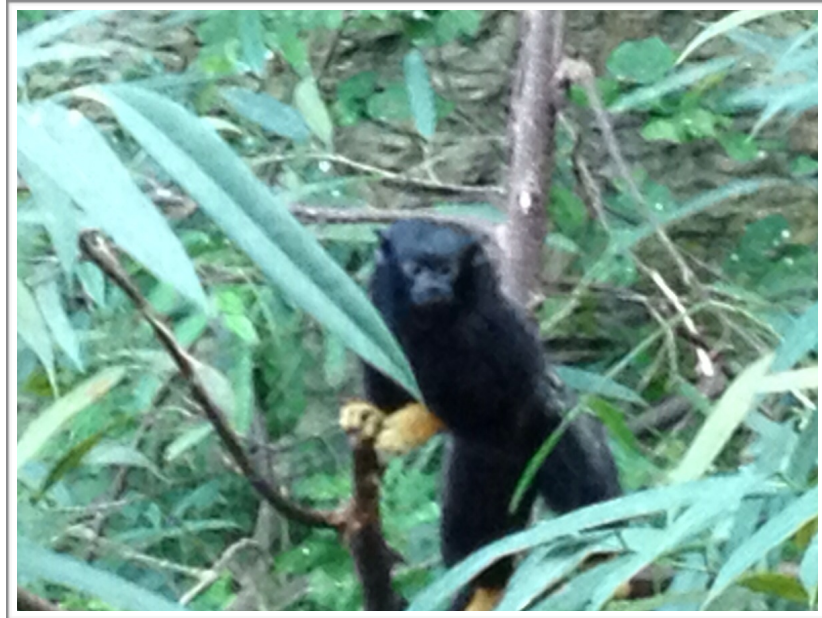


# Red-handed Tamarin

*Saguinus midas*



Range: Northwestern South America  
HBL: ♂: 22-28 cm ( 8.5-10.9 in)  
♀: 20-28 cm ( 8.5-10.9 in)  
Tail: 44 cm ( 17.3 in)  
Weight: ♂ 400-550 g ( 14-19 oz)  
♀: 400-550g (14-19 oz)  
Sexual Maturity: ♀: 16-20 month  
♂: 16-20 months  
Estrus: N/A  
Estrus cycle: 16 days  
Gestation: 140-168 days  
Weaning: 8-9 weeks  
Habitat: primary rainforest  
Food: fruit insects  
Activity: Diurnal  
Lifestyle: Arboreal  
Social: multi male female  
Breeding Polyandrous  
IUCN: Least Concern  
Subspecies: monotypic  
Longevity: captive: 16 years  
Wild: 10 years

Order: Primates Family: Callitrichidae

Native to the northwestern part of South America the Red-handed Tamarin may be the only callitrichid native to Venezuela. Found in the neighboring countries of Guyana, French Guiana, Brazil and Suriname, there is a possibility of a Venezuelan population though no evidence is available. There is a single report of a this species in the state of Bolivar but there has been no other substantiated sightings.<sup>1</sup> At one time the Black Tamarin *S. niger* was treated as a subspecies.

Like other members of the callitrichid family the black lion tamarin live in small family groups. Although some groups have a single dominant breeding pair many troops contain multiple adult male which the adult female breeds with. It is believed that by breeding with all the adult males the female fools the males to assist in caring for the offspring. All members of the troop assist in child care with the mother only carrying the young,

usually twins, during feeding.

<sup>1</sup>Linares, O. J. 1998. Mamíferos de Venezuela. Sociedad Conservacionista Audubon de Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela.