



CARE SHEET

Giant Asian Mantid

Hierodula membranacea

Asia



- Keep above 18C with a heat light. (Orchid mantids should be above 20C at all times)
- If they haven't been fed, spray on head or forelegs only. Avoid over-spraying.
- Feeding: Prefer live flies one or more a day though can go longer without. Also meal worms, crickets, or insects from sweeping net in long grass. Avoid big strong locusts. Adult females need three crickets a day for two weeks before introducing to a male. This reduces the chance of her eating him.
- *Hierodula* can strike at people which makes them jolt and sometimes even bite.

- To insert flies in cage make sure the door is in the dark as flies always fly towards the light.
- Avoid opening the glass door if their legs are on it or near the top or bottom (guillotining)
- Check heat thermostat hasn't be moved from 23C and check lights work. Check temperature minimum on thermometer daily.
- Experience: Mantids can suffer from dehydration which gives problems during skin changes. If fed regularly, they get enough fluid from their prey. Otherwise they need spraying. We have had problems with drips collecting on the head or abdomen causing necrosis from spraying too much. Mantids such as flower mantids need heat and start acting drunk if too cold.