

## Aggressive Sugar Glider Behavior

### **Know what to do if a sugar glider bites.**

*By Audrey Pavia*

Sugar gliders are naturally fearful of humans, even hand-reared sugar gliders. Sugar gliders tend to bond with one person but can learn to recognize other people and tolerate handling.

Sugar gliders bite if they haven't bonded well with their handler, are afraid or are feeling stressed.

If you or someone else is bitten or nipped, do not put the sugar glider down. This teaches your pet that biting ends handling. Instead, gently roll the sugar glider up by putting its face toward its stomach and hold it quietly without movement until the sugar glider settles down. Cup the sugar glider with both hands until it relaxes and goes to sleep. Avoid quick, jerky movements as this will only excite the sugar glider more.

Handle your sugar glider daily so it becomes used to being held and is less likely to bite.

If a sugar glider nips you often, handle it wearing a pair of cloth gloves. Avoid wearing white gloves as these might frighten a sugar glider.