

Golden Lion Tamarin

Leontopithecus rosalia



Range: Rio de Janeiro Brazil
HBL: ♂: 20-36 cm (7.9-13 in)
♀: 20-36 cm (7.9-13 in)
Tail: 37cm (14.5 in)
Weight: ♂ 437-710 g (15-21 oz)
♀: 361-794g (12.7-28 oz)
Sexual Maturity: ♀: 24 month
♂: 24 months

Estrus: n/a

Estrus cycle: 13-21 days

Gestation: 129 days

Weaning: 12 weeks

Habitat: coastal rainforest

Food: Fruit, insects reptiles

Activity: Diurnal

Lifestyle: Arboreal

Social: multi male multi female

Breeding Polyandrous

IUCN: Endangered

Subspecies: Monotypic

Longevity: wild: 8 years

Captive: 31 years

Order: Primates Family: Callitrichidae

The Golden Lion Tamarin (GLT) is one of the great success stories for captive breeding and reintroduction into the wild. In the 1970's the wild population of the GLT was believed to be fewer than 500 individuals. A plan was developed to manage the breeding of the existing captive population in zoos worldwide. This resulted into one of AZA's first Species Survival Plan. In 1991 the ownership nearly all GLT's in captivity was transferred over to the Brazilian government with the zoos maintaining possession. By the early 1980's captive bred GLT's we're being released back into the wild. The first releases were not particularly successful and it was learned that post release support for the tamarin was necessary for success. Today the wild population is nearly 2000.