

Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantula



OVERVIEW



- Scientific Name: *Poecilotheria metallica*
- Origin: Southern India
- Ease of Care: Intermediate
- Potential Adult Size: Up to 8 inches
- Life Span: Up to 5 years for males, up to 12 years for females
- Behaviour: Nocturnal
- Diet: Carnivore
- Handling: Advanced (Only if absolutely necessary)

TOP TIPS

- ✓ To maintain humidity, add moss to the enclosure
- ✓ Provide Cork Bark or Tubes for natural hiding spots
- ✓ The Habistat Humidifier (HDH01) is an option to aid with the species humidity requirements
- ✓ Use a HabiStat Humidifier (HDH01) to ensure humidity levels are met

HOUSING

HabiStat Glass Terrarium (HGT3045)

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

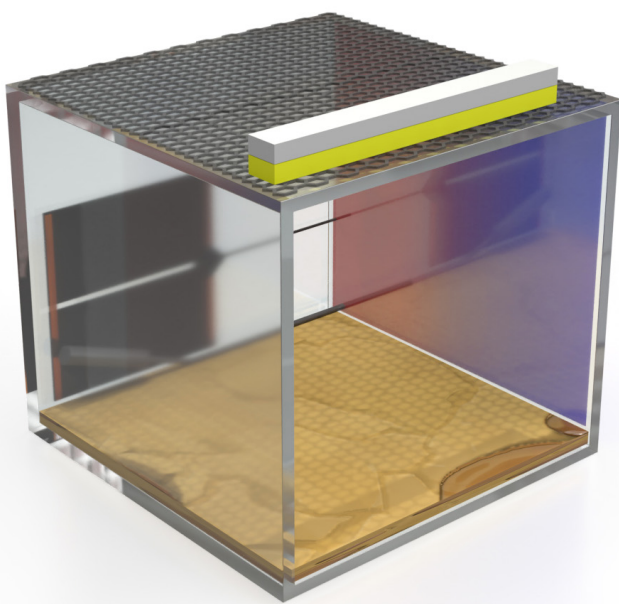


- Housing: Terrarium
- Heating: Heat Mat
- Thermostat: Mat Stat
- Lighting: Arcadia Pro T5 ShadeDweller Arboreal
- Substrate: HabiStat Spider Bedding
- Water: HabiStat Round Plastic Water Bowl

ENVIRONMENT



Terrestrial Terrarium Setup



Enclosure Readings

- Background Temp: 24-29°C (75-84°F)
- Hot Spot: N/A
- Night-Time Temp: 20-24°C (68-75°F)
- Humidity: 70%-80%
- UVI: 1-2

Heating

Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantulas are nocturnal animals and require a suitable light and heat gradient within their Terrarium.

Using the HabiStat Heat Mat (HHM11) on the outside rear of the Terrarium should help maintain the needed background temperatures. The Heat Mat should be used in conjunction with a HabiStat Mat Stat (HTMB1). Mat Stat 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

Use the Arcadia Pro T5 UVB Kit ShadeDweller Arboreal (RARTP8SA), or alternatively the Arcadia LumenIZE Pro T5 UVB Kit ShadeDweller (RARLZ8S) on the mesh roof of the Terrarium. This will supply realistic UVB levels within the enclosure.

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

Substrate and Decoration

- Personal choice will dictate how you decorate your enclosure, but we recommend the following as examples:
- HabiStat Spider Bedding (HSS5) with added HabiStat Sphagnum Moss (HSMS250) mixed in.
- Wood/branches/Cork tubes for climbing on, hiding, and sleeping on/in.
- Live or artificial plant decoration will provide darker areas for the Spider to use as shelter.

DIET & WATER

Ensure the Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantula is 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, ideally something like the HabiStat Round Plastic water Bowl (HWM).

To maintain and regulate humidity within the enclosure, mist as required. The addition of a HabiStat Humidifier (HDH01) will also ensure the correct humidity requirements are met.

SUPPLEMENTATION

Following a supplementation regime that involves calcium and multivitamin powders such as HabiStat Pure Calcium (HMC40), HabiStat Reptavite (HMRV40), HabiStat Repton (HMR40) and Arcadia Earth Pro-A (RAREP100) will be beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the animal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantulas are a fast-moving species - for this reason, it is not recommended to handle them.
- A Bite from a Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantula Can cause excruciating pain, nausea and cramping, these symptoms can last for many weeks! However, they are not known to bite, instead they would flee from potential danger.

HEALTH & HYGIENE



We recommend the following cleaning routine to keep your Gooty Sapphire Ornamental Tarantula 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 to allow any dirty bedding to be removed	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 your animal, their food, enclosure, and any other equipment using HabiStat Anti-Bac Spray (HABS) for any surface, and HabiStat Hand Sanitiser (HABG) for hands.

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.

DATA MONITORING



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

	Hotspot Temp N/A	Background Temp 24-29°C (75-84°F)	Humidity 70%-80%	UVI 1-2	Night Time Temp 20-24°C (68-75°F)	Feeding
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						