



# COLOMBIAN BLACK & WHITE TEGU

*(Tupinambis teguixin)*

## ANIMAL FACTS

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### WILD LOCALITY:

South America

### HABITAT:

Forested Areas

**LIFESTYLE:** Terrestrial (ground-dwelling)

### NATURAL DIET:

Small Animals, Carrion, Eggs, Fruits, Insects, Worms, & Snails (omnivore)

### LIFE EXPECTANCY:

15-25 years in the care of humans  
(less in the wild)

### ADULT SIZE:

(males) ~ 3-4 ft & 3-5kg  
(females) ~ 2.5-3.5 ft & 2-3kg

### ACTIVITY:

Diurnal (active during the day)

Conservation Status:

Least Concern

### THREATS:

Habitat Loss, Hunting, & Importation

### FUN FACTS:

Male & female Columbian Black & White Tegus are dimorphic, meaning they look different from each other. Not only are mature males much larger (up to twice as large as mature females) but they also have huge round cheeks! These cheeks serve a few purposes including attracting females, & protection of the neck area when battling other males for breeding rights or territorial disputes.