

MID-JULY, 2013 ANTICIPATED AVAILABILITY

Hypo Lavender (no aka)

Most Commonly Used Name: Hypo Lavender

Mode of Genetic Inheritance: Recessive

Morph Type: Double Recessive Mutation

Eye Color: **Red** pupil & *body ground colored* iris (see details below about some having Black pupils)

There are several distinct features among Lavender mutants of any variety. One baffling characteristic common in the Lavender mutation is that most of them have eye pupils that are some shade of pink - virtually identical to most albino (Amel) corn snakes. Nobody yet knows why but some have black pupils. Another feature in most Lavender corns is that virtually all of them hatch smaller in size than any other corn snake mutation. What they lack in hatchling size they make up for in appetite. Not so much that they are ravenous feeders (they actually ARE), but collectively relative to all other corn snake mutations, Lavenders statistically favor pinky mice more than any other corns we produce. Our adult Lavender types are essentially the same size as other corn snake morphs, even though they start out so tiny.

Relative to the visual distinction between most any other corn snake mutation and its' Hypo counterpart, Lavenders and Hypo Lavenders are usually very difficult to separate. Unless family genetics definitively identify whether a Lavender is a Hypo homozygote or not, most breeders default to pricing them the same. Hence, if Hypo is a genetic potentiality in SMR Lavenders and we are not 100% certain of it, we sell them as Lavenders and we will let you know if they *could also be* Hypos.

What to expect:

Most hatchlings are some shade of pale lavender or gray, and as detailed above, they are the tiniest hatchlings in the corn snake hobby. Some have peach tones between markings, while some have pale and are lacking in contrast between markings and ground color zones. Compared to most single mutant Lavenders, Hypo Lavenders tend to have the extra *peach* coloration. Through maturity, most will keep their basic neonate coloration, but unlike most corns whose colors become more saturated with age, Hypo Lavenders almost always

lost color saturation through maturity. It is difficult to discern between basic lavenders and Hypo Lavenders, since there is a distinct lack of melanin in both. Most have red pupils, but for genetic reasons we don't yet understand, some have black pupils. Hence, eye color does not aid in that genetic determination. Unless Lavenders are bi-colored (having a peach or coral ground color between dorsal markings), they are highly variable in color. Expect everything from pale gray to lavender.

General Note:

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 identical to each other, the nature of polygenic variation results in no two specimens being exactly the same. 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 replace your SMR snake if it does not mature to be like our advertised examples.

Morph & Glossary Hyperlinks:

allele Amber Amel Motley Amel Anery Motley Anery Banded Blizzard Bloodred Blue Motley Butter Butter Motley Candy Cane Caramel Caramel Motley carotenoid Charcoal chromosome codominant Coral Snow Creamsicle Diffused Dilute dominant dorsal epidermis F¹ Fire Fluorescent genotype Ghost Ghost Motley Gold Dust gene genotype Granite guarantee herpetoculture heterozygous High White homozygous hybrid hyper hypomelanistic hypo Hypo A Hypo Bloodred Hypo Lavender Kastanie Key Corn Lavender Lavender Motley lateral locus marker melanin Miami Phase morph Motley mutation neonate Okeetee Okeetee Locality Okeetee Creamsicle Opal Opal Motley out-cross Pastel Motley Pewter Phantom phenotype polygenic progeny Reverse Okeetee recessive Rosy Bloodred Rosy Rat selective variation SMR Snow Snow Motley Strawberry Stripe Striped Amel