

OVERVIEW						
<p>The greenbottle blue or GBB (<i>Chromatopelma cyaneopubescens</i>) is an amazingly colorful (greenish legs, bluish carapace and orange abdomen) tarantula from the arid Paraguana peninsula of northern Venezuela. It is a terrestrial tarantula that lives in silken retreats in ground fissures or under ground cover among thorn scrub, grasses, and at the bases of succulents (agave, cactus). The GBB is a skittish/nervous species that will stay out in the open in captivity and create silk-lined resting places or tube-like retreats. It is very fast growing and males may mature in as little as eighteen months.</p>						
ENVIRONMENT						
Conditions »	Day Temp	70-78°F	Night Temp	65-75°F	Humidity	30-50%
Heat Source »	<p>Usually unnecessary. House enclosure in a warm area that provides appropriate temperature range and minimal drafts, light and vibration. If necessary, terrariums may be heated using a mini heat mat mounted beneath or a very low wattage red bulb. Small containers housing "spiderlings" are best heated by keeping inside a larger heated enclosure that acts as an incubator.</p>					
HOUSING		<p>A simple terrestrial cage with plenty of ventilation (a plastic critter keeper style terrarium is excellent), dry substrate (commercial organic cactus soil mixes are excellent but dry coconut coir or 50/50 sphagnum peat moss/vermiculite mix are just as good), hiding place and very small water dish — extra care should be used when raising spiderlings as small containers typically used, such as vials or small jars with lids with small air holes, are too poorly ventilated (we use 16-24 oz. deli cups with insect cup style lids to raise young GBB). However, young GBB do require higher humidity than adults. A light misting once a week will remoisten substrate and provide droplets for drinking.</p>				
DIET		<p>crickets, superworms, grasshoppers, small roaches</p>				
KEEPER SAFETY						
<p>GBB do have urticating hairs that they brush from their abdomens when disturbed. These can cause moderate to severe irritation in many people. Tarantulas are fragile creatures and we do not advocate handling. The GBB is a skittish/nervous species that is best kept as a display terrarium pet.</p>						
COMMENTS						
<p>This colorful species makes an excellent display tarantula. It's a bit fast and nervous to be considered "docile" in the sense of most <i>Grammostola</i> or <i>Brachypelma</i>, but it is not overly defensive and since it is also hardy and easy to care for it makes an excellent beginner species for those who prefer a hands-off terrarium pet. The key is keeping it dry as it is sensitive to any dampness whether cage moisture, air humidity, or poor ventilation. Remove any uneaten food immediately as even decaying crickets can cause excessive humidity in small poorly ventilated containers that spiderlings are often raised in. It is interesting that this species can do well in vertically oriented cages that would normally only be used for arboreal species. We breed this species in the same tall acrylic cages that we use to breed <i>Poecilotheria</i>. The spiders like to climb an angled piece of cork bark and build a silk retreat a few inches off the substrate, which aids in keeping them away from any dampness.</p>						