



## Giant Horn Chameleon

|               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Species:      | Chamaeleo (Trioceros) Deremensis  |
| Common Name:  | Giant Usambara 3-horned Chameleon |
| Distribution: | Tazania                           |
| Population:   | Geographically restricted-rare    |
| Climate:      | Motane Rain Forest                |
| Length:       | 12-16 Inches                      |
| SVL Length:   | 120-150                           |
| Temperament:  | Docile                            |
| Care Rating:  | Expert                            |
| Maturity:     | Unknown                           |
| Progeny:      | Eggs 20-60 per clutch             |
| No. Clutches: | 1 clutches                        |

### General

deremensis is said to be one of the more evolutionarily advanced chameleons due to their complex lung structure. They are a stocky species, and have a short tail relative to the SVL length. The casque is unadorned; it is smooth, flattened and oblong and ends in a point bearing small, unfused occipital lobes. A short gular crest is present. Scallation is smooth. Body coloration for adults is medium to pale green with three or four pale yellow slashes that run in a broken line from behind the eye to nmdway down the body. A scattering of off- white, blue, red or brown patches and streaks are sometimes present. Excited/stress coloration sports a display of dark green or black sapotting The reverse of this pattern, ie.light spots on a dark green pattern can also be displayed. Hatchlings and young juveniles display the same patterns as adults but on an aqua blue background

### Gender

Males sport three large annulated (ringed) horns. Female c. deremensis lack all traces of horns; horn bud scales are not even present. Both sexes mature to a comparable size.

## Identification

### Captive Care

deremensis prefer heavily planted cages and should be maintained separately in screened enclosures. Being a montane species, they prefer moderate to cool temperatures. Daytime highs should be in the low to mid 70s and night temperatures in the high 60s, accompanied by high humidity (80%+). This species seems to do best with an ultrasonic humidifier aimed directly at the cage and a constant flow of water dripping (usually directly overhead) on or near them. Babies and juveniles especially show signs of dehydration in warm temperatures if not kept well hydrated. Typically hearty eaters, males can somewhat

decrease their food intake while greatly increasing their activity levels during breeding season. One unusual trait of this species, particularly babies and juveniles, is their tendency to vibrate their entire