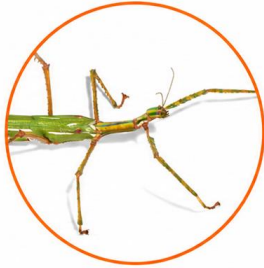


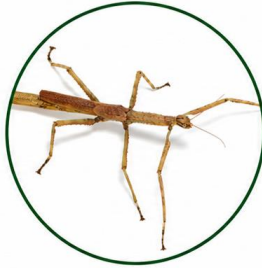
LEAF & STICK INSECT CARE GUIDE



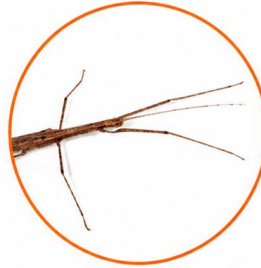
Spiny Leaf Insect
Extatosoma tiaratum



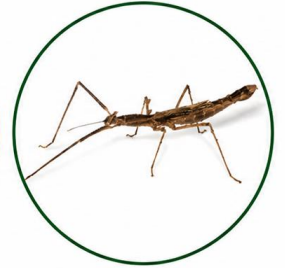
Goliath Stick Insect
Eurycnema goliath



Strong Stick Insect
Anchiale briareus



**Cyclone Larry
Stick Insect**
Sipyloidea larryi



Crowned Stick Insect
Onchestus rentzi

General Points

Food and Water Safety

Place cut foliage in a container of fresh water to keep it from wilting. Cover the opening securely with a fitted lid, mesh or foil containing small holes for the stems. This prevents insects, particularly small nymphs, from falling into the water and drowning.

Lightly mist the leaves so the insects can drink the droplets. Avoid spraying the insects directly or leaving the enclosure saturated.

Cleaning

Line the enclosure floor with paper towel or plain paper to make cleaning easier.

- Remove mouldy or wilted foliage promptly.
- Replace food plants at least weekly, or sooner if they begin to dry.
- Remove droppings, known as frass, and fallen leaves each week.
- Replace wet or dirty paper lining.
- Wash food containers regularly and rinse them thoroughly.
- Never use fly spray, household insecticides or strongly scented cleaners nearby.

Moulting

Stick and leaf insects grow by shedding their exoskeleton. During a moult, they must hang freely beneath a branch or leaf. Never touch, move or disturb an insect while it is moulting or just after.

Information By Species

Leaf and stick insects, also known as phasmids, are gentle, fascinating animals. Although their requirements are similar, food plants, temperature, humidity and enclosure size vary between species. Multiple insects may live together if each has enough room to feed, hang and moult without being disturbed.

Spiny Leaf Insect

Food: Provide fresh eucalyptus (gum) leaves at all times. They may also accept, rose, some acacia (wattle), cadagi, guava and tree lucerne.

Housing: Use a well-ventilated enclosure measuring at least 30 × 30 × 30 cm. It should be taller than it is wide, with sufficient room beneath the branches for safe moulting. Keep the enclosure in a naturally lit room, away from direct sunlight and draughts.

Temperature and Humidity:

- Preferred temperature: 22–26°C
- Humidity: approximately 60–80%
- Lightly mist the foliage once a day.

Handling: Gently encourage the insect to walk onto your hand. Never yank it from a branch or hold it by the legs, abdomen or tail.

Lifespan: Females generally live for 12–18 months, while males typically live for 6–8 months.

Goliath Stick Insect

Food: Provide fresh, eucalyptus (gum), acacia (wattle), Cadagi and guava. Goliath Stick Insects are large and require a generous supply of fresh foliage.

Housing: Use a tall, well-ventilated enclosure measuring at least 50 cm high × 30 cm wide × 30 cm deep.

Temperature and Humidity

- Preferred temperature: 22–26°C
- Humidity: approximately 50–60%
- Lightly mist the foliage once a day.

Handling: Encourage the insect to step onto your hand without pulling its feet from the branch. Adult males can fly, while females may display their wings when startled. Handle them calmly in a secure room.

Lifespan: Approximately 12–16 months.

Strong Stick Insect

Food: Provide fresh, eucalyptus (gum), acacia (wattle), Cadagi and guava. Young nymphs should have access to soft, fresh growth that they can eat easily.

Housing: Use a spacious, well-ventilated enclosure that is taller than it is wide. Strong Stick Insects can grow quite large, so they need generous vertical space (at least 50cm high x 30cm wide x 30cm deep) for climbing and moulting. Provide sufficient foliage and hanging space for every insect.

Temperature and Humidity

- Preferred temperature: 22–28°C
- Mist the foliage lightly once a day.

Handling: Gently encourage the insect to climb onto your hand. Adult males can fly well, so handle them carefully in a secure room with doors and windows closed.

Lifespan: Approximately 6–12 months.

Cyclone Larry Stick Insect

Food: Provide fresh, eucalyptus (gum), acacia (wattle), bottlebrush, cadagi, rose, guava and rubus species, including blackberry and raspberry.

Housing: Use a secure, well-ventilated enclosure measuring at least 30 × 30 × 30 cm. These insects readily wander, and adults of both sexes can fly, so check the enclosure carefully whenever it is opened.

Temperature and Humidity

- Preferred temperature: 22–26°C
- Humidity: approximately 50–60%
- Lightly mist the foliage once a day.

Handling: Handle only when necessary. Cyclone Larry Stick Insects can shed their legs when frightened or restrained. Encourage them to walk onto your hand and never pull them from a branch.

Lifespan: Approximately 1 year.

Crowned Stick Insect

Food: Provide fresh, eucalyptus (gum), acacia (wattle), Cadagi and guava.

Housing: Use a well-ventilated enclosure measuring at least 30 × 30 × 30 cm. Provide upright foliage, climbing branches and lower shelters, as this species may spend time closer to the enclosure floor.

Temperature and Humidity

- Preferred temperature: 22–26°C
- Humidity: approximately 50–60%
- Lightly mist the foliage once a day.

Handling: Gently encourage the insect to walk onto your hand. Adult males may make short flights, so handle them in a secure area.

Lifespan: Approximately 1 year.