

FRILLED LIZARD

Chlamydosaurus kingii



FACTS AT A GLANCE

TYPE OF ANIMAL

Agamid (dragon)

OTHER NAMES

Frilled necked lizard
Frillie

FOUND WHERE

Northern Australia and
Southern New Guinea

LENGTH

90cm

WEIGHT

600g

CONSERVATION STATUS

Least concern

LIFE SPAN

10 - 20 years

The Frilled Lizard is found in northern Australia and Southern New Guinea. It is mainly found in Savannah and sclerophyll woodlands, with little undergrowth. You can find them high up on the tree, where they get a good advantage point for prey below.

DIET

Frilled lizards primarily feed on insects and other invertebrates - they very rarely take vertebrates. Prey items that are commonly taken include termites, ants and centipedes. Termites in particular are very important food source during the dry season, while moth larvae become very important during the wet season.



REPRODUCTION

Male Frilled lizards will compete for females by gaping their mouths and spreading their frills. This can often lead to fighting and bite wounds to the head region. Once a mate has been won, females will dig a shallow nest to lay her eggs - and can lay multiple clutches per year. One clutch could be over 20 eggs in number! Incubation can last from 2 to 4 months, and temperature plays a role in what sexes are produced.

FUN FACTS

Frillies can run on their two hind feet!

Frillies can keep their internal body temperature at 40°C.