

# Husbandry Data Sheet

**Common Name:** Madagascar Hissing Cockroach **Latin Name:** *Gromphadorhina portentosa*

**Family:** Blaberidae

**Order:** Blattaria

**Class:** Insecta

**Phylum:** Arthropoda

**Natural History:** The Madagascar Hissing Cockroach (*Gromphadorhina* species) is only found on the island of Madagascar. As the name implies this cockroach can hiss, loud enough for you to hear! This happens during mating behaviour and when they are frightened. Cockroaches are omnivorous, meaning that they eat all manner of animal and vegetable material.

**Permits Required:** Yes

**Life Stage:** All

**Ease of Care:** Easy

## Housing:

**Temp:** 75-85 degrees F

**Humidity:** 60%-80%

**Substrate:** 50:50 mixture of sand and compost

**# of Animals per Exhibit:** 100

**Choose One:** Colony

**Compatible Species:** N/A

**Enclosure Description:** 10 gallon aquarium.

**Lighting/Photoperiod:** Fluorescent lighting on a 12 hour

**Furniture/Props:** 4" plastic coated hardware cloth climbing structure and plastic tubes.

**Escape Concerns:** Although this species is not noted as being a climber, a screen cover is securely fastened to the tank.

**Other Concerns/Precautions:**

## Husbandry

**Diet/Frequency of Feeding:** ixed vegetables and Mazuri primate biscuits

**Water Source/Frequency:** Lightly misted daily, fresh romaine lettuce is given as a moisture source daily.

**Care:** Daily

**Enrichment:**

**Medical/Health Concerns:** This species has a tendency to have mites. Although the mites are unsightly, they don't appear to have any effect on the roaches longevity.

**Treatment:** In extreme mite infestations we have used diluted alcohol wiped on with q-tips.

**Keeper Safety:** None

**Other Concerns/Precautions:** None

## Education

**Do you handle species directly with the guests? :** No

**If Yes or No how do you use the species with the guest:**

**Conservation/Population Status:**

**Message:** Cockroaches are excellent recyclers. They eat just about everything and replenish nutrients into the soil with their feces. They also are a primary food source for many species.

**Personal Comments:**

**Submitted by (name and email):** J.Sincage (jamie.sincage@disney.com) **Date:** 15-Feb-05 **Name of**

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