Simon's Rodents

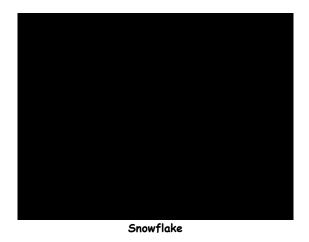
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African Pygmy Hedgehog

(Atelerix albiventris)



Country of Origin: Southern Africa, Sudan, Senegal and Zambia

Diet: In the wild a natural diet consists of small insects, worms and mealworms etc, this diet can easily be replicated in captivity with a wide variety of invertebrate's available at most pet stores. Wet cat food is another readily available substitute. These small mammals may also eat a small amount of vegetation.

Social Groupings: Best kept singly, unless mixed as juveniles, as they can be very territorial.

Accommodation: The enclosure must be solid bottomed (not mesh as this can harm their feet), with plenty of airflow. The more space you can give your hedgehog the better, to keep a high level of activity. A single level cage is preferable with lots of hiding holes and interesting objects that food can be placed inside for foraging. Multilevel enclosures can also make an interesting habitat, as long as there is not a large fall distance.

Gestation Period	30-40 days
Litter Size	2 - 10
Weaning Age	40-45 days
Puberty	Approx 8 weeks
Adult Length	15 - 20cm
Oestrus (or season)	
Life Expectancy	8-10 years