

# DUNNER BEARDED DRAGONS

There are currently only 2 dominant or co-dominant bearded dragon traits known, the dunner gene and the leatherback gene. This means that if the dragon is carrying the dunner gene it will display the dunner characteristics. If it is not displaying the traits then it is not carrying the genes. There is no such thing as a “het” dunner. This is the same as it is for the leatherback genes.



The first characteristic that most people notice is the rugged or primitive appearance of the dragons. The scales on the upper half of the dunnings' body and tail are conical. They do not resemble most “normal” scales which are more “teardrop” shaped. This results in a rougher texture when compared to a normal scaled dragon. This scale pattern also extends to other areas of the dragon's body.



One of the most noticeable areas is in the dunnings' beard. The scales on a dunnings' beard run left, right and up instead of down. This makes the bearded dragons beard feel rough from every direction and also gives them a much rougher appearance.

As you continue to the underside of the dragon you will notice that the scales on the belly also run in random directions instead of the typical organized pattern. When you look at their belly you will notice that there is no distinct pattern. The scales in the center run in many directions and as you move further away from the center they will start to see them take on a left and right pattern. Additionally, the stress lines on a “normal” bearded dragon are oval shaped, while the stress lines on a dunner are perfect circles.

Another difference is seen in the dragons front and rear feet. The dunner has extra long toes and the foot as a whole is much larger than that of a normal dragons. This can be seen when they are hatched.



Another distinguishing feature of the dunner bearded dragon is one of the most obvious. The tail has the same scale configuration and rough appearance as the rest of the body, but it also displays unique patterns which are distinctly different from the typical “banded” pattern. The tail can exhibit a dashed, dotted, or striped pattern that runs up and down the tail instead of the “normal” bands that go around the tail. The pattern varies and is unique for each dragon.

