

Avey Incubator
Reptile Cabinet Incubator
RCAB200



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Reptile Cabinet Incubator

Owner's Manual

Caution: Shock Hazard - No user serviceable parts inside the control box of the incubator.

Your incubator is ready for use right out of the box. Plug it in and it will power up. The fan will spin, the display will light up and display the temperature in the cabinet. Allow a couple of hours for the incubator to stabilize. Always double check everything when incubating! That means checking the temperature inside the incubator in different spots to verify it is within your tolerances. We calibrate to the middle tray in the middle, front to back, left to right. There will be areas where the temperature will be higher or lower. But generally the temperature at whatever point you measure it will be very stable and won't vary.

If you use your own eggboxes try to keep them centered on the shelf and pushed away from the front door. The temperature at the front will be lower than other places. Our zero substrate eggbox should also be centered on the shelf and pushed all the way back.

Where you place your incubator for use greatly impacts the success you will have in incubating eggs. A room with a stable, thermostat control temperature, draft free, without the sun shining into the room to heat the room up is desired.

A room heated by a wood stove, a barn, a shed, are not great choices. An incubator micro-manages the environment it is placed in. The harder you make it work the greater chance you will exceed it's operating limits.

The other very important factor in successful incubation is cleanliness. Your incubator should be cleaned and disinfected after every clutch or so or your hatch rate will drop. There are some good disinfectants out there but a 10:1 solution of water to Bleach is as effective as any and is very inexpensive.

Setting the temperature

Selection knob

1. The selection knob has 2 operations. Push in (momentarily then let go) to start and push in to finish a selection and turn left or right to change the selection. (Push in and then release - some people try to hold the knob in and then turn the knob while it is held in - this won't work! Push in means push and release)

2. Passcode

- a) Your passcode is 5 (default)

- b) Push in the selection knob.
 - c) When prompted dial in your passcode.
 - d) Push in selection knob (and then let it out)
 - (i) If you wait too long the operation times out and the Incubator resumes normal operation.
 - (ii) If you dial in the wrong passcode the Incubator resumes normal operation
 - (iii) If you dial in the correct password the Incubator display advances to the temperature selection screen .
3. Temperature Selection
- A. Dial in the desired temperature.
 - B. Push in the selection knob to set..
 - C. If you want to verify your settings, enter your passcode again, the temperature displayed will be what the incubator is set at.
 - D. The Incubator remembers the settings even when powered off.

Cleaning

The control box is designed to be removed, to make cleaning easy. To remove the control box for cleaning:

Remove the top screw of the rear panel cover and the two screws on either side of the power cord (these screws have black screw heads). Then lift off the control box. This leaves the incubator cabinet wide open for pressure washing and disinfecting. We recommend a ten parts water to one part chlorine bleach solution for disinfecting the incubator cabinet. Spray on, let sit for 10 minutes, then rinse off. Let dry in sunlight if available (sunlight breaks down the chlorine and also the uv rays kill bacteria too – nature’s disinfectant)

Adding Humidity:

Add water to a shallow pan and place on the top shelf (the short shelf at the very top). This will add enough humidity to get you close to what your eggs will require. Your goal should be 55%-65% Relative humidity. Don’t exceed 65% for any extended time. This is a buffer between the drier outside room air and the super high humidity you’ll want in your eggbox. Don’t try to go to 100% humidity inside the incubator cabinet. This will just shorten the life of the electronics and possible cause equipment failure while you are incubating – and no one wants that to happen!

To achieve even higher humidity levels add a humidifier wick to the water in the pan (available at ACE Hardware or Loews or Home Depot).

The actual fine tuning of your humidity is accomplished through the zero substrate eggbox. (optional) You can create up to a 100% saturation inside the eggbox. And this is where you make you fine adjustments to get the humidity level you desire.

Zero Substrate Egg Box:

The main purpose of the zero substrate eggbox is to provide a precise way to control humidity. Pour water in the bottom of the eggbox – about 1” deep. The eggs are placed in deli cups or Tupperware trays on the tray (middle shelf). With all the vents in the top lid closed you should be at 100% humidity. Many users report that only a tiny opening – maybe ¼” in one adjustable vent gives them the humidity they need.

The water should last about 2 months in the eggbox. Some users also put a drop (watch this – no more than a drop) of Clorox Bleach in the water to retard bacteria.

We provide more vents so you can vent the air closest to any condensation that might form on the lid. Condensation drops should not drip on the eggs. When opening the eggbox - tilt it open so any drops run to the side and out of the way.

You don't have to use our zero substrate eggbox. More traditional methods with vermiculite or other substrates may be more comfortable to you. But our Zero Substrate system is trending toward being the method of choice to control humidity when incubating difficult to hatch eggs.

Place your eggs in deli cups or other small plastic containers. We don't recommend laying them out directly on the middle tray of the eggbox. 3,4 or 5 ball python or Burmese eggs per deli cup – or more than that when incubating smaller eggs. Trooper Walsh took great pains to convey to me the concept that the eggs develop together as an entity themselves. Those 4 or 5 eggs in each deli cup act and react to the environment together. The deli cups allow a group of eggs to develop together but limit any loss if one of the eggs goes bad. The ZS-15 eggbox will hold up to 15 deli cups. (15 deli cups X 4 eggs per deli cup = 60 eggs. Space for 4 total ZS-15 eggboxes so total capacity is 240 ball python eggs. Or 180 eggs if you elect to not use the floor of the incubator.

Fresh Air Supply:

Fresh air is essential for proper egg development. The Reptile Cabinet Incubator has 2 fresh air vents at the bottom rear of the cabinet. For most situations these can remain closed. There is enough natural air exchange through the front door and the upper rear of the cabinet. If your humidity levels are higher than you want, then by opening these vents you can mix in additional fresh air and lower the humidity levels. You can also not tighten the front door quite as much for even more fresh air exchange.

High and Low Temperature Alarm:

The high temperature alarm is pre-programmed for about 2 degrees higher than the setpoint temperature.

The over high temperature scenario includes:

1. Sun shining through a window onto the Incubator

- a) If the high temp Alarm sounds - push in the selection knob to silence it and open the Incubator to vent some heat.

The low temperature alarm is pre-programmed for about 4 degrees below the setpoint. A common cause of the low temperature alarm is forgetting to close the door of the incubator. Another is if the ambient room temperature drops 35 or more degree below the setpoint. ie; setpoint is 99 degrees and the room temperature drops below 64 degrees.

Warranty

- A. The Incubator carries a one year parts and labor warranty. Shipping charges to and from our facility are the buyer's responsibility. To get support, fill out a
- B. support ticket at www.aveyinc.com/support.htm to get started.

Return Policy.

- A. Returns will be accepted for 15 days after shipping date on unused equipment returned in the original packaging. You must call for return authorization or shipment will be refused. Shipping charges and arrangements are your responsibility. A restocking charge of 20% will be assessed. Packages must be insured. You need to call and notify us on the day you ship your return, be prepared to supply your tracking number.