ReptiHatch Pro Reptile Egg Incubator Manual (Version 1.3RepMag - Jan 2010)





PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USE!

ReptiHatch Pro Advanced Reptile Egg Incubator

The ReptiHatch Pro Cabinet Incubator you have purchased is the most advanced microprocessor controlled incubator for reptile eggs. It is also the only incubator specifically manufactured for hatching reptile eggs and includes precise humidity control thus eliminating the need for closed top incubation containers (such as Tupperware w/ lids). The ReptiHatch Pro precisely regulates the entire incubation environment. Temperature and humidity sensors with advanced monitoring control the environment, 24/7, for precise reptile egg incubation. Each and every ReptiHatch Pro reptile egg incubator is fully calibrated & tested using very expensive calibration equipment.

The ReptiHatch Pro cabinet incubator is easy to operate and incorporates a low water alarm in the event the humidity tray needs to be refilled. The technical base for this unit is the latest, state-of-the-art, dual microprocessors with thermo-electric heating and an evaporative humidity system with electronic discharge. This allows the incubator to maintain temperatures between 60° F and 102° F with +/- 1° F accuracy. Relative humidity can be controlled to within 1% accuracy between 50% and 95%. The unit will maintain correct temperature when the ambient room temperature is at least 5° F lower than your desired incubation temperature. The entire incubation chamber air is slowly circulated for even distribution of temperature and humidity. 24 hours a day a small amount of fresh air exchange from the outside is provided (no need to open the door for daily air exchanges). Although rare, remember that certain temperature & humidity combinations are not found in nature and this incubator cannot perform such functions. (An example is 60° F with 95% humidity). In nature you will find that very high humidity is only found with higher temperatures. In Nature and the ReptiHatch Pro, generating very high humidity such as 95% causes temperature to go up beyond very low temperature ranges. With desert species, you can also find lower humidity levels with higher temperatures, the incubator easily performs these combinations. Two internal digital thermostat and humidistat microprocessors enable setting the temperature or humidity to your desired values. The incubator is manufactured with special thermo-plastics for great insulating capabilities.

Unpacking your Incubator:

Carefully unpack your incubator and avoid making deep cuts while opening the boxes. Your incubator is double boxed and we recommend keeping both boxes and all packing material in the unlikely event your unit ever requires service. Shipping by any other means can cause damage to your incubator.

Operating Location for Incubator:

The incubator is insulated very well, however outside (ambient) room temperatures can have an influence on the temperature inside the incubator. The "ambient" temperature always needs to be at least 5° F below the desired incubator operating temperature. Place the incubator in a dry location. Avoid direct sunlight! Be sure to always use a grounded electrical outlet and it is recommended to use a good quality power surge protector since the incubator contains dual microprocessors. A good electrical strip protector designed for computers will work quite well. We also recommend a good book or that you obtain adequate knowledge on incubating the species of reptile eggs you have.

Place Incubator on water condensation tray:



Choose the location for operation & place the condensation tray under the front portion of the incubator as shown.



Incubator Power:

The incubator is powered by 110-120 volts AC (with grounded plug) that allows operation from your 120 volt AC wall socket. For use with 220 Volt foreign power systems an inexpensive voltage down converter is required.

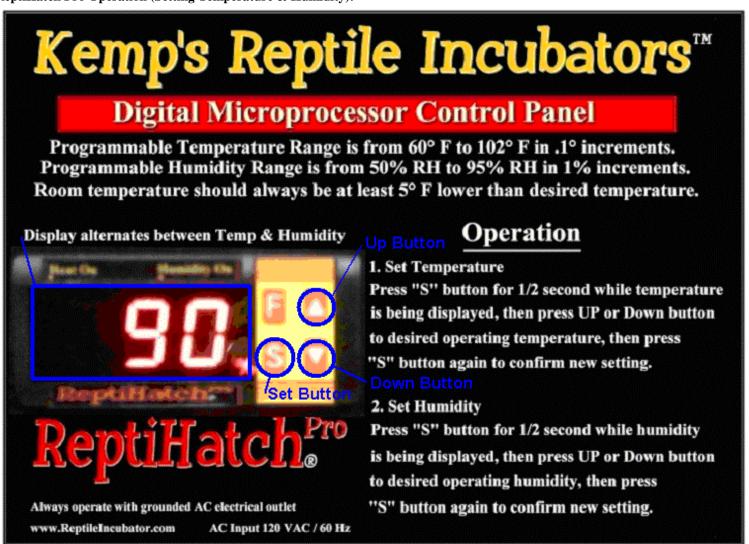
Turning the Incubator On:

Plugging the unit in begins operation. There is no on/off switch. Read all set up instructions to follow.

