

Edna Scissorhands



Species

Asian forest scorpion (*Heterometrus spinifer*)

Habitat

The rainforest floor from Malaysia to India.

Care

Edna Scissorhands hands lives in a large 20 gallon glass vivarium, which has plenty of eco earth substrate for her to burrow in. She has lots of hides, logs and plant décor to mimic the forest floor.

Food

Edna Scissorhands eats insects. Her favourites are crickets and mealworms.

Characteristics

Edna is a large, stocky scorpion. She is about 5 inches long and pitch black in colour.

Why we love Edna Scissorhands

Edna has a very special 'magic' trick. Under a UV torch or moonlight, she will transform from black to glowing blue. It's amazing to see!

Read Edna Scissorhand's story on the next page...

Edna Scissorhand's story

Scorpions are not the most obvious pet. They are very primitive and unable to be handled as they can strike at anytime. But they are majestically beautiful to look at. And they have the most amazing trick. Under a UV torch, they will magically change colour from jet black to a glowing, luminous blue. It's absolutely fascinating to watch.

The colour change is caused by a process called fluorescence. The scorpion's exoskeleton absorbs and re-emits the UV as a visible blue-green light. Scientists are still unsure why they do this. Some theories put forward include:

1. It protects them from sunlight
2. It helps to confuse prey
3. It helps scorpions find each other

When Edna Scissorhands visits school, clubs or parties, she stays inside her travel tank. The children are then able to safely shine a UV torch on her to watch her glow.



Edna Scissorhands glowing under a UV torch