



## BUTTERFLY PAVILION

### Brazilian Fire Red Birdeater (*Lasiodora difficilis*)



**Country:** Brazil

**Habitat:** These tarantulas live in rainforests characterized by a wet tropical climate with little or no dry season and abundant rainfall.

**Diet:** Feeds on insects, worms, grasshoppers and crickets.

**Predators:** Birds of prey and a few large mammals including humans.

**Behavior:** These spiders take refuge in long holes, or under roots or stones. The nocturnal species spends most of its time in a deep burrow constructed in marshy soils and emerges at night to hunt. After mating the female will lay up to 200 eggs in an egg sack that will hatch out after 2-3 months.

**Lifespan:** Like most tarantula's, these females live significantly longer than males, 20+ years vs. 3-6 years.

**Growth and Development:** Once hatched, the spiderlings stay in their mother's burrow until their first molt after which they begin to disperse. It takes 3-6 years for both sexes to mature with males dying shortly after maturation.

**IUCN Endangered Status:** Not listed as threatened by the IUCN

**Fun Fact:** The basic color of these heavy-bodied spiders varies between black and black-gray and their urticating hairs on the abdomen are red