

Species Fact Sheet



INVERTEBRATES <http://www.peoriazoo.org/invertebrates.html>

Madagascar Hissing Cockroach

Gromphadorhina portentosa

Peoria Zoo Exhibit Education Programs

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/education.html>

Habitat: Rainforests— on the forest floor among decaying logs and vegetation

Range: Madagascar

Activity Cycle: Nocturnal— active at night

Size: 2.5-4 inches long, with males usually being larger

Social Structure: They live in large groups. Males have territories they defend from other males, but females wander through different territories.

Distinguishing Features: Mostly brown and black in color.
Long antennae used for touch and taste.

Features: Spiracles (tiny holes) on the sides of their bodies through which they expel air, allows them to hiss.
Males have “horns” or bumps on their head while the females head is flat

Diet: Decaying fruits, vegetables and animal matter

Life Span: 3-4 years

Did you know?

A cockroach can live over a week without a head, finally dying of dehydration.