



Emperor Scorpion

Pandinus imperator

Description: Emperor scorpions are among the largest in the world and can measure up to 5-7 inches in length. They are dark brown to black in color and they appear shiny. Like most invertebrates, they have a hard exoskeleton that acts as a shield for protection. They will shed this exoskeleton as they grow, called molting.



Range: Emperor Scorpions are native to West Africa in Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Cote d'Ivoire.

Habitat: They are found in tropical rainforests and thrive best at temperatures of 70-90 degrees.

Lifespan: The average lifespan for a scorpion is 7-8 years.



Behavior: Scorpions are solitary creatures that only interact at birth and during mating. They are venomous, however the venom is not considered dangerous to humans. Even though they can sting, they hardly do and usually rely on their massive pinchers called pedipalps to subdue their prey.

Natural Diet: In the wild scorpions will eat anything that is smaller than themselves, like crickets, moths, small mice, and other invertebrates.

Zoo diet: At the zoo scorpions are fed crickets and, occasionally, small mice.

Reproduction: Scorpions are viviparous and have their young after a few months of mating. 8-13 young are born and they stay on their mother's back until after their first molt.

Conservation Status: Least Concern

