

CHILEAN ROSE-HAIRED TARANTULA

- Native to the deserts and scrubland of Chile, Argentina and Bolivia; has been captive-bred for years.
- A moderately large tarantula, the Chilean Rose-Haired Tarantula reaches adult size at 3-4 years with about a 5" leg span.
- Its dark brown body is covered with reddish-orange to pink hairs.
- Males have longer legs and are more fuzzy looking. Females are more stocky and bulky. Females live up to 15 years (avg 12 yrs); males have a much shorter lifespan.



Diet

Rose-Haired Tarantulas will eat a variety of live insects (primarily crickets) and should be fed once or twice a week. A large tarantula may enjoy an occasional pinky mouse. Supply drinking water at all times via a sponge and/or small dish.

Housing

Keep your tarantulas individually in 5 to 10 gallon tanks (they are cannibalistic). Add 2-3" of vermiculite, peat moss or small bark substrate and a small log or cork bark cave for hiding. Live or artificial plants and other décor can also be added. Keep the enclosure warm (75-85°F) and humid (70-80%). Mist the substrate every couple of days.

Handling & Care

Slow moving and docile, you can carefully pick up your pet by cupping them gently with the legs folded under their bodies. Or, simply place your hand out flat in front of them and gently prod onto your hand. As they walk, place the other hand in front, allowing the spider to walk across your hands.

If your Tarantula is upside-down, it is molting, not dead. Leave it alone and remove any crickets during its molt. This is 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.

Change the substrate and clean the enclosure twice a year or as necessary.

Health

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.

Wash your hands with anti-bacterial soap after handling any animal.

Tips & Warnings

Be careful when handling any tarantula. Rose-Hairs are docile and easily picked up, but as with any spider, they can bite. Some people may be allergic or sensitive to the venom. These spiders may also flick off hairs when threatened, which can be irritating to some people's skin.

TARANTULA CHECKLIST

- Critter-Keeper
- Small Water Dish
- Natural Sponge
- Misting Bottle
- Hiding Place
- Décor
- Crickets
- Vitamin/Mineral Supplement
- Heat Source
- Substrate
- Thermometer
- Hygrometer
- Small Transport Carrier
- Tarantula Book