



Red Eye Tree Frog

Litoria chloris



The Australian Red Eye Tree Frog gets its common name from their large golden eyes with bright red outer rings. Colouring on the Red Eye Tree Frog is bright emerald or lime green above with white to bright yellow below. Hind side of thighs are usually blueish purple or brown, often with some paler iridescent purple patches along the upper edge.

This tree frog has long slender limbs, webbed hands and feet with large toe discs.

The average adult length of the Red Eye Tree Frog is 65mm, with the male ranging from 54 to 62mm while females are larger at 58 to 68mm.

Red Eye Tree Frogs are found along the coast of Eastern Australia, all the way from Gosford in N.S.W to the lower part of Cape York Peninsula in Queensland. These nocturnal frogs are sclerophyll forest and rainforest dwellers, and are usually only encountered after rain when they are most active. (A sclerophyll forest are plants found in low rainfall areas, having tough leaves to reduce water loss)



Housing

Red Eye Tree Frogs should be housed in a tall, humid tropical terrarium. As these frogs like to live up high in the foliage of trees, it is best to provide them with branches and leaves to simulate an arboreal habitat. The terrarium must be well ventilated and the humidity should be kept around 80%. Humidity can be controlled through the use of a cover that is a combination of screen and glass, to increase the humidity, partially cover the screen with the glass lid. Keep a spray bottle of dechlorinated water handy and mist daily. Ventilation is also important and this can be improved by the addition of an aquarium air pump running fresh air into the terrarium.

Temperature

The temperature range for the Red Eye Tree Frog should be between 25-29°C during the day and 19-25°C at night.

Lighting

Good lighting is very important and this can be achieved by using a good UV spectrum tube. When lids are used over a terrarium much of the beneficial UV light is reduced; place the light tube over the screen part of the lid or if of using a globe, place inside the terrarium. (when using a globe always use a special fitting with a cage to ensure the frogs can't jump on causing serious burns). An actinic reptile light can also be used to view these frogs during the night. Avoid basking reptile type lights as these can be detrimental, drying out or burning the frogs skin.

Diet

The primary diet of the Red Eye Tree Frog is insects. Cricket, flies and moths can be fed and occasionally coating them with a calcium and vitamin powder is also beneficial. A bowl of clean, dechlorinated water should also always be available.

Call and Reproduction

The male Red Eye Tree Frog will call from October to February, after very heavy rain from shallow pools, shrubs or lower branches of trees. Each call is approximately 1 to 2 seconds long being a drawn out 'Aaaarrkk' followed with several short 'Chirrup's' and it is not uncommon for this frog to call between 9 to 12 hours at a time.

Red Eye Tree Frog eggs can be laid in clumps or laid singly, entwined in vegetation. In captivity these frogs have been known to lay 5 clutches in season with up to 500 eggs per clutch. The light brown larvae can reach a maximum length of 74mm and it takes approximately 41 days at 27°C for the tadpoles to reach metamorphosis.

SEAVIEW AQUARIUM CENTRE
 237 Anzac Highway Plympton S.A. 5038
 PH: (08) 8371 0380
 email: seaview@seaviewaquarium.com.au
 website: www.seaviewaquarium.com.au