

# Brazilian Black Tarantula



## OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Grammostola pulchra*
- Origin: Southern Brazil
- Ease of Care: Beginner
- Potential Adult Size: 6-7 inch leg span
- Life Span: 10 years for Males. 20+ years for the Females
- Behaviour: Nocturnal
- Diet: Insectivore
- Handling: Beginner

## TOP TIPS

- ✓ Make sure there are few inches of substrate to allow the Brazilian Black Tarantula to burrow.
- ✓ Provide a sturdy water bowl for the Brazilian Black Tarantula to hydrate as needed.

## EQUIPMENT NEEDED



- Housing: Terrarium
- Heating: Heat Mat
- Thermostat: Mat Stat
- Lighting: UV Tube (Light Cycle: 12 hours of light)
- Substrate: HabiStat Spider Bedding, HabiStat Jungle Bio, Arcadia EarthMix
- Water: Water Bowl

## HOUSING



HabiStat Glass Terrarium 45x45x45cm (HGT4545)

## RUNNING COSTS



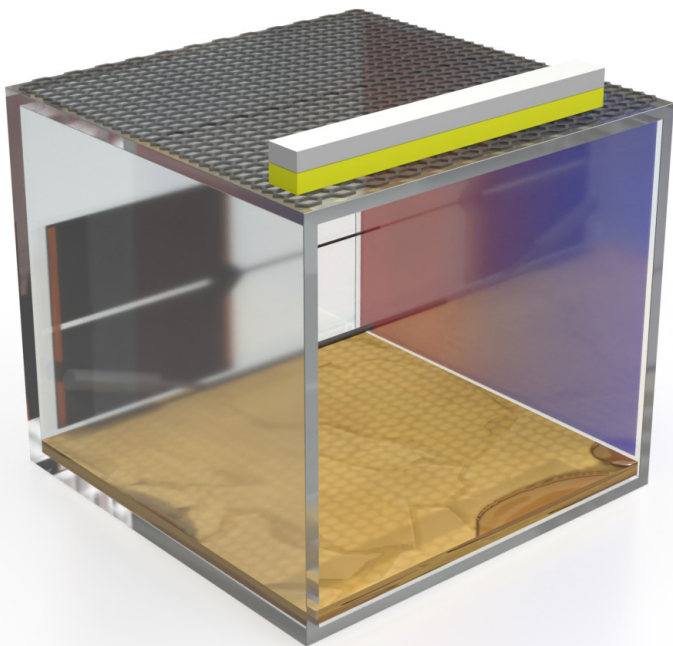
- Average Cost: 5p Per Day
- Average kW per day: 0.163

Calculations are based on using the recommended timings, heating, and lighting provided throughout the care sheet, and the Electricity unit rate of 28p per kWh.

## ENVIRONMENT



### Terrarium Setup



### Enclosure Readings

- Hot Spot: Not Needed
- Background Temp: 24°C-28°C (75°F-82°F)
- Night-Time Temp: 22°C (72°F)
- Humidity: 60%-70%
- UVI: 1-2

### Heating

Brazilian Black Tarantulas are a nocturnal species but still require a suitable heat and light gradient in the enclosure to simulate a complete 24-hour period.

Using a HabiStat Heat Mat (HHM11) on the outside rear of the Terrarium running through a HabiStat Mat Stat (HTMB1) will provide the needed heat.

Mat thermostats are designed to regulate temperatures using a thermostat probe (also known as a sensor). Correct placement of the probe is critical to avoid overheating and injury to the animal.

Check temperatures and humidity regularly, using a reliable thermometer and hygrometer to ensure that there are no extreme fluctuations.

## Lighting

While this species does not require UVB lighting, it is beneficial and provides a day/night cycle.

Place an Arcadia ProT5 UVB Kit ShadeDweller 2.4% (RARTP8SA), or alternatively the Arcadia LumenIZE Pro T5 UVB Kit ShadeDweller 2.5% (RARLZ14S) on the mesh roof of the terrarium.

Ensure that it is fitted correctly and within the manufactures recommended distances, providing a UVI of 1-2.

## DIET & WATER

Ensure Brazilian Black Tarantulas are offered appropriately sized insects.

**Spiderling** – 1 or 2 appropriately sized feeders 5x a week:

- Large Fruit Fly
- Calci Worms
- Cricket – Hatchling

**Juvenile/Adult** – 1 or 2 appropriately sized feeders per week such as:

- Crickets – Large
- Locust – 3rd Hoppers
- Dubia Roaches – Large

Always provide a source of fresh water using the HabiStat Round Plastic Water Bowl (HWS).

To maintain and regulate humidity within the enclosure, mist as required.

## Substrate and Decoration

Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your enclosure, but we recommend the following as examples:

- HabiStat Spider Bedding (HSS5), HabiStat Jungle Bio (HSJB10), or HabiStat Coir Block (HSCB) with some HabiStat Sphagnum Moss (HSMS250) mixed in
- Wood/branches/Cork bark for climbing and webbing on, hiding, and sleeping on/under
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the Tarantula to use as shelter and aid building its intricate webs.

## SUPPLEMENTATION

Following a supplementation regime that involves these calcium and multivitamin powders will be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the animal.

- HabiStat Pure Calcium (HMC40)
  - HabiStat Reptavite (HMRV40)
  - HabiStat Repton (HMR40)
  - Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100)
- Please follow the on pack instructions.

## ADDITIONAL INFO

- A Brazilian Black Tarantula can molt its exoskeleton several times a year, depending on how big it is and how quickly its growing.
- The best way to tell that your Tarantula is about to molt, is they often have a bald spot on their abdomen.
- The abdomen may also appear darker and shinier than usual before they molt.

## HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your animal healthy and happy:

	Water	Substrate	Enclosure
Daily	Change old water for fresh water	Spot clean	Check vents on enclosure are not blocked and allow air to pass through freely
Weekly	Disinfect water bowl or dish	Agitate substrate to prevent any bacterial build-up and remove any that is dirty	Wipe down glass and walls with a reptile safe disinfectant
Monthly		Take out old substrate and replace with new substrate	Wipe down inside the enclosure and disinfect décor with a reptile safe disinfectant

Always wash your hands, surfaces and equipment with warm water and disinfectant immediately before and after handling or feeding your animal, their food, enclosure and any other equipment using HabiStat Anti-Bac Spray (HABS) for any surface, and HabiStat Hand Sanitiser (HABG) for hand hygiene.

## HANDLING & CARE



While this species is generally docile handling is not really recommended. Handling can at times be very stressful, and when stressed they can revert to their main self-defence of urticating hairs, even a bite as a last resort, so handling should only be done if necessary.

Things to look out for that will need veterinary assistance:

- Molt (shedding) problems
- Going off food

Should your animal display any signs of distress, changes in regular behaviour, or anything visually different, please seek help from your Exotic Animal Veterinarian.

Arthur Rickwood Farm, Chatteris Road, Mepal, Ely, CB6 2AZ [monkfieldreptile.com](http://monkfieldreptile.com) Telephone: 01223 208261

# DATA MONITORING



Complete this Sheet at the same time every day e.g. 12pm

	Hotspot Temp Not Needed	Background Temp 24°C-28°C (75°F-82°F)	Humidity Day 60%-70%	UVI 1-2	Night Time Temp 22 C (72 F)	Feeding
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						