

## ANTILLES PINK TOE TARANTULA

- Known as the Antilles Pink Toe Tarantula, Antilles Pink-toed Tree Spider, or Martinique Red Tree Spider, this spider is found in the tropical areas of Martinique, Brazil, Trinidad, Guyana, French Guyana, Surinam, Venezuela, and throughout the Amazon Basin.
- A medium size tarantula, with about a 4 1/2 - 6" leg span.
- Juveniles are a metallic steel blue-black. Adults have a metallic green carapace, an abdomen covered with red hair, long fuzzy black legs swathed in reds, pinks and browns with pink or light markings at the end of the toes.
- Males are thinner with long, furry legs. Females are more bulky. Females have a life span of 8-9 years. Males die soon after maturity and have a lifespan of about 3 years.



### Diet

An aggressive feeder, your Pink Toe Tarantula will eat a variety of live insects including crickets, grasshoppers, roaches, moths, flies and an occasional pinkie mouse. Supply drinking water at all times via a sponge and/or small dish.

### Housing

Preferring to live in trees and plants, the Antilles Pink Toe Tarantula needs a tall, well ventilated enclosure with relatively high humidity. Spiderlings can live in a tall clear plastic Critter-Keeper with a secure, well ventilated top. Best kept individually, this tarantula can be kept communally in a large terrarium with many broad-leaved plants, branches and vines to support webs and many dark hiding spaces. The colony should be of similar size to help prevent cannibalism.

An undertank heat pad can help maintain the terrarium at 78-82°F. Mist the entire habitat every day or to provide 75-85% humidity with a 3-5". Provide a deep substrate of reptile soil or chips. Moss can also be added for floor cover. Change the substrate and clean the enclosure as necessary to prevent mold.

### Handling & Care

A generally docile pet, they can be somewhat nervous when startled and are agile jumpers making them more challenging to handle.

If your Tarantula is upside-down, it is molting, not dead. Leave it alone and remove any crickets during its molt. A stressful time for them, with the correct warmth and humidity levels, they will molt their exoskeleton, roll over, harden up, and within a week or two be ready for their next meal. As they prepare to molt they may get lethargic, stop eating and work at web spinning.

### Health

! If the air in the tank is damp and stale, molds can grow, making it a dangerous environment for the tarantula. Death can occur from molds growing in the spiders' lungs. However, these spiders will also not do well if the enclosure becomes too dry. Generally quite hardy, signs of illness include loss of appetite, lethargy, looking overly skinny or pacing their enclosure. Problems are often caused by environmental stress. Parasites, a drop in temperature or humidity or an uncomfortable hiding place can stress your pet. Try making adjustments or moving it to a new enclosure.

### Tips & Warnings

Be careful when handling any tarantula; as with any spider, they can bite. Some people may be allergic or sensitive to the venom; their hair can also be irritating to some people.

### TARANTULA CHECKLIST

- Terrarium
- Screen hood
- Small Water Dish
- Natural Sponge
- Misting Bottle
- Hiding Place
- Décor
- Crickets
- Vitamin/Mineral Supplement
- Heat Source
- Substrate
- Thermometer
- Hydrometer
- Small Transport Carrier
- Tarantula Book