

## Stick bug & Leaf bug Care Sheet

- Handling: Be gentle when taking them out of their cage by putting your hand underneath them and lift your hand up slowly, carefully moving their legs from off the screen cage. Warm, heated room (Reptile room or Room Temp 70-75\*) during the day. If you have a cold room, you can use a heated lamp. Make sure it's not sitting directly on the cage, that it's hanging over it. No lighting required, natural light is just a plus.
- Food: BlackBerry leaves (Or otherwise called, "Bramble"), feed 1x/week or feed when there's no more food or leaves dry up. Blackberry leaves can be found all year round in local forests or even your backyard! Leaves can be harvested during spring and summer when they are at their "peak" and stored in your freezer if you have trouble finding food. Cut the stem of blackberry leaves and stick in a jar of water. Put tinfoil over the opening to avoid bugs from drowning.
- Water spray 1-2x/day throughout the cage (2x/day for Leafs and green beans).
- Housing: At least 12" tall screen cage is best because it's easier to spray and has a screen top. You can use shorter cages or glass terrariums as long as it has a mesh/screen top so they can hang upside down and molt). Start with a smaller cage if you have a few or have smaller bugs and upgrade in size as they get bigger. They can all be housed together. Leaf bug's bodies can be eaten by other bugs because they look like leaves so it's best to keep them separate from other bugs. Keep leaf types separate.
- Clean: you hardly ever need to clean the cage because it doesn't smell, their poop dries up fast . You can clean once a week, month or every few months.
- Eggs: When the bugs turn into adults, they will lay eggs and the eggs are usually a consistent color or shape. Some bugs lay eggs in the crevices of cages or they will drop eggs on the floor. Eggs on the floor are hard and can be crushed. If you don't want babies, you can dump the poop and eggs into a container and stick them in the freezer or you can give the eggs back! But if you can get babies to hatch, you can sell them back to us! Leaf and stick bugs can make eggs on their own. When mated with a male, however, eggs hatch faster, in about 4-5 months. Green beans need a male to reproduce.
- Egg rearing: If you want to hatch your own babies (or "Nymphs"), eggs require about 6 months to hatch. They can either stay in the same cage they were layed in or next time you clean the cage, you can take them out and put them in a separate container with holes and moss and sprayed 3 or 4x with water about 1x a day. Keep it the same room as the other bugs. Make sure the water dries up before spraying again so the eggs don't get moldy.

Beginner bugs: Aussies & stick bugs

Advance bugs: Leaf Bugs & green beans (NEED sprayed water 2x/day).