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Axolotl

Adequate temperature		
	Hot spot	Less hot point
Temperature at all times	20 °C	15 °C

Main Features :

The axolotl is a salamander native to Mexico that is part of the order of amphibians. The term "axolotl" which means "water dog" is associated with the Greek god of death: Xolotl. Axolotl is known for its ability to regenerate damaged or destroyed organs. In captivity, it is usually whitish with external gills of red color. It is also possible to see black, gold, albino, etc. Its life expectancy is 15 years and once adult, it can measure 25 to 30 cm in length. In adulthood, it is possible to differentiate the male from the female: the male has a prominent bulge at the level of the cloaca unlike the female. The tail of the female is generally shorter than that of the male.

Captivity:

The axolotl is an aquatic animal. He must live in an aquarium with at least 30 cm of water. A length of 80 cm and a width of 35 cm are the minimum magnitudes for an aquarium containing 2 axolotls, ideally 100 gallons for two individuals. The axolotl eats everything it finds, so it's important to choose the type of substrate. Sand and small stones are not recommended. It is even better to put nothing as a substrate. One hiding place per person is recommended! The axolotl fears bright light! The addition of selected plants by a connoisseur will help the axolotl to hide from the light. As it is a very nervous animal, it is not recommended to put a high performance filter, because it will cause a lot of current. Anyway, the axolotl is not a very polluting animal, so a little filterer will suffice. The addition of a



decoration close to the latter will reduce the vigor of the waves. A UVA-UVB light is not necessary for his good health, to see useless.

Food :

The axolotl is a carnivore! It is therefore necessary to provide him with live prey to satisfy his predatory instinct. You can offer him small fish such as: Guppies, Neons, zebrafish, danios, etc. It is also possible to offer earthworms from a known source to your axolotl. There is a commercial diet for axolotls, but it is not a complete diet in itself so it is important to add live prey.



Frequent health problems:

- **Infections:** Infections can occur in the mouth (stomatitis), on the skin (bacterial or fungal) or in the form of abscess. This condition is often the cause of poor nutrition, excess moisture or poor hygiene.
- **Obstruction:** A poorly informed owner may offer a pet that is too big for a meal on his axolotl. The axolotl sometimes has eyes bigger than the belly and tries to eat that prey. That's when he may choke or have an intestinal block!

As with all animals, it is recommended that an examination be conducted after the purchase of a new reptile and an annual check is required. The annual exam helps prevent health problems that may occur and thus save the life of your pet. If in doubt, a visit to the veterinarian is required! A reptile, whatever it is, will hide its symptoms so as not to become an easy prey for predators (humans). At the slightest change in behavior, contact your veterinarian.

