

# Crickets

## A CAROLINA™ CareSheet

### Immediate Care and Handling

As soon as your crickets arrive, open the shipping container, remove the cups, and inspect them. Crickets are easy to keep. They are primarily herbivorous but accept a variety of foods. Fresh apples, pears, and lettuce offer moisture, while dry dog food provides high protein and cuts down on cannibalism. Crickets tolerate high temperatures: 27 to 32° C (80 to 89° F).

### Habitat Setup and Maintenance

Any clean container with about 3 cm of sand covering the bottom is suitable. If the container is at least 20 cm deep, you do not need a cover unless the crickets can crawl up on something and jump out. Cardboard containers, egg cartons, and peat cups provide good hiding places. Keep the sand dry unless you want to encourage your crickets to lay eggs. If the sand is dry, have a source of moisture available such as fresh fruits or vegetables.

### FAQ's

*Can crickets bite?*

No, crickets are harmless.

*Why do crickets chirp?*

Adult males chirp to attract females.

*Our crickets developed into adults and then died. What happened?*

The life span of an adult cricket is about 2 weeks, so your crickets probably lived out their normal life span. Did you observe the females laying eggs? If so, watch for the hatching of young.

*Young crickets have hatched. How long will it take them to grow into adults?*

Temperature strongly influences their growth. At normal classroom temperature, it will take about 60 to 90 days.

*Our crickets died without producing any young. What went wrong?*

Assuming that you had male and female crickets together, your room temperature may have been too low. Crickets are much more likely to reproduce at higher room temperatures. Also, crickets may cannibalize their own eggs or young if food is scarce.

**Problems?** We hope not, but if so contact us. We want you to have a good experience.

**Orders and replacements:** 1-800-334-5551 then select Customer Service

**Technical Support and Questions:** [caresheets@carolina.com](mailto:caresheets@carolina.com)



