



SPECIAL REPORT:

BALD SPOTS & THE "RED WORM"??

1: BALD SPOTS:

If a male Sugar Glider is not neutered, they will develop a greasy sort of "bald" spot on their forehead as they begin to enter puberty (*usually starting around 8-12 months of age*).

This is completely normal, and it is one of three scent glands used by the male to mark his mate, his offspring, and his territory. The other two scent glands are located: A) in the center of his chest – and B) near his genital area.

When fed the correct diet of pelleted food and fruits/vegetables, this "marking" usually does not result in an offensive odor. However, males with extremely strong "glandular" systems can sometimes still exude a noticeable smell for short periods.





Once the male reaches puberty, these spots will not go away unless it is neutered; in which case: 1) “marking” will essentially cease, 2) odors will be reduced, and 3) the bald spots will fill back in with fur in a short period of time.

Although it can be done at any time, if considering neutering, the best time to do it is before the male reaches full sexual maturity.

2: THE RED “WORM”:

If you wake up one day and all of a sudden there is a long, red, “worm-like” thing hanging out of your adolescent male glider’s genital area – don’t panic – it’s just his penis 😊

Male Sugar Gliders have what’s called a “bifurcated” penis; which basically means it has two separate “prongs” similar to the tongue of some reptiles. This helps the male fertilize both ovaries in the female – allowing it to produce twin offspring.



As young male Sugar Gliders begin to enter puberty (*starting at anywhere from 8-12 months old*), their penis can periodically “stick out” for periods lasting anywhere from a few minutes – to a few days – at a time. This is completely normal, and nothing to be worried about. Eventually, it will go back in on its own.

Neutering the animal will usually eliminate this issue. Although it can be done at any time, if considering neutering, the best time to do it is before the male reaches full sexual maturity.