

PISCES

PET EMPORIUM

Multimammate Mouse

Or Soft-Furred Mouse

Praomys mastomys natalensis

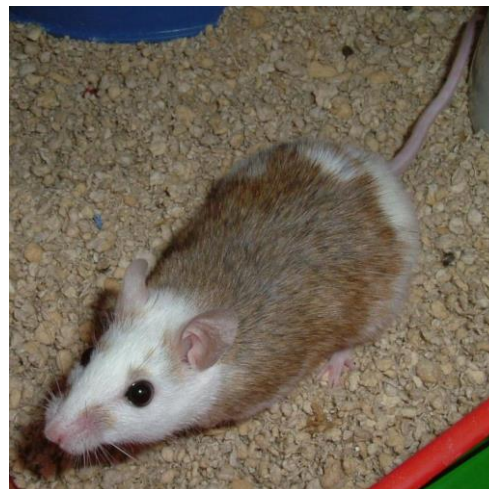


Photo by Pisces Pet Emporium

Lifespan: Males - 1 to 3 years; females - 1 to 2 years.

Size: A mature Multimammate Mouse will usually weigh around 60 grams and will measure 15 cm long (body length) with a tail approximately 11 cm long.

Maturity / Breeding: Multimammate mice reach sexual maturity at around 3 ½ months of age. Females can have new litters 25 days after each litter is born. A single female can produce 2 or more litters per season, although this type of over breeding is **highly** discouraged. Each litter usually contains 6 - 12 young.

Enclosure: Multimammate mice require a lot of living space. A 15 to 20-gallon aquarium is recommended for one mouse, although they are a colony animal and need to be kept in pairs. A well-fitting and well-ventilated lid (i.e. a screen top designed to fit aquariums) is also recommended.

Hiding/Climbing Spots: Provide a house or nest box appropriate for the mouse to sleep in, as well as lots of tunnels large enough to fit your mouse when full grown. **Pisces recommends: Nature Hut Medium for a house and Habitrail tubes and connectors.**

Bedding: Aspen or Pine shavings, as deep a layer as possible, should be provided on the cage floor. Avoid using Cedar shavings because the vapors can cause respiratory problems, itchy skin and liver problems.

Heating: Multimammate mice can be sensitive to temperature changes. Maintain a room temperature of 20°C to 32°C (69°F to 90°F). Keep the cage away from drafts (i.e. windows, doors, heat sources, etc.).

Feeding: Multimammate mice are nocturnal so they should be fed at night when they are most active. Pisces recommends feeding a dry food made for hamsters because it will contain the same type of grains that they would eat in the wild. Also provide fruits and vegetables, as well as hay. Fresh water should be available at all times. Food and water dishes should be cleaned often and it is recommended to use a ceramic dish to prevent it from being chewed. **Pisces recommends: Vita Hamster Food.**

Vitamins, Supplements & Treats: Pisces sells a wide variety of treats that your Multimammate mouse will love. There are many treats made for mice and hamsters that will be perfect for your pet. If your Multimammate mouse is provided with an assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables, there is usually no need to provide any other vitamin or mineral supplement.

Handling: Multimammate mice are quick moving and jump high so be careful when handling them that you do not drop them. They have poor depth perception and may fall if you are not supervising them. Always wash your hands before handling your Multimammate mouse to remove any food scent; if they smell food on you, they may be inclined to bite you thinking it's food. Males are also more likely to bite than females.

Health Care: Multimammate mice are prone to getting tumors once they start getting a little older. If you suspect your pet is getting a tumor, it is recommended to take it to a qualified veterinarian who treats small animals.

Multimammate mice have incisor teeth that will continue to grow through out the mouse's life. If not provided with an adequate supply of chew toys, the teeth will grow to unnatural length, will prevent the mouse from eating. If this happens, a veterinarian will need to correct the problem. ***Pisces recommends: Living World Small Animal Mineral Block and 8in1 Block Bites.***

Grooming: Multimammate mice groom themselves and do not require any special care from their owners.

Exercise/Toys: Multimammate mice do require some exercise in order to keep them from becoming overweight. If you provide a wheel for exercise, be sure that it has no spokes in which they could catch their tail. Multimammate mice are extremely active so their enclosure should be well furnished to reflect this. Wood houses, ladders, tunnels, mazes and mineral blocks can all provide your pet with entertainment. ***Pisces recommends: Super Pet 8.5" Comfort Wheel.***

Safe Handling of Small Animals*: As with all living creatures, small animals can carry microorganisms which can make people ill. To reduce the chances of infection, always follow these safe handling steps:

- Always wash your hands thoroughly after you handle your pet, its food and anything it has touched.
- Keep your pet in a habitat designed for it; do not let your pet roam around the home without proper supervision.
- Keep your pet, its food dishes and cage components out of the kitchen.
- Don't nuzzle or kiss your pet.
- Infants, children under 5 years of age, pregnant women, the elderly, and those with a compromised immune system have a greater risk of infection. Extra caution should be taken when they are in contact with any animal. Children under 5 should handle reptiles only under adult/parent supervision.

Recommended Supplies:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 15-20 aquarium <input type="checkbox"/> Screen top <input type="checkbox"/> House for sleeping <input type="checkbox"/> Water bottle <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic food dish <input type="checkbox"/> Shavings (Pine or Aspen) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Toys (tunnels, ladders, mazes) <input type="checkbox"/> Chew Block / Mineral Stone <input type="checkbox"/> Wheel (without spokes) <input type="checkbox"/> Vita Hamster seed <input type="checkbox"/> Treats |
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Your New Pet: It is the responsibility of any pet owner to provide their pet with regular veterinary care to maintain their pet's health and to prevent illness.

Should you experience any problems with your new pet, contact Pisces Pet Emporium. We will make every effort to assist you but we may refer you to a qualified veterinarian if the problem is beyond our ability to treat.

A pet is a large responsibility and should not be purchased without due consideration. Pets should never be released into the wild.



4921 Skyline Way N.E.
 Calgary, Alberta T2E 4G5
 Phone: (403) 274-3314 Fax: (403) 275-6296
www.piscespets.com
 Email: pisces@piscespets.com

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