

Salmon Pink Birdeater

The Salmon Pink Birdeater tarantula is considered to be the third largest tarantula species in the world. They are found in the tropical rainforests of eastern Brazil. This species is semi-aggressive and active and is for intermediate to experienced keepers. It is not a burrowing species and they do not create large webs which makes them a good display tarantula. Males can have a short life span of around 5 years while females can live between 15-25 years. Tarantulas should be housed individually.

When a tarantula is moulting it may spin a web on the floor, lie on it and be on its back. Do not feed or mist the tarantula during this period as it is very vulnerable and should not be disturbed.

Glossary

- Reptile** – A cold-blooded vertebrate with scaly skin.
- Amphibian** – A cold-blooded vertebrate that begins life as an aquatic animal and grows into a terrestrial adult with lungs.
- Terrestrial** – A ground dwelling animal.
- Arboreal** – An animal that lives in trees.
- Diurnal** – Awake in the day.
- Nocturnal** – Awake during the night.
- UVB** – Ultraviolet radiation.
- Colubrid** – A family of snakes.
- Hybrid** – Offspring from animals of different species.
- Morph** – Colourations created due to genetics.
- Musk** – Unpleasant odour released when an animal is stressed or feels threatened.

Live plants are only available on special order

If you require any further information, please ask our pet care advisors who will be very happy to help.

Opening Times

Monday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm
Sunday: 9.30am – 4pm

Chessington Garden Centre

Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2NG

Tel: 01372 725 638
Email: info@chessingtongardencentre.co.uk
Web: www.chessingtongardencentre.co.uk



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Salmon Pink Birdeater

Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden

Size & Housing

This species of tarantula grows quickly and will grow between 7.5 to 11 inches in leg span. They can be kept in specially designed glass terrariums or plastic tanks. We recommend the Exo Terra or Komodo reptile tanks:

60 x 45 x 45 cm / 24 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 1 Adult



Handling

Tarantulas are best kept as display animals. This species is semi-aggressive and fast moving so handling is not recommended. Any falls can cause serious injuries to tarantulas and can even be fatal. If they feel threatened, they may flick hairs at you or bite. This species have large fangs that can grow to 2.5 inches long. It is also recommended to wear thick gloves and goggles when handling is attempted because their barbed hairs can cause skin irritations, rashes and partial blindness if they get in the eyes.

Substrate & Furnishings

"A happy tarantula is one that you can't see." – A general rule of thumb. Does not apply to all tarantulas.

It is best to use soil based substrates such as humus bricks, spider life, peat moss or eco-earth. Another option is compost or potting soil **without fertilisers**. The substrate should be at least 3-5 inches deep. There should be hides and live or artificial plants for decoration. Be careful not to fill the enclosure too much as the spider will still need space to move and moult.

Tarantulas produce tiny amounts of small white faeces but will leave a small ball of indigestible leftovers from their meal. Providing these are removed, fully cleaning the enclosure will not need to be a regular thing.

Please Note – Live plants must be free of insecticides.

Food & Water

Spiderlings should be fed daily and adult tarantulas can be fed every 2-3 days. They are carnivores and should eat a variety of insects such as:

- Fruit flies (spiderlings)
- Crickets
- Locust
- Cockroaches
- Mealworms
- Pinkie Mice (adults)

This species requires a medium to high humidity. It is best to provide a small shallow dish of water that is changed daily. Use a shallow rock to cover the base of the dish if needed to prevent drowning. Mist near the water bowl to help raise the humidity.

Lighting & Temperature

Artificial light can be provided but UVB is not essential. The enclosure will need to have a constant temperature between 25-29°C. Achieve this by using a heat mat, heat bulb or ceramic heat emitter with a guard, controlled by a thermostat at all times. The temperature should never go below 20°C.