

Chile Rose Tarantula

(Grammostola rosea)

The Chilean Rose Tarantula is one of the most commonly imported tarantulas in the trade today. This species of tarantula is a combination of being fairly large, hardy and docile. The Chilean Rose Tarantula can be found in almost any pet store, and can be found in two different colour phases. One of the colour phases of the Chilean Rose Tarantula is a tan to brown overall colour with pink hairs and a pink carapace, while the other is a tarantula with red hairs all over its body. The photo to the left shows the brown and pink phase. These used to be classified under two different species, but they are now both known as Chilean Rose Tarantulas. There are many pet stores that carry Chilean Rose Tarantulas, although they may be under different names. Some of these names are listed below. The Chilean Rose Tarantula is the ultimate starter species, and should be considered for anybody who wants to dive into the hobby.

Range:

Bolivia, Northern Chile, and Argentina, found in many habitats, mostly deserts and scrubland.

Type:

Terrestrial.

Diet:

Spiderlings eat pinhead crickets, and other small insects. Adults eat crickets, other large insects, and an occasional pinkie mouse.

Full Grown Size:

4.5 to 5.5 inches.

Growth:

Slow speed.

Temperature:

70 to 85° F.

Humidity:

75 to 80%. All tarantulas that have at least a 3" leg span may drink from a shallow, wide water dish.

Temperament:

Docile and calm.

Housing:

Spiderlings can live in a clear plastic deli-container with air holes. Adults can live in a 5 or 10-gallon tank. Floor space is more important than height.

Substrate:

2 to 3 inches of peat moss, or potting soil.

Decor:

No decorations are really needed, but you can add a log, or cork bark.

Other Names:

Chilean Rose Haired Tarantula, Chilean Rose Hair Tarantula, Chilean Common Tarantula, Chilean Fire Tarantula, Chilean Fire Rose Tarantula, and Chilean Flame Tarantula.

**Please note that ALL tarantulas have a certain amount of venom. Although most people are not affected by this species, some people may be allergic to the venom, or just more sensitive, making it a dangerous situation. This is one of the reasons that people should not handle this tarantula. Also, New World species of tarantulas like this one can flick urticating hairs off of their abdomens, which can also cause a reaction, depending on the person. Effects of this tarantula's natural defences may vary between people. All tarantulas should be considered dangerous, so be careful, because you don't want to find out if you are allergic or more sensitive the HARD WAY!*