



## BUTTERFLY PAVILION

### Burgundy Goliath Birdeater (*Theraphosa stirmi*)



**Country:** South America, including regions in Venezuela, Brazil, and Guyana.

**Habitat:** These tarantulas are found in the tropical rainforests of South America, where they inhabit burrows in the ground. They create burrows by digging into the soil, which provides them with a safe and concealed place to live and ambush prey.

**Diet:** Primarily consists of a variety of small animals, including insects, other invertebrates, and occasionally small vertebrates.

**Predators:** Large birds, mammals, and other invertebrates.

**Behavior:** They are a terrestrial tarantula species who are nocturnal hunters. Despite their intimidating appearance, they are generally not considered aggressive toward humans but may defend themselves if provoked.

**Lifespan:** Males 3-6 years, Females 25 to 30 years.

**Growth and Development:** Mating in tarantulas can be a risky endeavor for males, as they may be cannibalized by the larger female after copulation.

**IUCN Endangered Status:** Not currently listed as endangered or threatened by the IUCN.

**Fun Fact:** These tarantulas are named after their striking burgundy or reddish-brown coloration, which is particularly vivid in freshly molted individuals. They have robust bodies covered in dense, fine hairs called setae, which help them sense their environment.



6252 West 104<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Westminster, CO 80020 | 303.469.5441 | butterflies.org

**Commented [RW1]:** is this sex? can we say intercourse instead?