



# Giant Vinegaroon

*Mastigoproctus giganteus*

## Care Sheet

### Average Size

4 - 6 inches long

### Average Lifespan

Males 5-10 years / Females 20 years

### CAUTION

All Vinegaroon species are capable of pinching and delivering an acid mist. It is **NOT** recommended to handle this species. Use forceps or tongs for general cage maintenance.

### Diet

Vinegaroons eat a variety of live insects including crickets, mealworms, superworms, waxworms, hornworms, and dubia roaches.

### Feeding

Feed your Vinegaroons appropriately sized food items once every week. The number of prey items will vary depending on each Vinegaroon. Never feed your Vinegaroon during a molt.

### Housing

**Habitat** - Being from Tropical/Neo-Tropical environments high humidity (70-80%) is recommended. Provide a cluttered habitat with plenty of hiding places, leaf litter, and cork bark. Live plants and a glass or plastic lid may help maintain humidity.

**Size** - Most adult specimens will require a 5-gallon tank or larger. Small and immature specimens can be kept in smaller enclosures such as Zilla's Micro Habitats. Tank size will vary depending on the size of the Vinegaroon. Secure tops are recommended as Vinegaroons can climb silicone and decorations to escape. Vinegaroons should not be housed together due to the risk of cannibalism.

**Substrate** - Acceptable substrates include jungle mix, repti-soil, or a 50% eco earth / 50% sand mix. The soil should be kept slightly moist. Vinegaroons do burrow, as a result, make sure substrate depth is at least 4 - 6 inches.

**Temperature** - Temperatures between 72-85°F are perfect for your Vinegaroon. Temperatures below 65°F can be problematic and should be corrected using low wattage lighting or heating pads.

**Watering** - Always provide a bowl of fresh drinking water. Size the bowl appropriately to the animal. The cage should be misted every few days to provide a slightly moist substrate.

**Lighting** - Vinegaroons do best when provided with a natural 12-hour photoperiod. Fluorescent or LED lighting are excellent options to light the terrarium during the day and for plant growth. Red bulbs or LED blacklight bulbs are great options for nighttime viewing.

**Molting** - Feeding should be put off for at least a week after a molt as the mandibles and exoskeleton will still be soft and damageable by prey.



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