

Name: Melitto

Designation: Sentient

Classification: Insectile humanoid

Hair color: White

Distinctions: Eyeless, "see" via super-sensitive cilia

Homeworld: Li-Toran

Attribute Dice: 12D

Dex: 2D/4D

Know: 2D/4D

Mech: 2D/4D

Perc: 2D/4D

Str: 2D/4D

Tech: 2D/4D

Special Abilities:

Eyeless: Melitto have no eyes, so cannot see in the normal fashion. However they are covered with super sensitive cilia which can sense all motion around them (+1D against being ambushed from behind, +2D against anyone sneaking), have extremely sensitive senses of smell (+3D to track by scent). However these senses are short ranged and therefore useless for piloting, or firing beyond 50m leading to a -4D penalty on these skills.

Chitin: Melitto evolved on a stormy world, and have thick chitin to protect them from the weather. This gives them a bonus +1D to resist physical damage.

Story Factors:

Hives: Melitto usually come from hives, but most who have left their homeworld are ronin and banished from their tribe.

Vocoders: Melitto speak in their own humming language, and while capable of understanding Basic, they need the use of vocoders to speak in it.

Move: 10/12

Description: Melitto were a species of insectile humanoids native to the planet Li-Toran. They had no eyes or mouth, but were capable of sensing their environment using super-sensitive cilia. Melitto had chitin plates on their heads and forearms, and required the use of breathing tubes when operating in alien atmospheres.



Biology and appearance

With a body comprising a head, a torso, two legs, two arms, and five-fingered hands, the Melitto were humanoids. Nevertheless, the segmented plates of chitin visible on their heads and hairy forearms betrayed their insectile nature. The Melitto face was covered in four plates, the largest being at the top, but did not feature visible eyes or mouth.

However, they did have auditory organs, and the small bristles lining their body were in fact specialized, feathery cilia that could sense vibrations and detect electrical fields. Additionally, those cilia gave the Melitto a keen sense of smell. Their extraordinary scent-memories not only helped them navigate just as well as if they had eyes, but also gave them extensive identification and tracking skills.

When operating in atmospheres different from their own, the Melitto wore breathing tubes and carried dispensers filled with sugary nutrient fluid.

The species had at least two sexes: male and female. One known individual, a male named Sarco Plank, stood 1.82 meters tall. The Melitto language consisted of humming sounds produced by their facial plates. To communicate with other species, they wore vocoders that translated their hums into an understandable voice.

Society and culture

Melitto were eusocial beings who lived in hives ruled by queens and their adolescent female servants—called myrmitrices—who in turn controlled their own stables of male workers—or myrmites—who gathered food, built the physical hive structure, and battled other hives as soldier-myrmites. Whenever a hive's population increased too much for it to operate at full efficiency, it became necessary to found a new hive. The myrmitrices then started fighting each other with the help of their warrior followers. When a victor emerged, she gained the right to be queen of a new hive. The myrmites who had the misfortune of surviving their myrmitrix's defeat were cast away from their hive, becoming ronin. Most ronin left their homeworld to become expert hunters and thieves. Some, however, were rumored to found their own queenless communities in the subterranean caves of their planet, such as the Hive Ronin.

History

The Melitto evolved on Li-Toran, a dismal and storm-buffeted planet situated in the Inner Rim region of the galaxy.

Melitto in the galaxy

In addition to their homeworld, the Melitto also developed a presence on several neighboring planets. However, due to the nature of their society, the Melitto rarely ventured in the wider galaxy, and those who did were mostly ronin. Thanks to their scent-memories, the Melitto made excellent doctors, capable of detecting chemical components that were markers for diseases.

One known Melitto ronin was Sarco Plank, who worked as a bounty hunter, jungle guide, and tomb raider on Devaron during the Galactic Civil War. There, Plank notably dueled the trainee Jedi Luke Skywalker

among the ruins of the Temple of Eedit. The encounter left Plank with a near-fatal lightsaber wound. More than three decades later, the ronin had found his way to Niima Outpost on Jakku, where he operated as a scavenger and bounty hunter.

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