

LEARN AT CHESTER ZOO



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DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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Not evaluated by
the IUCN Red List

Name	Montserrat tarantula
Scientific Name	<i>Cyrtopholis femoralis</i>
Threats (why they're at risk)	No specific threats known as species is not well studied.
Distribution (where they live)	Montserrat, Caribbean.
Habitat (what they live in)	Any areas with soil that can be easily burrowed into.
Diet/Feeding strategy (what they eat and how they eat it)	Lay trap lines sensing the vibrations of trapped prey using their legs and the hairs on their body. In the zoo, they're fed small flies and crickets.
Social behaviour (how they live)	Have a courtship ritual in which the male drums out an elaborate rhythm on the female's web, which is spun on the ground near her burrow.
Males and females	Males are thought to have a very short life span when compared with females. The female can take males as a prey, rather than as a partner.
Lifespan (how long they live for)	Unknown.
Number of young (how many babies)	Only one Montserrat tarantula has been recorded breeding, producing just over 200 individual spiderlings.
Interesting fact	Chester Zoo is currently the only zoo in the world to have Monserrat tarantulas. Having successfully bred them, we have the first ever spiderlings of their species to be observed by scientists.