

Thor



Species

Giant African Land Snail (*Archachatina Marginata*)

Habitat:

Native to Africa, especially rainforest areas. African Land Snails like a warm, wet habitat with lots of vegetation to eat.

How we look after our pet:

A large tank with plenty of soil, kept warm with a heat mat and sprayed with water every day.

Food:

Usually green leaves, also vegetables, fruit & flowers.. These ones love banana!

Characteristics:

Largest species of land snail, can grow up to 20cm. Large, hard shell protects a soft body. Has a radula (similar to a tongue), he uses it for scraping food into his mouth.

Why we love Colin:

We love how he does everything so, so slowly. Even when he sticks his eyes out to have a good look at us, he unfurls them very slowly!

Colin's Story

Colin is a Giant African Snail, and he lives with a few friends of varying sizes, some of them are only around 4 months old. Not everyone wants to handle these huge-bodied snails, and admittedly they are a little on the slimy side, but they are quite amazing creatures. They can get very adventurous, in a slow kind of way, and can poke their stalk-like eyes out ever so far, and turn them different ways to get a good look at everyone. They eat lots, and love cucumber, green salad leaves, and some fruits too.

These snails originated in East Africa, but are very good at colonising new areas, and so are found in many more places these days. Because of this, it is illegal to keep them as pets in some countries, and in the UK it is obviously very important not to release them in to the wild.

