

## Black Forest Scorpion

The Black Forest Scorpion is considered great for beginners although they can sometimes be a little aggressive. These scorpions are generally nocturnal and found in tropical forests ranging from India to Indonesia. They have a life span of 7 to 8 years in captivity. It is possible to keep these scorpions in groups of 3 or more.

This species is also known as the Giant Asian Black Scorpion or Asian Forest Scorpion however, there are many scorpions referred to by this name that require the same care.

## Glossary

**Reptile** – A cold-blooded vertebrate with scaly skin.

**Amphibian** – A cold-blooded vertebrate that begins life as an aquatic animal and grows into a terrestrial adult with lungs.

**Terrestrial** – A ground dwelling animal.

**Arboreal** – An animal that lives in trees.

**Diurnal** – Awake in the day.

**Nocturnal** – Awake during the night.

**UVB** – Ultraviolet radiation.

**Colubrid** – A family of snakes.

**Hybrid** – Offspring from animals of different species.

**Morph** – Colourations created due to genetics.

**Musk** – Unpleasant odour released when an animal is stressed or feels threatened.

**Live plants are only available on special order**

If you require any further information, please ask our pet care advisors who will be very happy to help.

### Opening Times

Monday – Saturday: 9am – 6pm

Sunday: 9.30am – 4pm

### Chessington Garden Centre

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# Black Forest Scorpion

## Care & Advice Sheet

Inspiration for your Home & Garden

## Size & Housing

These scorpions can reach between 3.5 to 6 inches. They can be kept in specially designed glass terrariums or plastic tanks. We recommend the Exo Terra or Komodo reptile tanks:

60 x 45 x 45 cm / 24 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 1 Adult

90 x 45 x 45 cm / 36 x 18 x 18" – Minimum for 3 Adults



## Substrate & Furnishings

It is best to use soil based substrates such as humus bricks, spider life or eco-earth. Another option is compost or potting soil as long as it does not contain fertiliser as this can be poisonous. These scorpions occasionally burrow so it is recommended to have a substrate depth of at least 3–4 inches. Provide areas for it to hide under such as cork bark, plant pots and damp moss. When housing a group of scorpions, make sure to have plenty of different hides available. Live and artificial plants can also be used. Spot pick the enclosure daily and full clean once or twice a month using a reptile specific disinfectant.

**Please Note – Not all live plants are invertebrate friendly.**

## Lighting & Temperature

Artificial light can be provided but using a high percentage UVB will cause health implications and possible death. The enclosure will need to have a constant temperature between 24 and 32°C. Achieve this by using a heat mat, heat bulb or ceramic heat emitter with a guard controlled by a thermostat at all times. There should be a temperature gradient across the enclosure and the temperature can drop at night by a few degrees.

## Food & Water

Young scorpions should be fed every 1–2 days and adult scorpions can be fed every 3–4 days. A scorpion's diet will consist of live food insects such as:

- Crickets
- Locust
- Mealworms
- Cockroaches

Provide a shallow dish of fresh water daily. If the dish is large, place a rock or stone in the bowl to prevent drowning. They require a fairly high humidity and should be misted regularly to keep the enclosure slightly damp.

## Handling

It is best to not handle these scorpions as they are likely to try and sting when disturbed. Their sting can cause a lot of discomfort and pain. For this reason, they should always be handled with care and respect. Use a bowl, net, ladle or anything that can scoop up the animal to prevent injury to yourself and the animal. You must also be very careful to never drop or let the scorpion fall as this can easily injure or kill the scorpion. It is recommended to wear gloves when handling to prevent injury.