



Silver fox / Red fox (vulpes vulpes)

| Species characteristics and requirements | Legal requirements | | | | | |
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| | Switzerland | Finland | Denmark | Russia | USA | China |
| <p>Habitat and behavior: To be found in the northern hemisphere but not in very cold or very hot regions. In forests, settlements and towns with sufficient shelter. On an average, territories are 1.2 km² large. Foxes jog trot up to 10 km daily.</p> <p>Resting and sleeping: Every animal inhabits shelters or dens that it either digs itself or takes over from other animals. The shelters and dens have several entries, are dug in sandy ground, and are close to water.</p> | <p>Species-appropriate enclosures and shelter</p> <p>Enclosure surface: 100 m²</p> <p>Behavior-appropriate floors</p> <p>Digging possibilities</p> <p>Screens</p> <p>Possibility to screen, separate, and block</p> <p>As low risk of injury as possible</p> <p>Possibility to move around freely</p> <p>Body functions and behavior not to be disturbed</p> <p>Sleeping box</p> | <p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: Surface: 0.8 – 2.0 m² Height: at least 70 cm Min. length: 75 cm</p> <p>Cages are not allowed to be stacked one on top of the other</p> <p>Bedding materials</p> <p>Objects to chew on</p> <p>Nesting box or higher platform</p> <p>Paws not to be injured</p> <p>Cages not to be stacked</p> <p>Animals should be able to rest</p> <p>Possibility to withdraw, with non-opaque partition</p> | <p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: Surface: 0.8 – 2.0 m² Height: at least 70 cm Min. length: 75 cm</p> <p>Cages are not allowed to be stacked one on top of the other</p> <p>Bedding materials</p> <p>Objects to chew on</p> <p>Nesting box or higher platform</p> <p>Paws not to be injured</p> <p>Cages not to be stacked</p> <p>Animals should be able to rest</p> <p>Possibility to withdraw, with non-opaque partition</p> | <p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usually to be found in farm housing:</p> <p>Standard mesh wire floor cages: Surface: 0.6 – 1.0 m² Height: 60 -75 cm</p> <p>Held alone or in pairs, in close rows of cages</p> | <p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usually to be found in farm housing:</p> <p>Standard mesh wire floor cages: Surface : 0.6 – 1.0 m² Height: 60 -75 cm</p> <p>Held alone or in pairs, in close rows of cages</p> | <p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usually to be found in farm housing:</p> <p>Standard mesh wire floor cages: Surface: 0.6 – 1.0 m² Height: 60 -75 cm</p> <p>Held alone or in pairs, in close rows of cages</p> |
| <p>Food and excrements: Foxes are rummagers and hunters (at dusk and at night) with an excellent sense of hearing and smell. Foxes hide their prey and their food in holes</p> | <p>Food must be species-appropriate as well as meeting requirements</p> <p>Species-typical activities linked to feeding must be possible</p> | | | | | |

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| in the ground. Foxes eat everything from small mammals, birds, fish, eggs, worms, insects, windfall, and carrion. Foxes mark their territories with their droppings, urine, and secretions from their scent glands. | The animals must be given suitable places to defecate and urinate. | | | | | |
| Social organization: Live alone and rarely also in pairs or in hierarchically structured family groups. Male foxes find vixen by means of their urine traces. The vixen ranking highest in the hierarchical order brings up the young together with the other vixen. | Appropriate social contact with conspecifics Possibility to avoid other animals and withdraw Highest number of grown animals and their young Controlling numbers | Action to be taken in case of infanticides. Nesting box that can be divided for pregnant vixen Weaned animals not to be held in the proximity of the mother animals | Action to be taken in case of infanticides. Nesting box that can be divided for pregnant vixen Weaned animals not to be held in the proximity of the mother animals | | | |

Sources

Legal stipulations (Switzerland) regarding:

- Space requirement, radius of action: addendum 2 tab. 1 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Food intake: art. 4.2 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Food plan: art. 3.1 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance, art. 3 and 4 Swiss
- Excrements: art. 3.1 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Social organization: addendum 2, preliminary remark B Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Movement: art. 3, art. 7 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance
- Resting: art. 7 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance, addendum 1, tab. 1
- Bringing up of young: art. 3 Swiss Animal Protection Ordinance addendum 2, preliminary remark B
- Common farm housing: prohibited in Switzerland

International (state: November 1, 2010)

- EU recommendations: Standing Committee of the European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes (T-AP) Recommendation concerning Fur Animals, adopted by the Standing Committee on June 22, 1999
- In Russia, in 2010, Prime Minister Putin sent a draft for an Animal Protection Act back to the Council for revision
- In China, the first Animal Protection Act is currently in the process of consultation