

Breeding Behaviour

Japanese Giant Salamanders generally live alone. From the middle of August to the beginning of September, they gather in special breeding holes upstream.

The most powerful male enters the cave first, and waits for the females.

At this time, several other males also wait, and when a female enters the cave, so do they, and entangle themselves to produce the eggs.

After the breeding, they disperse, leaving only the most powerful male behind, blocking the entrance way to guard the eggs.

In the diagram below, you can see the spawning occurring on the riverside.



a breeding hole as seen from above



a breeding hole seen from the side



Model of Giant Salamander's breeding hole (georama)