



## Cobalt Blue Tarantula *Haplopelma lividum*

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- Cobalt blue tarantulas are a medium sized to large tarantula species with a pale cream to brownish thorax and bright vibrant blue hairs on their abdomen and limbs, hence their common name of Cobalt blue.
- Native to southern and southeastern Asia, including Myanmar, Thailand, and Cambodia.
- Cobalt blue tarantulas are a burrowing to terrestrial species that tends to be solitary and nocturnal, as with most other tarantulas.
- Cobalt blue tarantulas are a faster moving, more aggressive species better suited for more experienced arachnid and other pet enthusiasts.

### **Size**

4-5 ½ inches leg span on average.

### **Housing**

Provide a sturdy, secure, and escape proof terrarium or enclosure 5-10 gallons in size with a secure top for a single adult spider. Spiderlings can be housed in an appropriately sized plastic container or deli cup with adequate holes for ventilation. Acceptable substrate to use can include pesticide free potting soil, Eco-Earth, or bed-a-beast. Decorations and/or other cage furnishings and hide boxes can also be included as well. A fairly small, shallow water dish can also be provided, and should be cleaned regularly. Maintain this species at around 78-80% humidity. This species is also an obligate burrower, and must be provided with at least 5-8 inches of substrate.

Cobalt blue tarantulas are a species that do best at room temperature between 78-85 degrees, or with a supplemental under tank heating pad if needed. No additional lighting or heating is necessary.

### **Feeding/Diet**

Most species of tarantulas are very easy and inexpensive to feed, with the Cobalt blue tarantula being no exception. Feeder crickets, mealworms, feeder roaches, and other feeder insects of appropriate size can be given every 4-7 days for younger spiders, and up to 10-14 days for adults. Feeder insects can also be gut loaded to provide additional beneficial nutrients for your tarantula. Uneaten food items after one or more days should be carefully monitored or removed thereafter.

### **Handling**

Cobalt blue tarantulas are a faster moving and more aggressive species of tarantula better suited for the more skilled and experienced arachnid or other pet enthusiast. Handling is there for typically not suggested. It is nonetheless a beautiful and attractively colored species that has seen a notable amount of popularity in the hobby & industry. Tarantulas in general are fragile animals, and accidentally dropping a spider can result in the rupture of its internal organs and/or exoskeleton, causing death to your tarantula. Although most tarantulas are not medically significant, with most being lesser than or just about equal to a bee sting, medical attention should still be sought from any apparent allergic reaction to a bite, or extreme irritation from urticating hairs from a pet tarantula.

**\*\*Also be sure to practice basic cleanliness and hygiene associated with proper husbandry after touching or handling any animals or animal enclosures to prevent the possibility of contracting salmonellosis or any other zoonotic pathogens\*\***