

Ghost Motley (aka: Pastel Motley)

Most Commonly Used Name: Ghost Motley

Mode of Genetic Inheritance: Recessive

Morph Type: Triple Mutation Compound

Eye Color: Black pupil & *body ground colored* iris (usually silver)

Until the past few years, since the discovery of the three recessively inherited mutations, Anery + Hypo = Ghost, and Motley, Ghost Motleys were called Pastel Motleys. The reason is that back in the 1980s when the first one was seen, the males exhibited what they still do toDAY; a pastel wash of earth tones. The females never had that over-wash of pastel coloration, but we can't have two names for the same morph, so they were happily known as Pastel Motleys. Some of the new corn snake breeders were unaware of the propensity for male ghost types to have such color tones, and for awhile, people were saying that any ghost with the pinkish color was a "pastel" and those without it were just ghosts. Well, since the females are rarely any colors other than gray, black and/or silver, it's nonsense to call the males Pastel Motleys and the females Ghost Motleys. Since the flesh-colored overtones in the males don't appear to be derived from a separate mutation that only affects males (gender linkage), it was decided to call both genders Ghost Motleys. That is wise, because now that some of the coral mutations are making their way into many of our compound mutations, and because the anery types display it more prominently, we must leave references of the coral/pastel/peach/pink tones to compound mutants that owe that appearance to a separate mutation.

What to expect:

As hatchlings, both males and females are the same general coloration. Both males and females slowly develop blushes of yellow (first on the face and neck, and onward toward the tail, usually relegated to the sides) from the gradual dietary retention of carotenoids. Males slowly attain the flesh tones through maturity, but females very rarely do. Adult males should have some degree of flesh tones in their markings or ground color zones (or both), but adult females are generally two shades of gray. Black blotch margins are rare in motleys, but they are occasionally (and fractionally) exhibited.

Important Note:

The advertising images on our web site are representations of the average adult example of each morph. These images are not renderings of the actual animals being offered, (except for uniquely offered snakes found in the SURPLUS section of this web site). We do not provide pictures of individual hatchling snakes for sale, nor do we recommend that you ever choose a new pet based on an image of its neonatal form. Corns change so dramatically from hatchling to adult, they will NEVER have the same colors or contrasts throughout maturity. While most of the snakes we produce will mature to resemble the featured adult image(s) on our web site, unlike manufactured products that are respectively clones of each other, the nature of polygenic variation

results in each animal being similar but not identical to others of its morph. The snake we select for you may not mature to be identical to the pictured examples, but will be chosen based on our experience of observing which neonates will mature to properly represent their respective morph. We take this responsibility very seriously, and therefore publish the guarantee that we will exchange your SMR snake if it does not mature to be like our advertised examples.