



The Rare Spider **Hatched in Captivity** **at Britain Zoo**

The elusive rare spider known as Montserrat tarantula has been bred in the Chester Zoo in captivity for the first time. The species is native to the Caribbean island of Montserrat and very little information is known about this mysterious species. But researchers, for the first time, have managed to breed an extremely rare spider, resulting in the birth of 200 more spiders.

The biggest problem during the breeding process of tarantulas is the differential life span between males and females. Male spiders had a very short life span and die much quicker than their female counterparts. Another problem was that the female tarantulas could take the male as a prey instead of viewing them as partners.

Also, after a successful mating, when three female tarantulas become pregnant, they surprisingly disappeared. Gerardo Garcia, Chester Zoo's curator of lower vertebrates said that the spiders dug a burrow on the ground and disappeared. Fortunately, the tiny spiderlings eventually started to pop up from the burrows.



Credit: Chester Zoo

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