

## Green Tree Frog Information Care Sheet



### Check list

- Waterproof tank with lid or amphibian enclosure minimum of 18"x18"x18"
- UVA light – 2.0%
- Reflector
- Clamp Lamp or socket for heat globe
- Infrared heat globe
- Aquatic water heater
- Water conditioner
- Thermometer (for temperature)
- Hydrometer (for humidity)
- Gravel
- Water filter
- Rocks and vines to climb
- Plants to hide among

### Setting up your Tank or Enclosure

When it comes to setting up your tank or enclosure, you need to ensure that there is a swimming pond and a dry land area for these new and unusual pets. There needs to be a thermometer and hydrometer placed in the middle of the tank. The enclosure should be cleaned on a regular basis. Water changes should be done weekly as the frogs are prone to bacterial infections if left in dirty conditions. The UV light should be changed every six to eight months to prevent metabolic bone disease.

### TEMPERATURE/HEATING

It is imperative that Green Tree Frogs be kept warm. Prolonged exposure to temperatures below 10°C will result in the death of your frogs. The water should be heated to 24-26°C and this should ensure that the air temperature remains above 18°C. A waterfall or some other form of water movement will increase evaporation and help maintain and stabilise the temperature and the humidity of the air. You could also consider using a fogger to increase humidity.

### DIET

Green Tree Frogs like to eat a variety of insects and invertebrates. Crickets, flies, woodies and mealworms are all appropriate. They have also been known to eat pinkie mice when at full adult size. As Green Tree Frogs have not evolved to cope with a diet high in protein you should not feed mice or strips of meat on a regular basis as it will lead to gout, kidney damage and ultimately death. They have a hardy appetite and are prone to obesity; therefore exercise such as swimming is recommended. Green Tree Frogs are best fed daily as juveniles and once every two days as adults. Frogs absorb moisture through their skin so a water bowl is not required.

### BEHAVIOUR

Green Tree Frogs are very docile, although they can be cannibalistic when different sizes of frogs are grouped together or if they are underfed. They are nocturnal so are most active at night. They come out early in evenings (in spring and summer) and hunt at night. During the day they find cool, dark and moist areas to sleep. During winter, Green Tree Frogs do not call and are not usually seen.

### HANDLING YOUR GREEN TREE FROG

Although frogs have lungs, they absorb oxygen through their skin, and for this to occur efficiently, the skin must be moist. This means that any residue on them will be absorbed in by the frogs. When handling Green Tree Frogs, you must have clean wet hands. You should make sure to wash hands, rinse, dry, and wash again with plain water before handling or wear latex gloves.

## LIFESPAN

Green Tree Frogs are both the most popular and most common pet frog. They live on average for approximately sixteen to twenty one years, but have been known to live in captivity for up to thirty years.

## SEXING YOUR GREEN TREE FROG

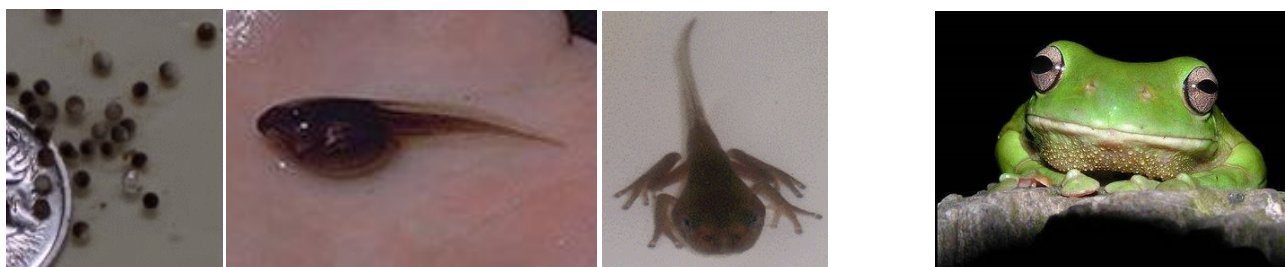
Telling the sex of a juvenile Green Tree Frog is very difficult. Sexual maturity is reached at approximately two years of age. As adults, males have yellow throat sacks, while females stay a more pure white colour. Also, males make a distinct croaking noise as adults.

## BREEDING

Green Tree Frogs generally breed between November and February. The male Green Tree Frog will call out (croak) to the females near the water during the summer months. They can be quite loud, so if you don't want to hear it we recommend you get a female Green Tree Frog. Fertilisation of a frog's eggs is external with the male stimulating the release of the female's eggs by grasping her around her body in a grip know as amplexus. At the moment the female releases her eggs, the male deposits sperm into the water to fertilise them. Spawn is the term used to describe fertilised eggs and the jelly that surrounds them.

Females can lay anywhere from two hundred to two thousand eggs.

About twenty hours after fertilisation, the egg sac is broken down and the eggs start to sink. They will be free swimming tadpoles within the next twelve hours. It then takes about six weeks for tadpoles to turn into frogs.



## SKIN SHEDDING

Green Tree Frogs shed their skin as they grow. They pull it off from the back of their body, over their heads with their feet.

## CONTACT US

Our friendly staff is always available to answer your questions so please don't hesitate to contact us for further information.