



## Greenbottle Blue Tarantula *Chromatophora cyaneopubes*

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- A South American species, the Greenbottle blue is a medium sized to large tarantula indigenous to deserts and scrublands of Venezuela.
- Greenbottle blue tarantulas are a medium sized to large terrestrial species with metallic blue to bluish green limbs and thorax, and vibrantly colored orange abdomen.
- A relatively hardy and easily kept species, the greenbottle blue can tolerate a wide range of temperature and humidity ranges than most other South American spiders.

### **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 3-4 inches in depth. 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.

Greenbottle blues are a hardy South American species that can be maintained at lower humidity levels than most other South American spiders at around 65-75%. This species can be maintained at temperatures 70-85 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 Greenbottle 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**

Greenbottle blues are a somewhat skittish and nervous species that does require some previous tarantula husbandry and handling experience. Despite its skittish nature, greenbottle blues usually will not kick urticating hairs, and can be handled with the appropriate experience. Nonetheless, greenbottle blues are a beautiful and attractive species that makes for a fine display tarantula for the intermediate arachnid or other pet enthusiast. 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\*\*