



Chris Martin Services

Chris Martin - Herpetologist - Suppliers of Vivarium Equipment

A HERPETOLOGICAL SITE, MEETING THE
NEEDS OF REPTILES, LIZARDS, TORTOISES,
FROGS AND OTHER EXOTICS

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Information Sheet: Thermostats

You can also download this page as a .pdf file by clicking [here](#).

Habistat mat stat, , Microclimate 100,

These stats are designed to work with heat mats ,it is a basic stat.

Maximum load 100 watts light bulbs must not be used on this stat.

Habistat basic (300watt), Climatize 300

These stats are pure on/off electronic type. That means when the temperature at the probe reaches the required temperature the stat turns off or on depending on the temperature curve. The temperature setting range on these stats are fairly limited 64 - 92of. The temperature is set by rotating a knurled knob on the front of the stat. There is no temperature information on the front of the habistat so you need to place a thermometer inside the vivarium to find out what the temperature of the stat is set to.

Most if not all of the electronic type of stats have a short (3 ft) wire sensor lead that gets fixed inside the vivarium.

Dimensions of the main body of the stat are 3" high x 2" wide x 1" deep.

Maximum load is either 100 or 300 watts. The 100watt units are designed for heat mats or heat strips, light bulbs must not be used on this type of unit.

'Over run' can be a problem with these type of stats. What is 'over run' you ask? If your sensor is , say, 4ft from the heat source the stat turns on. There is going to be a delay in time while the heater unit heats the air to the sensor probe. Now this may be a few minutes or so, when the probe sensors the increase in the temperature the stat turns off.

However the heater still continues to radiate out the heat until it 'cools', so the temperature in the vivarium still continues to rise .this is known as 'over run'. To get over this problem pulse proportional thermostats were introduced.

Microclimate 300

This stat is a pure on/off type as above.

Dimensions of the main body of the stat are 2" high x 3" wide x 1" deep.

Maximum load 300watts. Light bulbs can be used on this type of unit.

Pulse proportional units

The way these stats works is as follows. The stat supplies a steady pulse feed of electricity to the heater unit. If more heat is required the pulses increase in frequency and duration. If less heat is required then the pulses are less frequent and the length of the pulse is reduced, so it is continuously 'topping up' the heater output. This way 'overrun' is reduced.

The temperature range is 64 - 92of . The temperature is set by rotating a knurled knob on the front of the stat also the temperature range is marked on the front of the unit.

Dimensions of the main body 4" high x 3" wide x 1" deep.

Maximum load 600 watts light bulbs must not be used on this type of unit.

Dimmer units

These are proportional stats,or dimmer stats. These units are designed to be used with light bulbs. The power to the light/heat source is reduced or increased depending on temperature curve,so the light bulb gets brighter or dimmer.

Load required 40 - 600 watts.

Rocon Digistat

This is an off/on type of stat that has several advantages over the ministat .

The temperature setting range is 0 - 159of set by a digital display.

Maximum load 600 watts light bulbs must not be used on this unit.

Constant digital display showing vivarium temperature at the probe.

Unit can be used to heat or cool an area.

Habistat twin channel

This is two Habistat basic stats in one box. Each stat has it's own probe and control dial. Maximum load 2 x 300 watts light bulbs must not be used on this stat.

Day/night temperature units

Microclimate stats with a + symbol , Habistat and Naturerep with a night time drop.

This means that the stat has a day/night option when connected to a time clock. The variation can be set between 5 - 20of approx.

Microclimate day/night units have an internal sensor in the body of the stat so no external time clock is required.

Habistat and Naturerep needs a timeclock to operate night time drop.

General

Some of the new Microclimate unit have an internal alarm unit built in.

All the information in this sheet is a basic guide only. For exact sizes of stats and other information please [contact me](#).