

Care of the Dubia Cockroach as a Pet (Blaptica dubia)

Dubia cockroaches are great as a pet or live food (see other side). This cockroach broods its eggs in a pouch and so appears to give birth to live nymphs. It takes 4 or 5 months for a nymph to reach adulthood. Adult males live a further 9 months and females for about 15 months.

Housing

House a colony of up to 60 individuals in a glass or plastic tank, or a clear plastic storage tub which is about 40cm long, 30cm wide and 30cm high. This tank will need to grow with your colony. These guys love logs to climb on, leaf litter from non-poisonous deciduous trees (I use sycamore) on a cocoa fibre base mixed with humus and/or peat.

Basic Care

The Dubia Cockroach needs a temperature of 25°C-30°C. You can use a heatpad underneath or along the side of the tank. My personal favourite for larger colonies is a 40W lightbulb attached to the top of the tank. They need to be sprayed with tap water every day to keep the cocoa fibre damp (but not wet).

Diet

These guys will eat a range of different fruit, vegetables and roach chow. Feed on vegetables that have been thoroughly washed under the tap to remove pesticides. You can also feed on different roach chows, like my own. These guys especially love oranges and butternut squash - oranges promote breeding.

Care of the Dubia Cockroach as Live Food (Blaptica dubia)

Dubia cockroaches are great as live food or a pet (see other side). This cockroach broods its eggs in a pouch and so appears to give birth to live nymphs. It takes 4 or 5 months for a nymph to reach adulthood. Adult males live a further 9 months and females for about 15 months.

Housing

House a colony in a plastic storage tub containing vertical egg trays. The storage tub will be 35cm wide, 50cm long and 35cm high at a minimum. The cockroaches will live in egg trays and their frass (poo) will fall down to aid cleaning (every couple of months).

Basic Care

The Dubia Cockroach needs a temperature of 25°C-30°C. You can use a heatpad in the tank underneath the egg trays.

Diet

These guys will eat a range of different fruit, vegetables and roach chow. Feed on a high protein / high nutrient gut load roach chow like my own, along with vegetables that have been thoroughly washed under the tap to remove pesticides. These guys especially love oranges and butternut squash - oranges promote breeding.