



The Storm Dragon



(From the Dragon Hunter's Guide to Local Dragons – page 1255)

Opening -

The storm dragon is a rare breed of dragon that used to roam freely across the world. Nowadays, it is very unusual to see a storm dragon as they have been hunted almost to the point of extinction. This is because they are supposed to have mythic powers and their scales are tougher than any known metal.

Appearance –

Storm dragons are larger than the majority of dragons. They have enormous, grey, leathery wings which keep them flying even in the wildest weather. They have colossal muscles which have developed over the centuries as they needed to escape being hunted by flying high. Their scales are tougher than diamond shields and they often wear burnished steel plates to protect their bodies. The scales are a grey-blue colour with dashes of scarlet and gold. Storm dragons have extraordinary star-tipped tails which act as rudders as they fly. The golden spines on their backs are poisonous to touch and they breathe bolts of lightning when angry. As a storm dragon moves, it sends out showers of tiny, electric splinters and makes a thunderous roar; hence their name.

Habitat –

Unlike the common dragon, the storm dragon has adapted to live in the clouds where it is hard to see. To do this, they have developed the habit of drifting inside clouds, blown by the wind. Additionally, they are very shy until roused when they become most frightening, creating massive storms. During the daytime, they may be found sleeping on the mountain tops of high ranges. At night, the storm dragon may be glimpsed flying amongst the clouds. If you are very lucky, you may just see them flying towards the moon where they take long periods of rest as if they were hibernating.

Diet –

Storm dragons have a fairly limited diet. In the main, they eat from volcanic lava which keeps their bodies warm. This involves them in visiting volcanoes and can be a risky business. The majority love bathing in hot springs and geysers. However, a few can also be tempted with icebergs which they enjoy during very hot weather rather like ice cream! Amazingly, they absorb moisture from their long exposure when flying inside clouds so have no real need to drink. Furthermore, they ingest electricity through bathing inside lightning storms. So, be careful when you are near a storm dragon because their bodies can give off an electric shock!

Ending -

Storm dragons are said to possess mythical powers and have therefore long been hunted. Many emperors, kings and dictators have attempted to tame these dragons and harness their powers against their enemies or to conquer other lands. Generally, these attempts have led to failure as storm dragons cannot be tamed and usually turn on their captors. Their scales are prized as the metal is stronger than diamonds and, therefore, provides excellent protection. This has meant that they have been hunted almost to extinction. Over the years, so many storm dragons have been killed that they have learned to stay away from mankind and are therefore hard to track down.