

# Sugar Gliders

LIFESPAN: 10-12 YEARS

## Description

Sugar gliders are small, gliding possums that belong to the class marsupial. Sugar gliders are native to Australia.

## Housing

Sugar Gliders have very specific housing needs. A pair of sugar gliders should be housed in a cage measuring a minimum of 24x24x36 inches. However, provide them with the largest cage possible.

Sugar gliders like to glide and leap about. [Quality Cage](#) is one company that makes and sells Sugar Glider cages.

The cage should have walls constructed of mesh or wires small enough so the sugar glider can not escape. They can squeeze through small spaces, so this is very important.

Cages should include: fleece cage kit (hammock/snuggie pouches/fleece ropes/bridges/etc), plastic toys, feed bowl/s, water bottles, and branches/leaping ledges, and a sugar-glider specific wheel.

Eucalyptus leaves and branches are a wonderful addition to a sugar gliders cage. In the wild, these trees are a part of their environment.



## Diet

Sap is the staple to a wild sugar glider's diet.

They chew food and extract the liquids for nutrients, and then usually spit the food out.

Pet glider diets should consist of 50% protein, 25% fruits, and 25% vegetables.

Gliders can be fed once a day - often at night when they wake up. Remove all remaining food in the morning.

A sugar glider should get a variety of foods.

Be sure to mix and match different groups daily. A tablespoon of fruits and veggies a night will suffice.

**Vegetables:** Corn (only twice a week), Cooked Potato Chunks, Green Beans, Carrots, Peas, Broccoli, and Collard Greens.

**Fruit (remove pits/seeds):** Grape Halves, Papaya, Cantaloupe, Mango, Apples, and Berries.

Fresh produce is best, but frozen is also good. Never use canned.

Sugar Gliders should be fed a diet of HPW Sugar Glider mix alongside their produce at night.

The recommended serving is 1.5 teaspoons per glider, per night.

To read more about this diet, and where to buy this: [CLICK HERE](#)

**Via the HPW Diet Centre Website:**

**Preparation Instructions**

### Ingredients

2 cups warm water

1 1/2 cups honey

3 scrambled eggs

1/4 cup High Protein Wombaroo Powder

1 tablespoon Bee Pollen (American or Australian - you can find this at most vitamin or health stores)

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Mix the wet ingredients in a large bowl. Stir until honey is dissolved. Add in the High Protein Wombaroo Powder and mix well. In blender add in eggs, bee pollen and 1/2 to 1 cup HPW liquid. Blend for two minutes. Add in additional liquid and blend for another two minutes. Pour into a freezer safe bowl with an airtight lid. Keep in freezer. Will freeze to consistency of ice cream

Other Diet Options:

[BML Diet](#)

[Priscilla Price Diet](#)

## Grooming

Sugar Gliders do not require baths, but should have their nails trimmed occasionally. It is best to have your veterinarian show you how if you are unsure how to do so yourself.

## Exercise

Sugar Gliders should have an exercise wheel available in the cage. Pet store wheels are not safe. Proper wheels should be purchased from manufacturers online. The Wodent Wheel is a popular wheel choice among Sugar Glider owners.

## One or Two?

Sugar Gliders are social creatures that should be housed in pairs or small groups.

It is easier to introduce two males if one or both have been neutered.

Females may live in pairs or groups.

Males and females should not be housed together unless the male has been fixed.

It is much easier to introduce sugar gliders of the same age and/or size.

## Health

It is important to find a vet experienced in sugar gliders, as well as an emergency vet for after-hours care. Sugar gliders do not require routine veterinary care, but can fall sick or injured just as any other pet.

More common health ailments to watch out for include:

- **Dehydration**

Signs of dehydrated sugar gliders include: Lethargy, unable to urinate, decreased appetite, change in behavior, slow movements, dull/droopy eyes. If you suspect dehydration, gently pinch the skin between the gliders shoulder blades. If the skin stays tented, the glider is dehydrated. Dehydrated sugar gliders should be taken to the vet.

- **Limb Paralysis**

Sugar Gliders can developed leg paralysis for a variety of reasons. This can include injury, poor nutrition, or infection.

If you notice your sugar glider dragging or not using its back legs, see a vet as soon as possible.

- **Giardia**

Giardia is a type of bacterial infection that requires treatment from a veterinarian.

Symptoms include: diarrhea, decreased appetite, weight loss, and foul smelling stool.



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