

Diet

Most of the health problems in sugar gliders come for a bad diet. The sugar glider is omnivorous. He needs, in his diet, **insects, nectar and various proteins sources**. Fruits and vegetables should be offered in limited quantities.

A fruit only based diet predisposes the animal to osteoporosis and periodontal diseases resulting from protein and calcium deficiency. Crickets are a good source of calcium and protein.

The best diet to give in captivity would be 50% of the “Leadbeater” mix and 50% of insectivores/carnivorous pellets.

How to make the “Leadbeater” mix:

Mix 150 ml of hot water with 150 ml of honey. Then in another bowl crush a hardboiled egg that you will mix with 25g of baby cereal and one teaspoon of vitamin and mineral supplement. When the mix is homogenous add the water and honey. When kept in the refrigerator will be good only three days. You can freeze the rest.

Pellets:

Pellets for insectivores: Mazuri (Purina Mills®) and Zupreem (Premium Natural Pet Products®)

For carnivorous food, choose a high quality cat food. Treats should not exceed 5% of the daily ration.

It is very hard to meet their nutritional needs in captivity.

How to feed your sugar glider?

Commercial food adapted for sugar gliders are not balanced. They can lead to a vitamin deficiency that can, among other things, cause paralysis. Gliders need 2 parts calcium for 1 part phosphorous.

The good diet to use is the following (it comes from a zoo in Australia)

For every two glider per day:

-) 22 wet cat pellets of veterinarian quality Hill's Prescription Diet W/D
-) Three teaspoon of the recipe
-) 2/3 tablespoon of insectivores pellets. Available on delivery from Ren's Pet 1-800-610-7367 or www.mazuri.com

The recipe:

-) 150ml of boiled water
-) 84ml of baby cereal (in the beginning Nestlé wheat and berries stage 2 after this box any brand and flavor, no soy cereal.)
-) 100ml or liquid honey
-) One hardboiled egg, remove shell and puree
-) 1 teaspoon of vitamin and minerals (Rep-Cal)

BOARD: Sugar gliders need at least two hours a day of socialisation and interaction with humans in order for them to trust you and it has to be during the evening or night because they are nocturnal animals. They need a cage at least 91X61X91 cm and the ambient temperature must be between 18-32°C, ideally 24-27°C.

Leisure: Shelves at different levels, a swing, chew toys, hamster wheel, etc.

Sleeping area: a box or a bird nest of a good size is sufficient.

For the cage bedding the best for a good hygiene is recycled paper.