

Lava Terrazzo (no AKA))

Most Commonly Used Name: Lava Terrazzo

Mode of Genetic Inheritance: Recessive

Morph Type: Recessive Mutation Compound

Eye Color: **RED** pupil & *beige* iris

Combining the two recessive-to-wild-type mutations—first done here at South Mountain Reptiles—Terrazzo and Lava renders this stunningly pale mutation compound. The simple recessive mutation, Terrazzo was discovered by Craig Boyd from breeding two Rosy Rat Snakes together (an insular race of corns sometimes called Keys Corns) in the early 1990s. Terrazzos were originally marketed as Granite Corns, but in so much as the Terrazzo producers of that time did not frequent Internet chat forums, many of the mainstream corn snake keepers were unaware of this mutation. Despite warnings (along with pictures), members of one of the popular Online Corn Snake chat forums voted to re-assign the name Granite to Diffused Anery corns (former aka: Anery Bloodreds). It was awkward (and confusing) just a few months after this name re-assignment when Bill and Kathy Loves' Book (*Corn Snakes - The Comprehensive Owner's Guide*) was released, featuring a picture identifying a GRANITE CORN, but of course, that tan corn snake looked nothing like the NEW Granites (formerly Anery Bloodreds) that are black and gray. Jeff Galewood re-named the original Granite corns Terrazzos as he was—at that time—the primary producer of this beautiful mutation.

The simple recessive mutation, Lava was discovered by Joe Pierce in the 1990s and was originally called Translucent or Transparent Hypo. They reportedly originated from a wild-caught corn snake that was collected in the area of the Southeastern United States where the famous Okeetee corns are collected in South Carolina.

Combining these two mutations rendered a stunning mutation compound whose almost albino features defy explanation. Why the eyes are almost like those of albino—apparently from the combination of the two mutations—does not follow any model in current corn snake gene mutations. Like all Key Corns, Lava Terrazzos are noticeably leaner than typical corns, but have great appetites and growth rates. BTW, I've never seen a Lava Terrazzo that had ANY black what-so-ever.

I call Terrazzos second “striped-type allele” because it IS the second one if you don't count the striped version of Motley (since it is on the same locus with Motley). Several breeders (myself included) have performed breeding trials to verify that Terrazzos are not allelic to other gene mutations. So far, evidence points to Terrazzos being a unique single recessive mutation. I bred a classic Striped Corn mutant to a Key Corn Het for Terrazzo and yielded no mutant corns out of 21 fertile embryos. We all agree that more trials are necessary to validate unique allele status for this beautiful corn.

Important Note:

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.