, recommended diets should consist of Reptile One Turtle **Dinner** (a balanced frozen meat, vegetable and vitamin food), and Reptile One Turtle Sticks, these foods can be supplemented with aquarium fish, live or frozen blood worms or earth worms to provide a varied diet for the turtle. Northern Longneck Turtles will often swim frantically towards you when you enter the room, this can be interpreted as being hungry, only feed young turtle's daily amounts of food the size of their heads, remove uneaten food after 20 minutes. Adult turtles can be fed two to three times a week with amounts of food the size of their heads. Over feeding usually results in obesity and other diet disorders.

## Handling

It is recommended before purchasing your turtle to have a demonstration on the best way to hold juvenile and adult turtles. IT IS IMPORTANT TO WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE AND AFTER HANDLING TURTLES.

### Lighting

Reptile One Fluorescent Reflector with a Reptile One UVB5.0 **Tube** positioned over the platform, will provide useful UV to enhance dietary calcium absorption and vitamin D3 production essential to growing turtles.

#### Important

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

It is illegal to remove native turtles from the wild in Australia without the appropriate Government permits. Please check your state regulations on the appropriate permits to enable you to keep captive bred turtles.

Please do not release any captive turtles into the wild as this will disrupt the natural order of our environment.