**Arizona Blond Tarantula**

**Native to:** Deserts of the Southern Arizona down into Mexico

**Predators:**  Birds, Small Mammals, Centipedes

**Food:**  Insects, small mammals, lizards

**Facts:**.

* They are about 4 to 5 inches in diameter when full grown. Making them a medium sized species of tarantula.
* You can distinguish the males from the females because the males have darker black colorations around their legs where as females are solid tan color throughout.
* Their toxin is not more potent than the venom or a bees sting
* Tarantulas do not want to waste their venom for protection or get close enough to another animal to do so. Instead they spray the irdicating hairs from their abdomen and approaching predators eyes nose and mouth.
* This species of tarantula is a burrower they spend most of their days in the burrow to avoid the heat of the desert. During the winter time they will cover the tops of their borrows with rocks and other materials where they go into a state of inactivity until spring time.
* For purposes of matting the male Arizona Blond Tarantula will light tap on the web of the female located at the edge of the burrow communicating to the female that it is time for matting,

**Defense Mechanisms:**

* Irdicating hairs
* Venom

**Reproduction:**

* Females give birth to an egg sac that can contain up to 50 spiderlings in it.

**Lifespan:** Males can live up to around 8 to 12 yrs and Females can live for over 25+ ears in captivity.

**Handling Tips:**

Dusty the Arizona Blond Tarantula is vey easy to handle on your hand or with a towel just be careful not to drop her they are very fragile animals.