Operate with desired settings for 12 hours before placing eggs inside incubator:

To begin incubation follow all instructions included and leave the incubator on for 12 hours. Operation for 12 hours will allow the incubator, new water and new substrate to maintain their proper temperature & humidity before placing your delicate eggs inside.

ReptiHatch Pro Operation (Setting Temperature & Humidity):





Incubation Temperature Setting (60° F to 102° F):



Firmly press the "S" button for ½ second while the temperature is being displayed (not while humidity is being displayed). Then adjust the desired incubation temperature by pressing the UP and DOWN button on the display. After selecting the temperature firmly press the "S" again. The alternating display will change to show the current temperature & humidity conditions inside the incubator. The settings will also be maintained during a power failure.

Incubation Humidity Control (50% to 95%):



Firmly press the "S" button for ½ second while the humidity is being displayed (not while temperature is being displayed). Then adjust the desired incubation humidity by pressing the UP and DOWN button on the display. After selecting the humidity firmly press the "S" again. The alternating display will change to show the current temperature & humidity conditions inside the incubator. The settings will also be maintained during a power failure.

Bottom Humidity Unit:





Carefully fill up the bottom humidity tray with 60° F water (distilled preferred). If distilled water is not available you may use tap water however it may cause buildup of minerals on the heating element. Fill up to the location shown on the water line in the photo. Do not fill any higher. Depending on the set humidity level and the outside humidity in your region you will need to refill it about every 2 to 3 weeks. If this unit requires refilling you will hear an on/off alarm "beeping" every 30 seconds. This is to advise the water is low. After refilling the alarm will reset within about 30 to 60 seconds. You should avoid waiting for the alarm and refill before it is too low. **NEVER CLEAN the heating element with a sharp item such as knife or razor blade.** It is best to clean with your fingernail.



Other Temperature/Humidity Measurement Devices:

Separate digital thermometer/hygrometers can be used to double check incubator conditions however they are not very accurate. We have tested up 10 units of each of many models from various manufacturers and have found they are not very accurate. The average error for temperature is +/-2 degrees F and +/-9% for humidity. As you can see the temperature is fairly accurate with these inexpensive devices but the humidity error can be disastrous. Your ReptiHatch Pro was tested & calibrated using the most accurate measurement devices. These units are available for purchase from us as well as many retailers and normally sell for about \$15 to \$25 USD (Example below).



Incubation Fresh Air Control:

At all times the incubator is introducing a small amount of fresh air to the inside incubation chamber eliminating the need to open the door for periodic air exchange.

Important:

For hatching substrate (the sand medium), we recommend HatchRite. HatchRite can be purchased from us. The USA's top reptile breeders specially designed HatchRite. HatchRite is fully sterile and is very forgiving to inaccurate mixing of water with the substrate. The mixing of water with other substrate materials can be dangerous to your fertile reptile eggs. For this reason we recommend HatchRite. HatchRite is advertised as being "Pre-wet" however for humidity above 88% we recommend mixing in additional water. Instead of HatchRite some breeders use Vermiculite or Pearlite or a combination of them for substrate. Remember neither of these are sterile and they each need to be carefully heated on a cookie sheet in your preheated oven at about 200° F for about 5 minutes. Carefully watch the substrate to be sure it does not burn. Be sure to use normal safety items such as oven gloves when using your oven. Let the substrate cool down for at least 30 minutes before using it. If you use non-sterile substrate you will end up growing "who knows what" in your incubator which can destroy your eggs.

#1 Tray Setup (adding water to bottom of tray):



First! - Be sure your hands are clean.

Before adding your substrate, fill the egg tray bottom with about ½ cup of clean, 80° F water.



