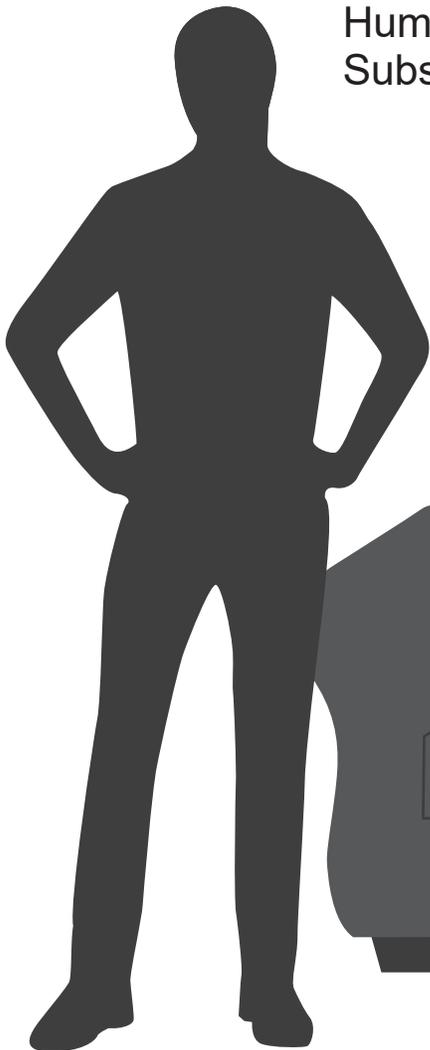


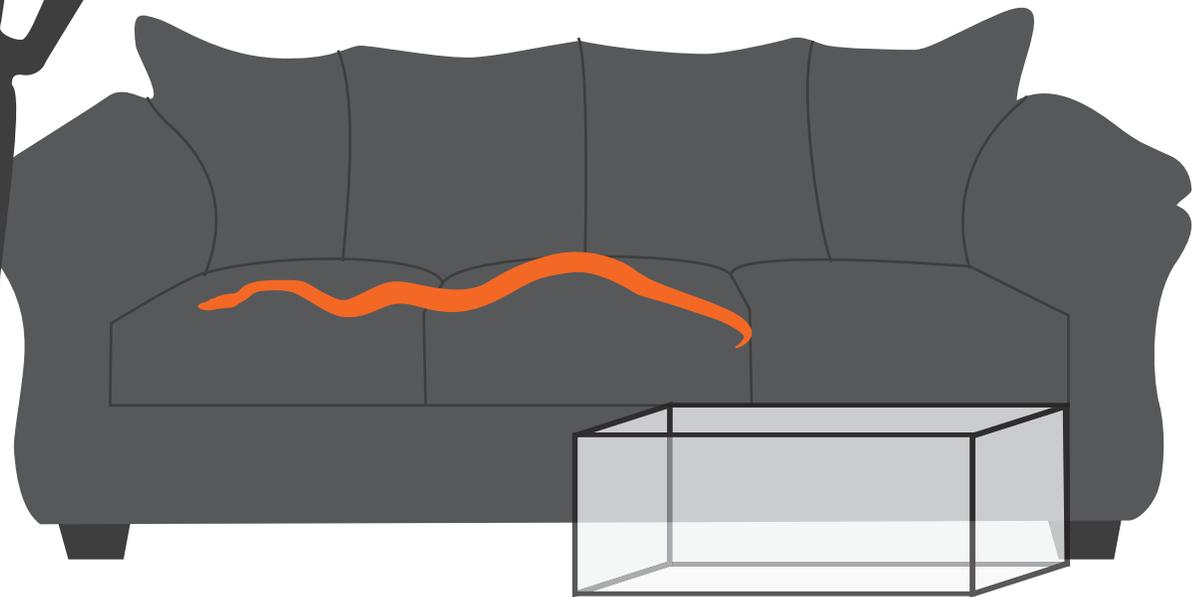
Corn Snake

aka Red Rat Snake - Scientific Name: *Pantherophis guttatus*

- Lifespan 20+ years with good care in captivity
- Diet Frozen/thawed adult mice or small rats, whole prey cased links as alternative
- Lighting Can be dome lamp with incandescent bulbs to produce heat as well, 12 hrs a day
- Temps Ambient cage temperatures in 70's F, with "hot area" of upper 80's F. Provide heat gradient
- Humidity Hide box filled with moist sphagnum moss
- Substrate Newspaper, cypress mulch, orchid bark, aspen shavings, reptile carpet
avoid cedar chips, gravel or sand



The average human male is about 6' tall, adult Corn Snakes are usually 3–4' long; up to 6'



The average couch is about 86"W, the minimum size enclosure for one adult Corn Snake is 30"W

For more information, visit: www.mnherpsoc.org



Corn Snake

In the Wild

Distribution

- Southeastern and eastern United States (not found in Minnesota, Iowa, or Wisconsin)

Habitat

- Forests, forest/grassland edge, meadows, rocky hillsides

Habits

- Arboreal
- Harmless, but mistaken for venomous copperheads and rattlesnakes
- Vibrates tail when alarmed that may produce a buzzing or “rattling” sound when contacting dead vegetation or leaves

Diet

- Rodents, birds, birds’ eggs, lizards, and treefrogs; subdues prey by constriction

Captive Care

Housing

- 20 gallon long aquarium or equivalent area for adults
- Secure, tight-fitting lid is necessary
- Substrate can be newspaper, cypress mulch, orchid bark, aspen shavings, reptile carpet, avoid cedar chips, gravel or sand!
- Sturdy water dish – water must be available at all times
- Hide box, especially filled with moist sphagnum moss for security and humidity
- Branches optional for climbing/enrichment

Temperature and Lighting

- Ambient cage temperatures in 70’s F, with “hot area” of upper 80’s F. Provide heat gradient
- “Hot area” can be achieved by using radiant heat, heat pad on outside of cage, or both
- Thermometer (temp gun or probe) to measure actual temperature is a necessity
- Lighting can be dome lamp with incandescent bulbs to produce heat as well, 12 hrs a day
- UVB lighting beneficial, but not necessary

Diet

- Frozen/thawed adult mice or small rats, whole prey cased links as alternative*
- Carnivore only, needs whole animal prey
- Avoid feeding live prey
- Offer food once a week

Special Notes

- Named for belly coloration; resembles maize or Indian corn, and/or they hunt for prey around corn/grain buildings. Not named because they live in cornfields or eat corn
- Corn snakes are solitary, so it’s best to keep snakes individually
- Most corn snakes are docile and easy to handle
- Widely bred in captivity; over 100 different captive produced color morphs; most people own captive produced color morphs, not wild type coloration

For more information, visit: www.mnherpsoc.org

