

LET'S TALK ABOUT

## HUGO'S HEATWAVE TIPS

AN APH CARE GUIDE

By Happy Quills

## HEATWAVE TIPS

Just because they are 'African' does not mean hogs cope well in high temperatures. High temperatures can be just as dangerous to them as cold temperatures.

Do not turn off your heat source in your hog's enclosure. Sudden temperature changes will cause hibernation attempts, something as little as hot during the day to a cooler evening temperature will cause this. If you have a CHE as a heat source do not turn this off/ turn the temp down. The CHE will automatically switch off once the enclosure is at the set temperature and will only come on again if it goes below that temperature.

Change their water several times a day. That way if they do wake up they have access to cold water.

If their enclosure is in direct sunlight from the window, move it to a more shaded area temporarily. A viv in direct sunlight can quickly turn into a sauna.

Pop a cool ceramic tile in their enclosure. That way if the hog is too hot then they have a tile to lie on to cool down. Please note if their enclosure is in direct sunlight then the tile will quickly heat up and could have the opposite effect.

Keep your room well ventilated. Open a window or use a fan. Make sure the enclosure is also well ventilated, pull it slightly away from the wall so the air can circulate.

If you have a play pen let them out in the evening to cool down. Do not leave them unattended overnight in their play pen as they are great escape artists.

Offer frozen bugs, some hogs like a bug popiscle

Open the viv doors a crack on either end to help the air circulate - please use door wedges to prevent escapees, if you don't have a wedge a piece of folded up cardboard works as a temporary measure, just check it is securely wedged in.