

Did you know? *Pandinus imperator* edition



For many years, *Pandinus imperator* (the emperor scorpion) was widely described as “docile” and easy to handle. However, this reputation has been largely misunderstood and is quite misleading. Updated observations have shown that characterizing an entire genus this way is inaccurate.



While temperament can vary between individuals, the majority of *Pandinus* are actually quite defensive and much more willing to strike than many other scorpions.

What often appears to be “docile” behavior in captivity is usually the result of improper environmental conditions. These species are native to West Africa, where the average temperature ranges from about 27–32°C. Older care guides often grouped them with *Heterometrus* species or even suggested they could be kept at “room temperature.”

In reality, when kept too cool, their metabolism slows down significantly, leading to sluggish movement and reduced reactivity which early keepers likely misinterpreted and reported as calmness or tameness.



In short, the “docile emperor scorpion” label likely originated from observing chilled, under-heated specimens rather than naturally gentle behavior

