

Cotton-top Tamarin

Saguinus oedipus



Range: Colombia

HBL: ♂: 20-24 cm (8.-9.6 in)

♀: 20-24 cm (8-9.6in)

Tail: 37 cm (14.6 in)

Weight: ♂ 411g (14.5 oz)

♀: 430 g (15.2oz)

Sexual Maturity:♀: 18 month

♂: 18 months

Estrus: n/a

Estrus cycle: 15 days

Gestation:140 days

Weaning: 7-8 weeks

Habitat: humid rainforest

Food: Fruits and insects

Activity: Diurnal

Lifestyle: Arboreal

Social: 1 male multi female

Breeding Polyandrous

IUCN: Critically Endangered

Subspecies: Monotypic

Longevity: Captive: 26 years

Order: Primates Family: Callitrichidae

The Cotton-top Tamarin is unmistakable with its crest of white hair. Restricted to northern Colombia this species is highly endangered. In the 1970's nearly 40,000 individuals were exported to the US for biomedical research. Today, due to its declining population and restricted range the IUCN has listed it as Critically Endangered.

Like other members of the callitrichid family the cotton-topped tamarin has a very strong social group. The species live in a social group of up to eight individuals. The troop usually consist of one or two adult males an adult females and offspring of various ages. All members of the troop help in raising the young. The adult males are the main caretakers of the newborns which are usually twins.