



Striped Knee Tarantula

Striped Leg Tarantula (*Aphonopelma seemanni*), also known as Costa Rican Zebra Tarantula and the Striped-knee Tarantula

Popularity: Make good pets for experts. They are very quick and venomous.

Origin: Central America

Native habitat: semi-arid grasslands

Size: 4-5 inches

Lifespan: males: 5 years; females: up to 20 years

Appearance: It is black with white stripes near the joint. Specimens from Nicaragua are tan-colored.

Diet: insects

Activities: terrestrial, burrowers

Misc characteristics: These are deep-burrowing spiders that are found in large aggregations.

BASIC CARE

Requires a 5-gallon enclosure with dark hiding places. They like humid burrow – a plastic cup with a top hole and moist moss works well. Change moist moss every 4-5 days. The daytime temperature range should be between 78-84 degrees F., and the nighttime temperature between 72-78 degrees F. They require moderate levels of humidity. They will eat most insects, crickets, mealworms and small mammals such as pink mice. For drinking, supply a small shallow bowl with saturated cotton or similar.