



Western New York Herpetological Society

www.wnyherp.org

Common Name: Cuban Tree Frog

Latin Name: *Osteopilus septentrionalis*

Native to: Cuba and surrounding islands; established in southern Florida

Size: Males 1-3 inches Females up to 5 inches

Life span: 5 years

General appearance: Colors range from gray to tan to brownish-green. Many have marbled patterns or darker blotching and may have striping on the legs. Skin is textured, or “warty”. Eyes are large and have sticky “cups” on their toes. Males may have darker throats.

Housing requirements:

Enclosure: A 20 gallon aquarium with a tight fitting lid is appropriate; however a 10 gallon is an absolute minimum. An arboreal enclosure is the best choice, as tree frogs will spend most of their time being high in the enclosure. Plants and hollow logs and branches provide shelter and security. Cuban Tree Frogs should not be kept with even slightly smaller tree frogs.

Temperature: Temperatures should be 82° F – 85° F daytime and 72° F - 75° F nighttime.

Heat/Light: Cuban tree frogs are nocturnal. There are no specific lighting requirements. Live plants will require a full spectrum light. A under tank heater can be used but do not use heat rocks.

Substrate: Potting soil, peat moss or a few sheets of damp paper towels on the bottom. Avoid using small bark and gravel due to danger of ingestion.

Environment: A moderate amount of humidity (60%) is required. This can be achieved through misting of the frogs and enclosure two or more times a day. Additionally a shallow water dish for soaking is required.

Diet: Insectivores - crickets, cockroaches, locusts, moths and beetles. Pinky mice may also be occasionally used. Adult Cuban tree frogs should be fed once every two to three days. Young tree frogs should be fed more frequently. Fat is stored in the supratympanic ridges. Oversized supratympanic ridges indicates over eating and feeding.

Maintenance: Clean the enclosure weekly. Remove dead insects and clean water bowl as several times a week or as needed, but no less than weekly. You may wash with a mild bleach solution (5%) or liquid soap and toughly rinse. Regular handling should be avoided. Hands must be washed and rinsed prior to touching the frog and should remain wet.