

INTERSPECIES HYBRID !

Creamsicle (no aka)

Most Commonly Used Name: Creamsicle

Mode of Genetic Inheritance: Recessive *cornsnake Amel* + Emory's Rat Snake

Morph Type: Single recessive **HYBRID** Mutation

Eye Color: **Red** pupil



Formerly considered an intergrade of what used to be two corn snake subspecies (*Elaphe guttatus guttatus* X *Elaphe guttatus emoryi*), Creamsicles are the final product of crossing an Emory's Rat (aka: Great Plains Rat Snake) with an Amel corn. Since the new taxonomic classification assigns distinct species to each (*Pantherophis emoryi* and *Pantherophis guttatus*), in herpetocultural vernacular, Creamsicles are now officially considered **hybrids**. ANY progeny from Creamsicles or any corn snake that has any degree of Emory's Rat Snake in it, is considered a **HYBRID**.

The albinos are called Creamsicles and the non-albinos are often called **Root Beers**.

What to expect:

Hatchling Creamsicles are orange hybrid versions of Amel corns, so they can have any pattern you see in corn snakes. I've seen Creamsicles that were yellow on yellow, some that were orange on orange, and some that were red on orange - demonstrating the polygenic variability seen in all animals. Not unlike some hybrid snakes that can be selectively bred to eventually hide all visual traces of their alien ancestor, some Creamsicles are virtually identical to Amel corns. Creamsicles (and Root Beers) usually have what we call Hybrid Vigor (robust size and propensities for hardy appetites and rapid growth) from being out-crossed to unrelated snakes.

We all hope that breeders will always reveal the genetic background of all their snakes, but I know people that have purchased obvious Creamsicles in pet stores and reptile expos, but were never advised of their hybrid origins.