



REGULATIONS

Companion animal

OPAn: mandatory group housing (social species), ample floor space/enrichment; gnawing material. Professional breeding/trade: competence required.



LIFESPAN

5–9 years



ADULT WEIGHT

200–300 g



LIFESTYLE

Crepuscular / Diurnal



BODY TEMPERATURE

37.5–39 °C



SEXUAL MATURITY

1.5–3 months



GESTATION

87–93 days



LITTER / CLUTCH SIZE

1–12



Habitat & environment



Type — Multi-level aviary, free from drafts



Substrate — Plant-based bedding (hemp, Nullodor® fir wood)



Equipment

- Sand bath (1 hr/day)
- Wheel (appropriate diameter)
- Tunnels
- Levels
- Branches to gnaw
- Hay rack
- Heavy food bowl
- Water bottle or heavy water bowl



Technical parameters



Ambient

15–22 °C

Optimal temperature



Lighting



Photoperiod — Natural cycle



Behaviour

Highly social, sensitive to environmental changes.



Social life — Must imperatively live in a group. Housing several males together can lead to fights.



Activity cycle — Active, requires at least 30 minutes of daily out-of-cage time.



Enrichment

- Sand bath
- Daily out-of-cage time



Nutrition

Strict herbivore. 80% high-quality hay and woody plants to wear down the teeth. Recommended brand: Oxbow (Chinchilla, Degu range).

Daily base

Hay

Grass hay, first cut, coarse stems

Vegetables & greens

Dried vegetables and flowers (1 handful/day). Avoid fresh fruit and vegetables (too rich in sugar or water).

Sage

Oregano

Thyme

Basil

Mint

Camomile

Anise

Tarragon

Burnet

Hyssop

Catnip

Horehound

Pellets & supplements

<20 g/kg/day. NO seed mixes.

Pellets

Brands: Oxbow, Supreme Science, Beaphar,
Versele Laga

★ Treats (occasional)

Avoid anything too sugar-rich (raisins, dried bananas).

Rose Buds

Thistle Leaves

Dandelion Root

TO AVOID

Soy

Avocado

White Cabbage

Onion

Sorrel

Garlic

Potato

Peels

Bread

Sweets

Chocolate

Cereal Bars

Health & prevention

Preventive medicine

Never grasp by the tail (risk of autotomy). Deworming if necessary.

Vaccination

None

Surgery & neutering

Castration (male) or spaying (female, not generally recommended).

WARNING SIGNS

- Anorexia
- Overgrown teeth
- Pododermatitis (sore hocks)
- Obesity

If any of these symptoms appear, prompt veterinary care is essential.
Contact an exotic-pet vet as soon as possible.

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