



MILKBACK

Porcellio laevis

The genus Porcellio contains a wide variety of isopods. These pint sized crustaceans can be just for looks, but can also help create an ecosystem for a natural reptile or amphibian habitat. Referred to as microfauna, they play a janitorial role by breaking down organic waste. Native to areas in nature that are damp, humid and covered, recreating an isopod habitat is fairly simple. However you decide to display these unique animals, below is some basic care information to get you started.

FUN FACTS

- Also called the smooth or swift isopod by the appearance of their shell
- Develop into adults in 7-8 months
- Instead of rolling up when threatened they run
- The milk back pattern is a line bred color morph of the Porcellio laevis

LOOK OUT FOR

- This species can drown in standing water. Use moist moss as a drinking source.
- Excess food can cause mold. Remove daily and feed sparingly.
- To prevent overcrowding, colonies should be upgraded or split as they grow.
- Larger specimens can outcompete the smaller ones for food

Life Span: 2 years

Max Size: 2 cm

Care level: Beginner

Temperature Range: 70°-85° degrees

Humidity: Low - Medium 60% - 80%

Bio-Activity Level: High

Ventilation Level: Low - Medium

Burrowing: No

Reproduction Rate: Quick - Moderate

Behavior: Active

Conspecific Aggression: Moderate

Customer Shopping List:

- 5+ gallon tank
- Tight Fitting lid
- Substrate-coconut
- Sphagnum mix
- Animal Safe Dried Leaves
- Cork bark
- Hygrometer
- Water Conditioner
- Commercial Reptile and Fish pellets
- Cuddle Bone