

# Cotton-headed Tamarin

Wata-boushi (means Cotton-headed) Tamarin

## Scientific name

*Saguinus oedipus*

## Classification

Primates, Cebidae, Callitrichinae

## Distribution

Forests such as rainforests and riparian forests in the northwestern part of Colombia in South America.



## Feeding Habits

It mainly eats insects, eggs of the small birds, small lizards, sap, resin, fruits, etc.

## Characteristics

The body color is blackish ocher on the back and grayish yellow, with a less clear mottled pattern. The abdomen is white. It has long white hairs like tufts on the back of the head and neck. It has long white hairs like tufts from the back of the head to the neck. "Cotton-headed" is originated from this long white hair.

## Behavior and ecology

It lives in a group of 2 to 9 individuals, but only one female can be breeding in a group and other group members help the care of the infants as soon as after birth. The gestation period is 153 to 166 days, and usually born two infants per a litter, rarely give birth to three or more. It has been over captured for the trading as a pet in the past and decreased the population, and currently, the population is moreover decreased by the habitat destruction. The necessity of the protection of this species emphasized worldwide, and the captive breeding projects are conducted at many zoos.