



# Lone Mountain

••• ANIMAL HOSPITAL •••



## *Invertebrates / Tarantulas*

### Scorpion Notes:

Most husbandry of scorpions is similar to tarantulas and based on species.

Scorpions DO NOT grow back broken/missing legs.

Scorpions cannot climb smooth (ex glass/acrylic) surfaces.

General rule of venom "The smaller the claws and thicker the tail, the more venomous."



### General Facts:

Ave life span: Depending on the species, most female tarantulas can live up to 20+ years. Males generally live to 5-7 years.

### Size:

Ranging from 1-3 inches with larger species measuring up to 12 inches.

### Temperament:

Have huge brains compared to most other arthropods.

New world tarantulas have urticating hairs on their abdomen that they will "flick" when stressed. Hairs can be irritating. Their venom tends to be mild, unless you are allergic.

Old world tarantulas are more likely to threat posture and bite. Venom tends to be more potent as well, generally causing pain at bite site and possible muscle tremors.

Handling is normally not recommended for the safety of your T and yourself.

### Lighting:

No special lighting required. Nocturnal.

Most Ts require temperatures between 75 to 86°F.

### Humidity :

Species dependent. Some Ts (ex Rose Hairs, Mexican Red Knees) prefer about 50-60% where as other species (ex Pink Toes) prefer 80-90%.

A water dish should be provided in the enclosure. Place a rock in the dish to prevent crickets and other food items from drowning.

Spray the substrate or walls of enclosure with a mister to further increase humidity.

Make sure there is good ventilation in the enclosure as to keep mold and bacteria from growing.

### Cage Accessories/Substrate:

Ts can live on most types of substrates. Most people will use coconut fiber substrate or potting/topsoil (make sure no pesticides or fertilizers included), peat moss or vermiculite.

Never use cedar or other conifer products since many are toxic.

Terrestrial Ts need a shorter enclosure with deep enough substrate to allow burrowing

Arboreal Ts generally need a taller enclosure with less substrate, material to allow climbing

All enclosures should have a lid with securing locks to prevent escape.

We recommend spot cleaning (dried out carcasses, fecal matter etc), with full cleaning of enclosure about once a year unless it has an odor in the enclosure, mold or other problem

### Diet:

Ts are carnivores: Crickets, Roaches, Wax worms/Super worms, etc can be used

### Molting/Medical Problems:

Ts molt to grow. They lay on their backs, "pop their top" (carapace) and work their body and legs until they slide out of their old exoskeleton. Will regrow limbs.

See a veterinarian if any problems molting, mites seen, or trauma resulting in bleeding (hemolymph)

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