



Typically a basking area is created using a light emitting spot bulb, providing a basking temperature of ~35°C. This should be kept on for a minimum of 12 hours a day and switched off at night.

Heat sources must be attached to a thermostat and measured with a digital maximum/minimum thermometer to ensure the tank does not overheat. The cool end should be maintained at ~25°C.

Background heat can be provided with a heat mat (on the back wall) a tubular heater, a heat plate or a ceramic bulb. This should be set on a thermostat so that the overnight temperature does not drop below ~23°C.

Heat sources should be guarded to prevent thermal burns (see separate handout on heating for reptiles).

Humidity should be checked with a hygrometer placed in the middle of the vivarium and kept at between 60-80% by spraying or fogging the enclosure at regular intervals.

LIGHTING

Chameleons need daily exposure to full spectrum lighting (including UV-b light).

Various UV lamps are available (see separate handout on lighting for reptiles), but for veiled chameleons a lamp with a high output (e.g. 10-12%) should be used to mimic the strong sunlight of their wild environment.

