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ADOPT
an **Animal**



CHILEAN ROSE-HAIRED TARANTULA

Grammostola rosea

CHILEAN ROSE-HAIRED TARANTULA | *Grammostola rosea*

CLASS: Arachnida | ORDER: Araneae | FAMILY: Theraphosidae

PROFILE

Favorite treat: Crickets

Weight: 3 ounces

Loves to: Hide all day in warm dark places, waiting to be active at nightfall

Conservation status: Not Evaluated

UNIQUE TRAITS. Chilean rose-haired tarantulas are a light brown in color with a light pink undertone and iridescence to their cephalothorax, or head region. As adults, they can reach a leg span of up to six inches, with females tending to be larger and weighing more than males. Tarantulas have four pairs of legs, or eight legs total. They have two tiny claws on each leg, called tarsal claws, used to grasp onto things when climbing and a velvety pad on each foot to provide a cushion while walking.

HAIRY SITUATION. These spiders do not have very good eyesight and rely heavily on touch and the hairs on their

bodies, which detect vibrations. The hairs on the abdomen, called urticating hairs, can actually be kicked off to ward off potential predators. The tarantula will use its back feet to kick at a predator, causing irritation in the eyes, nose and mouth of the animal and allowing the spider time to escape.

NIGHT CRAWLERS. There are two basic types of spiders, web spinners and wandering spiders. Tarantulas are wandering, so they do not spin a web and sit a wait; they have to look for their food. During the day they will spend their time in shelters of moist, cool burrows, and venture out at night to search for prey or a potential mate. Their diet consists of insects, other arthropods, and small animals like lizards, young snakes, and small mammals.

FUN FACTS

The name "tarantula" originated in the Renaissance period to refer to a small wolf spider from Taranto, Italy.

Tarantulas can regenerate a leg if one is lost!

No human is ever known to have died from a tarantula bite! A tarantula bite is no worse than a bee sting in terms of toxicity.

DID YOU KNOW? There are over 800 documented species of tarantulas in the world! Among all the tarantulas, the calm nature and attractive colors of this large spider make it popular with pet owners. In fact, this is among the most commonly imported type of tarantula today.