



## BUTTERFLY PAVILION

Pinktoe Tarantula (*Avicularia sp.*)



Country: Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, Trinidad and Tobago, Columbia, Peru, Bolivia and Brazil

Habitat: Tropical forests of South America. The species is arboreal where they will weave tube webs in the tree canopy.

Diet: Crickets, moths, small lizards, frogs, and mice.

Predators: Any large insectivores.

Behavior: These tarantulas will use their hind legs to kick urdicating hairs into a predator's face when threatened.

Lifespan: Females will live to be about 12 years old while males only live to be three to four years old.

Growth and Development: Until the final molt, males and females of this species look identical. After that last molt, males will then gain embolus (which looks a little like a finger) on their pedipalps and tibial hooks which they will use for mating. The species have a leg span of three and a half to almost five inches.

Endangered Status: The status of this species is undocumented.

Fun Fact: The classification and naming of this species is a hotly debated topic among the scientific community!