

UVB Index Results, from December 2019. To January 2021 (13 month test)

Test Conditions & info:

Each bulb is used in a fully working enclosure - based on a 12 hour on/off cycle, for the full 13 months.

All readings at 13 inches from reflected tube, to the basking animal at the closest point. Same distance with reflector removed.

Only the reflected stronger Arcadia 14% tube was used at the recommended distance of 24 inches.

(Readings were taken at 13 inches of the 14% tube also as an experiment, with any animal removed for testing)

I've not included results of a tube on mesh this time around. But you can pretty much half each reading for mesh results (This is based on ZooMed standard mesh as per my 2017, 2018 & 2019 results)

Setups used.:

2x 5x2x2 – Corn Snake enclosure

3x 5x2x2 – Bearded Dragon enclosure

2x 5x3x2 – Horsfield Tortoise enclosure

Tubes used:

- 2x Arcadia 12% **T5 Tube**
- 1x Arcadia **14%** (Dragon Lamp) **T5 Tube**
- 2x ZooMed ReptiSun 10.0 **T5 Tube**
- 2x Reptile Systems 12% **T5 Tube**

Tested weekly with a *Solarmeter 6.5*.

Readings noted. Actual readings at the start, and end of the experiment.

But rounded up information to provide the deterioration results. Due to the minor variations.

And all tubes set at the manufacturers recommended distances, for each specific T5 Tube.



**Arcadia 12% T5 (New tube reading – At T5 Recommended distances of 13 inches)
With Reflector**

Distance:: 33cm(13 inches) - UV Index: 6.7

With NO Reflector

Distance: 33cm(13 inches) – UV Index: 4.2

The above readings went down approximately **.2 and .3** per month
Final UVB Index reading, after 13 months;

- **4.0 - With Reflector.**
 - **1.3 – Without.**
-



Arcadia 14% T5 (New tube reading – At Recommended distances of 22 inches)

With Reflector

Distance:: 55cm(22 inches) - UV Index: 7.2

With NO Reflector

Distance: 55cm(22 inches) – UV Index: 4.8

****Reflected reading at 13 inches as per the other tubes - 14.6 (Don't EVER use at this distance)**

The above readings went down approximately **.2 and .3** per month.
Final UVB Index reading, after 13 months;

- **4.5 - With Reflector.**
 - **1.6 – Without**
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ZooMed ReptiSun 10.0 T5HO (New Tube Reading at 13 inches)

With Reflector

Distance:: 33cm(13inches) - UV Index: 6.6

With NO Reflector

Distance: 33cm(13inches) - UV Index 3.7

The above readings went down approximately .3 per month

With a final reading, after 13 months,

- **3.4** - With Reflector.
- **1.1** – Without



Reptile Systems 12% T5 (New Tube Reading)

With Reflector

Distance:: 33cm(13inches) - UV Index: 6.0

With NO Reflector

Distance: 33cm(13inches) - UV Index 3.7

The above readings went down approximately .4 and .5 per month

With a final reading, after 13 months, of

- **2.0** - With Reflector.
- **0.5** – Without

Conclusion:

To conclude, all tubes used worked well, and all would be suitable for many species. But here we are on about the needs of the Central Bearded Dragon (*Pogona vitticeps*).

The **Arcadia 14%** & **Arcadia 12%** T5's performed best over the other tubes in both overall UVB output, and the final UV Index reading after the manufacturers 12 monthly replacement guarantee time.

The **Reptile Systems** tube showed the worse degrade over the 13 months. But was pretty much on par with the **ZooMed** tube at the start, but it did degrade at a quicker

rate. So I'd be replacing that tube after 9 or 10 months, depending on the species its being used for.

Best performance and value for money based on results. Still the **Arcadia 14% & 12% T5**.

Nothing changed regarding the 'overall results for the past 2 years.

Please note again. The Arcadia 14% should only be used in and enclosure 2ft in height. Dangerous reading if used incorrectly.

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