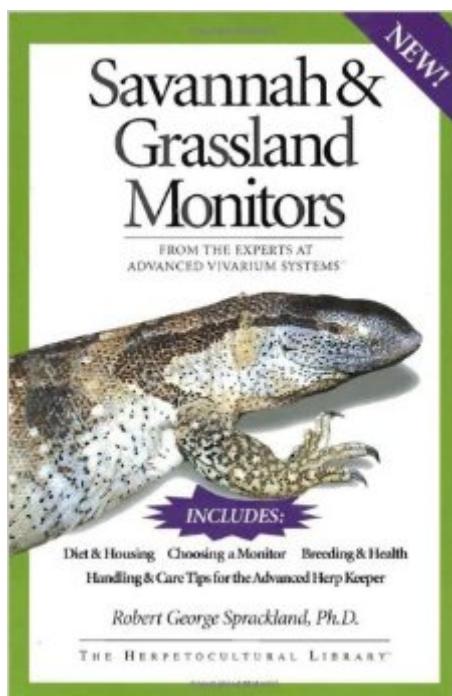


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# Savannah And Grassland Monitors: From The Experts At Advanced Vivarium Systems (The Herpetocultural Library)



## Synopsis

Monitors are among the most popular lizards kept in captivity, and this colorful guide provides information on the two most commonly seen species, savannah monitors and grassland monitors. Due to the intelligence and relative easy care needs of these lizards, they are favored by beginning herpetoculturists, though great emphasis must be placed on responsible ownership of these beautiful, but delicate animals. *Savannah & Grassland Monitors*, written by lizard expert Robert George Sprackland, PhD, provides guidelines for keepers who wish to add a monitor to their vivarium. The chapter called "Taxonomy" gives an excellent summary of monitor species, including the African species, of which the savannah (or *Bosc*'s) monitor and white-throat monitor are examples, and the Asian species, including the Komodo dragon and the Argus, Bengal, Indian, and gold monitors. This Advanced Vivarium Systems title includes information about selecting a healthy example of the selected species, quarantine and acclimation considerations, handling, housing needs, water and feeding, as well as solid advice about keeping monitors healthy and thriving. A separate chapter on diseases and disorders provides a complete primer on the health needs and veterinary care of these rewarding reptiles.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Reading some negative reviews by new-age know-nothings who haven't any other reviews to their credit and, presumably, advocate the abuse of helpless monitor lizards in vain attempts to make

family pets out of them, I realized that perhaps a more accurate review was in order. This book, first of all, is a general introduction, not an in-depth how-to book, so the novice who wishes to learn something of the varanid lizards has a scientifically accurate resource. Those wishing a more detailed book on the care and maintenance of particular species should look elsewhere, but this is the logical starting point for anyone not already familiar with monitors in general. I've raised and bred various species of monitors years before there were any "how-to" books on the shelves, and DOCTOR Sprackland's name has always figured largely in the business to those in-the-know (read his bio info: he is, among other things, zoological consultant to the BBC and The History Channel) and I think claims by delusional amateur hobbyists with an axe to grind that this man, who has worked in the field of herpetology for decades, doesn't know what he is saying should be given the utter contempt that they deserve.

I liked this book. For a change there is a book about monitors that is not just about keeping them as pets. I like reading about the lizards in their natural habitats. The price is also good, so I hope the author puts out books about the other kinds of monitors too.

Robert thinks that just because he reads something, he can spit it back out. This book by an "expert" is putrid; the care described would be considered abuse by most varanid enthusiasts. Not to mention there are many mislabeled photos etc. I am shocked this got published. It really shows how ignorant the general public is about reptiles... they seem to just accept the information because it is published by a PhD. Reading this, and considering it good is like reading a children's book about a construction company, and trying to build a house with it. Completely wacky info, everything mislabeled, a recipe for disaster. Get Daniel's fantastic Savannah Monitor book instead!

I helped to found the Varanid Conservation Group. The group exists mostly to correct the misinformation spread by books of this nature. I suggest buying this book only as a guideline of what not to do.

This is a good, quick read that cuts to the heart of how monitors live and how to use that information to keep captives. Highly recommended and at a VERY reasonable price.

I would just like to have the book in my hand instead of on the computer but for other people this is a great book maybe someday I will change my mind I would recommend this book for any one who

has a savannah monitor or any other monitor.

I can remember reading this book when I was 18, working in a reptile store. I read it cover to cover while we were slow. Great info for it's time.

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