

Black Rock Scorpion (Urodacus manicatus)



The Black Rock scorpion is a smaller species of scrape dwelling Urodacid found across southern and south-eastern Australia.

Black rock scorpions are nocturnal and sit at the entrance to their burrow and wait for prey to come within range, the scorpion will then lock it in a vice-like grip with its large claws and begin to eat its prey.

Like all scorpions, Black rock scorpions are venomous, but their sting is no worse than a bee sting and they prefer to use their powerful claws.

Scorpions grow by shedding their exoskeleton in a process called Moulting.

During this process, The hard exoskeleton splits, revealing a soft, pale one underneath. Care must be taken that nothing disturbs the scorpion, as this could easily result in death. Scorpions usually will not eat 24 hours before or after moulting. Do not interact with your scorpion for up to 3 days after moulting, as their exoskeleton is still very soft and pale.

Food:

Scorpions feed on live or freshly killed invertebrates. Ideal live foods are crickets, woodies and the occasional mealworm. If offering live prey, the insect should be no larger than $\frac{1}{2}$ the body size of the scorpion. Freshly killed insects must be offered via forceps, as they will not pick up food off the ground. Scorpions should be fed Once or twice a week. Remove any uneaten food after 24 hours. Burrowing (Fossorial) species will only eat if the prey item walks in front of them or into their burrow for them to eat.

Water:

The enclosure should be misted every second day, this can be done via a spray bottle or pressure mister. The scorpions will drink from the moist substrate.

Additionally, you can add a cap or bottle lid with some stones inside.

Enclosure

A plastic terrarium or container makes an ideal enclosure for a single scorpion, the enclosure must be a minimum of 10H 15W and 15L.

As they are a burrowing species, the bottom of the enclosure must be covered by substrate about 5-10cm thick, as it can make them stressed walking on plastic.

The more compacted the substrate is, the more your scorpion will like it, an ideal substrate is coco-peat with desert sand on top of a false bottom.

Temperature:

This species will do best at 18-24 degrees but will tolerate hotter or cooler temps for a brief time.

Humidity: 50-80%

Life span:

8-15 years.

For more information and/or questions,
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