

ANIMAL INFORMATION SHEET

Common Name – **Sugar Glider**

Scientific Name – *Petaurus breviceps*

Order –Diprotodontia Family – Petauridae



Care, feeding and handling guidelines are outlined by the Association of Zoo and Aquariums, US Fish and Wildlife and the United States Department of Agriculture.

General Information:

Size: up to 14 inches (males larger)

Lifespan: 4 to 5 years (wild); 12 to 15 years (captivity)

Wild Habitat: Rainforests of Indonesia and Western Australia

Diet: omnivores: they eat primarily fruit but portions of their diet also consist of insects and vegetables: in captivity homemade diets like High Protein Wombaroo, BML, and Leadbeater's Formula are a must.

Indigenous Habitat: Sugar gliders live in trees in forest of Indonesia and Australia; they are nocturnal and sleep in the hollows of trees during the day. They are highly territorial and live in family groups of one male and several females and young up to about 10 months old.

Home Habitat: Sugar gliders should never be kept alone; they need another sugar glider for company. The minimum cage size for a pair of sugar gliders is 24 inches deep by 24 inches wide by 36 inches tall with a bar spacing of ½ an inch. They need branches and other bird type toys to feel comfortable. Pouches are a must for sleeping but special consideration needs to be taken to make sure claws don't get caught in the fabric.

Recommended max time for handling: 60 minutes

Temperature Range: 70° F – 90° F

Transport: Small kennel cab lined with paper and a crate cover to decrease stress for transporting to/from veterinarian or any other location. <70° F hot water bottle wrapped in towel **MUST** be placed in kennel. >90° F place a towel wrapped frozen water bottle in kennel.

Restraint: Sugar gliders do not like to be restrained; normally they just climb everywhere. Can easily be presented in a “Snuggle Sack”.

Handling: Can become used to being touched; but are very active and don't respond to strangers well

Signs of Stress: Biting, crabbing, and trying to escape

Vocalization: Barking, chirping and crabbing

Interesting Facts: Sugar gliders are nocturnal, social animals, sometimes known to live in colonies. They are marsupials, just like kangaroos and hold their babies in pouches for about the first 10 weeks. Male sugar gliders have a scent gland on their head leading to the appearance of bald spots.



Animal adoption saves millions, contact a local shelter to adopt today:

1. Sugar Gliders Forever Home at <http://vasugargliderservice.webs.com>
2. Glider Gossip at www.sugarglider.com
3. For questions or concerns you may have about your pets or where to adopt contact The Bunny Hutch at Info@TheBunnyHutch.ORG or call (866) 488-4248.