2 Tray Setup (adding substrate):



BEFORE adding the substrate FULLY READ this section! *For LESS THAN 88% humidity operation*, fill tray with clean, sterile HatchRite, to within 1" from the top of the egg tray. We highly recommend HatchRite. If using another substrate be sure you mix clean water in it with only enough so it feels a bit damp – NOT WET. Only the substrate in the bottom of the egg tray will be completely saturated with water.

If ABOVE 88% humidity operation, sprinkle in about 10 tablespoons of clean water throughout the bag of HatchRite and thoroughly mix with your fingers. Then pour the HatchRite into the egg tray(s) as mentioned above.

3 Tray Setup (level out the substrate):



Be sure your hands are still clean and level out the substrate. *The substrate near the top should only be lightly damp, NOT WET!* Then place your eggs in the substrate as shown in the next section. Do not rotate your eggs while moving them from the location where they were laid. Mark the top of your eggs where they were laid before moving them!



4 Tray Setup (place eggs):



Be sure your hands are still clean. Be very careful & gently move and place your eggs in the substrate as shown. Do not rotate your eggs while moving them from the location where they were laid. For incubation above 88% your eggs should be buried as shown, with about 20% of the egg showing.

For humidity below 88% your eggs can be placed higher in the substrate as shown in the next photo. (Of course this is an egg that is hatching! – An Egyptian Tortoise Hatchling).



VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: Remember that higher humidity levels and lower temperatures are more forgiving (and successful) to the incubation process if you are not sure of the requirements for your eggs. This is only true to a certain degree however. For instance, about 6% higher with any humidity up to 84% and about 3% higher with humidity between 85% and 87%. Normally, humidity levels above 91% are not used for any species unless they are from very aquatic species such as alligators. About 2° F lower temperature for incubation is more safe if you are unsure.

4 Before Hatching Time (place ventilated cover over hatching egg tray):







About 3 weeks before your eggs are due to hatch place a small mesh lingerie bag around the egg tray and zipper it closed. These are inexpensive, normally about \$3.50 USD each and found at any USA store such as Wal-Mart or Target. Your ReptiHatch Pro includes two of these. The purpose of this is critical and is to keep the hatchlings inside the egg tray and out of the rear of the incubator where the fan is located.



Warranty Card

Please fill out & return a copy of this page to validate your warranty.

Name :	
Street :	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Country :	
Phone :	
Fax :	
Email:	
Purchase Date :	
(please attach proof):	
Purchased from:	
Serial Number (located on back of incubator) :	
Comments:	=

In case of warranty claims or repairs contact your dealer or the following.

Send Warranty Card to:

Kemp's Reptile Incubators 985 Conger, Suite 5, Eugene, Oregon USA 97402

Warranty

The warranty expires in case of opening or modification and/or repair attempts as well as damaging by force or inappropriate use. Neither a guarantee nor any liability for any detriments or consequential damages in relation with this product will be assumed or provided. Repair, amendments or exchange for a replacement are at the manufacturer's discretion.

Technical Data:

Main Operating Voltage: 120 VAC ~ 50/60 Hz

Rated Current: 4 to 50 watts (depending on standby, heating or humidification or all)

Cleaning:

Pull the plug before cleaning. Use a soft, clean damp cloth to clean the device on the outside and inside and dry after cleaning. Never rinse or spray water on the device. Clean the humidity heater element only when over 1/4 " of mineral deposits are seen. The humidity heater will operate fine with less than this amount. *NEVER CLEAN the heating element with a sharp item such as knife or razor blade.* It is best to clean with your fingernail. Disinfect the device after each use. Only use disinfectants that are not based with alcohol, acids or other aggressive agents that can damage the device.

Important Issues:

- Before placing eggs into the incubator operate it for at least 12 hours to ensure the temperature & humidity are stabilized.
- Do not make any changes to the device and do not open the case.
- Check the incubator and cables for any damage. If you discover any problem, immediately disconnect the power plug from the wall outlet.
- No claims for loss of eggs are accepted in case of malfunction of the device or wrong temperature/humidity operation.

On the web at: www.ReptiHatch.com

Kemp's Reptile Incubators® ReptileIncubator.com

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