Each DAY at 11:00 am. ct (GMT – 5) we will post a different SMR snake being offered at a special price.

All snakes will be chosen for their rarity and/or unique beauty.

FREE U.S. SHIPPING for each Snake-of-the-Day.

toDAY's SNAKE of the DAY (FRI., March 15, 2013)

{simpleproduct:id=525}

Details

#031513

35″ long on March 12, 2013

Snow Tessera

Female

d.o.h. 2011

$600.00 shipped

Comments: Feeding on frozen/thawed fuzzy mice. She brumated from December 15, 2012 to March 12, 2013.

The inherent Value of the Snow Tessera – in addition to the fact that breeding it to ANY other corn snake color or pattern you will get approximately 50% Tesseras – is that if you breed this snake to a Snow corn snake (or any compound of the Snow mutation), approximately 50% will be Snows and 50% will be Snow Tesseras. By pairing this snake to a common corn that is Het for Snow, in the first brood of their progeny you can get:

1. Common corns
2. Amel corns
3. Anery corns
4. Snow corns
5. Tessera corns
6. Amel Tessera corns

7. Anery Tessera corns
8. Snow Tessera corns

seriously, and therefore publish the guarantee that we will exchange your SMR snake if it does not mature to be like our advertised examples.

toDAY's SNAKE of the DAY (Wed., March 13, 2013)

{simpleproduct:id=525}

Details

#031513
35″ long on March 12, 2013
Snow Tessera
Female
d.o.h. 2011
$600.00 shipped

Comments: Feeding on frozen/thawed fuzzy mice

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1. Common corns
2. Amel corns
3. Anery corns
4. Snow corns
5. Tessera corns
6. Amel Tessera corns
7. Anery Tessera corns
8. Snow Tessera corns

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Snow Tessera (no aka)
Most Commonly Used Name: Snow Tessera
Mode of Genetic Inheritance: Dominant + recessive (Amel + Anery = Snow)
Morph Type: Single Dominant Mutation + recessive color mutations
Eye Color: RED pupil

FIRST, what makes Tesseras so expensive? Other than appearance, the primary (and inherent) value of Tessera-type Corns is their mode of inheritance. Since they are dominant to wild type, pairing any Ultra Type that is a Visual Het to ANY corn snake (other than a Tessera-type) will render 50% Tessera mutants in the F^1 (first) out-crossed generation. The results of pairing an Tessera homozygote with ANY corn snake (other than a Tessera-type) will render 100% Tessera mutants.

Snow Tessera is the combination of Amelanistic + Anerythristic = Snow & Tessera.

History of the Tessera Mutation:
In 2007, Graham Criglow asked KJ Lodrigue to order a 1.2 trio of Striped Motleys that were advertised on one of the popular Online Classified sites – since Graham's job prevented him from personally receiving them at that time. When they arrived, KJ discovered that they constituted a 2.1 reverse trio (two males and one female) instead of the advertised 1.2 trio (one male and two females). KJ and Kasi recommended that Graham gift the extra male to me, and that's what Graham did. Profound thanks to Graham, KJ, and Kasi for that gracious *and fortuitous* gift. In 2008, both the Lodrigues and I independently bred our males (Graham's and mine) to novel (*unrelated*) corns. I produced about 24 TESSERAS (*so named by the Lodrigues for the tessellated lateral markings*) from over 50 fertile eggs, but since the Lodrigues were in the middle of a career move to another State, they were less fortunate, producing just four non-mutant Okeetee-looking corns. My Tesseras were produced by the pairing of the male Tessera to three novel female corns (two F^1 Locality Okeetees from Chip Bridges *Rhett Butler Line* and one Okeetee-ish female, Het for Stripe and Amel). Imagine my surprise in seeing what we thought were nearly flawless Striped Motleys from three different females, only one of which was Het for a recessive pattern mutation? After the first brood of 50% Tesseras hatched from the female that was het for Stripe and Amel, except for the perfection of pattern, I was not thinking *new* dominant mutation, but when both wild-type Okeetees produced the same results, it was obvious that a new mutation was discovered.
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Upon receiving the reverse trio from the seller, we all commented on the mutual peculiarity of the phenotypes. Most appeared to be the most perfectly Striped Motleys ever seen – in so much as their dorsal stripes were nearly contiguous from neck to tail tip (something never before seen in any corn snake pattern mutant) – but that was hardly possible if the admission of the breeder were true – that they were products of pairing a Striped corn with an Okeetee corn. How could these descendants of a Striped corn bred to an Okeetee be Motley types, instead of Striped? It is still unclear if those 2.1 Tesseras were F^1s (*first familial generation*) or F^2s (the originator of this line is now out of the hobby and difficult to reach – for clarification). If these three Tesseras are F^1s, my deduction is that the striped corn he used in the original pairing was actually Striped AND Tessera. Even if those three were F^2s, the likelihood of the mutant patriarch being a Striped Tessera is strong.

What to expect:
At this early period in the Tessera's resume, we still don't know what phenotypic potentials exist. So far, the only behavior that is atypical for a corn snake mutation is that many of the non-mutant siblings of Tessera types seem to have enhanced pattern and color features. So far, I don't see any hybrid markers, since the collateral sibling features to which I refer are – *so far* – in the realm of improving existing corn snake features (i.e. some non-Tesseras have better, brighter, cleaner, and/or more consistent colors and markings).

In the 100+ Tessera mutants produced by me as of Fall, 2010, I'm seeing the following features:

The most obvious advantage of having Tesseras in your breeding inventory (aside from their inherent beauty) is that because the mutation is dominantly inherited, 50% of every brood of corns from them will be Tessera mutants. With most other corn snake mutations, one must raise all the Het F^1 progeny, and won't receive any mutants until F^2 reproduction (a task that can take four to six years). In the course of adding Tessera to the myriad current patterns and colors of corns, an entirely new market is now in the making.

Predominantly contiguous dorsal striping is the most unique feature of most Tesseras. Even when the stripe is broken, it resumes immediately thereafter (unlike Striped and Motley mutants whose dorsal striping never resumes with any degree of renewal). Roughly 1/3 of all that have been produced so far have no stripe breaks.

Another 1/3 or so have two to four stripe breaks, and the other 1/3 can have five to 20+ stripe breaks, but those breaks a