



**Raccoon dog (nyctereutes procyonoides)**

Species characteristics and requirements	Legal requirements					
	Switzerland	Finland	Denmark	Russia	USA	China
<p><b>Habitat and behavior:</b> A nocturnal animal that lives primarily along streams, brooks, and creeks, in dense underbrush. Territories are 9.5 km<sup>2</sup> in size on average and can reach sizes of up to 20 km<sup>2</sup>, depending on the availability of food. Rummages around, often unhurriedly but is also able to run off quickly.</p> <p><b>Resting and sleeping:</b> Sleep in caves no longer used by foxes and badgers. Hibernates if winters are particularly harsh.</p>	<p>Species-appropriate enclosures and shelter</p> <p>Enclosure surface: 40 m<sup>2</sup> Indoors and 8 m<sup>2</sup> Outdoors</p> <p>Sight blinds</p> <p>Species-appropriate floors</p> <p>Possibility to dig</p> <p>Shelters of at least 1 m<sup>2</sup> per animal</p> <p>Possibility to divide space</p> <p>Risk of injury must be minor</p> <p>Free movement must be possible</p> <p>Body functions and behavior must not be disturbed</p> <p>Sleeping box</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: 0.8 – 2.0 m<sup>2</sup> Height: at least 70 cm Minimum width: 75 cm Cages should not be stacked</p> <p>Litter material; objects to chew on; nesting box or heightened platform; possibility to withdraw. No risk of injuring paws</p> <p>Animals should be well protected when they rest</p> <p>Nesting boxes that can be separated for pregnant vixen</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, only EU recommendations</p> <p>Cage size: 0.8 – 2.0 m<sup>2</sup> Height: at least 70 cm Minimum width: 75 cm Cages should not be stacked</p> <p>Litter material; objects to chew on; nesting box or heightened platform; possibility to withdraw. No risk of injuring paws</p> <p>Animals should be well protected when they rest</p> <p>Nesting boxes that can be separated for pregnant vixen</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usual housing on farms: Standard mesh wire cages: 0.6 – 1 m<sup>2</sup> surface 60 – 75 cm high</p> <p>Individually or in pairs, usually held like Artic foxes</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usual housing on farms: Standard mesh wire cages: 0.6 – 1 m<sup>2</sup> surface 60 – 75 cm high</p> <p>Individually or in pairs, usually held like Artic foxes</p>	<p>No legal stipulations, no recommendations, everything is allowed</p> <p>Usual housing on farms: Standard mesh wire cages: 0.6 – 1 m<sup>2</sup> surface 60 – 75 cm high</p> <p>Individually or in pairs, usually held like Artic foxes</p>
<p><b>Food and excrements:</b> Thanks to its excellent sense of smell, the raccoon dog can also find food at night (gathering,</p>	<p>Food must be species-appropriate and meet the animals' requirements</p> <p>Species-appropriate behavior in line with</p>					

swimming, diving). Raccoon dogs are omnivore and feed on berries, cereal, small rodents, fish, insect, fruit, acorns, and carrion. The animals do their droppings at specific spaces (latrines). Excrements and urine are also used for marking.	feeding must be possible  Appropriate space for excrements					
<b>Social organization:</b> As a rule, raccoon dogs are monogamous loners but sometimes also live in family groups. After having been weaned, the young leave.	Appropriate social contact with conspecifics  Possibility to withdraw  Largest possible number of grown animals and their young  Stock control	Weaned animals not to be held in the proximity of the mother animals  Action to be taken in case of infanticides	Weaned animals not to be held in the proximity of the mother animals  Action to be taken in case of infanticides			

### 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 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