

Fire Skink

Latin Name	Lepidothyris fernandi
Native to	Western/Central Africa
Maximum Length	14–20 inches
Lifespan	10–20 years
Enclosure	Use a screen-top terrarium only. If pairing, pair with one opposite sex only. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10–20 gallon tank for a young skink• 30–40 gallon tank at least 30 inches long for an adult skink Provide multiple hiding spots such as half-logs or cork shelters. Artificial plants provide extra cover and source for moisture droplets from misting.
Substrate	Use a blend of cypress mulch (Forest Floor) or orchid bark (ReptiBark) and some coconut fiber (EcoEarth). Loosely fill to at least 4 inches deep.
Temperature	day 70–85°F, basking 92–96°F, night 65–78°F infrared heat lamp, ceramic heat emitter, under tank heater
Light	diurnal UVB fluorescent lamp (ReptiSun) and basking lamp for 10–12 hours daily (8–10 hours in winter months)
Humidity	tropical woodland, 40–60% Thoroughly mist plants and substrate at least twice daily.
Water	Provide clean purified water in a dish daily. Skinks will often drink water droplets off of plant leaves.
Food	insectivorous Offer crickets, mealworms, or dubia roaches every 1–2 days. Dust insects with calcium/multivitamin powder every third feeding.
Shed Cycle	every 4–6 weeks Skink will burrow itself for 1–2 days and may eat skin. Keep substrate moist!
Sexing	Maturity reached at 1–1½ years old. Visual sexing is difficult. Males have a broader body than females with slight jowls around face.
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Remove waste and food debris.■ Rinse water dish and replace water.■ Mist well twice daily.