



Jungle Bob's Care Sheet

White's Tree Frog/White's Tree Frog (*Litoria caerulea*)

General Information

Endowed with the friendly, “no worries” attitude often attributed to the human residents of its native Australia, the White's Treefrog is among the most desirable and long-lived of all frogs. Well-cared-for pets may live to 20+ years of age.

The natural range extends over much of northeastern Australia and southern New Guinea. Introduced populations are established in Florida and New Zealand. This adaptable frog inhabits canal and river edges, brushy swamps, arid Eucalyptus groves, and suburban gardens.



The White's Treefrog is stout in build and reaches a length of 2 - 4.5 inches. Fatty ridges top the eyes, and the body color, which changes with environmental conditions, may be yellowish-tan, green, brown or (rarely) blue. Breeders have produced interesting color morphs.

Housing

30 gallon high-style terrariums that allow climbing space are ideal for a pair of adults. Sphagnum moss, carpet moss, or terrarium liners work well as substrates, and cork bark rolls, branches, plants, and vines should be provided.

White's Treefrogs fare best when kept at a temperature gradient of 75-85 F. Treefrogs do not require Ultra-Violet B light, but there is evidence that low levels of UVB, along with UVA, may be of some benefit.

The terrarium should be misted at least twice daily, and a shallow water bowl provided. Chlorine and chloramine must be removed from the water via liquid preparations available for that purpose.

Diet

Provide your pet with a varied diet containing roaches, crickets, butterworms, calciworms, hornworms, earthworms, silkworms, and other commercially available species. These invertebrates should be offered a healthful diet for several days before use.

Most meals should be coated with a powdered [Calcium/Vitamin D3 supplement](#). A vitamin/mineral supplement may be used 2-3x weekly.

Cleaning and Handling

Ammonia from waste products is extremely lethal, and should be controlled by daily water changes and frequent substrate replacement. The inside of the terrarium can be cleaned out with an appropriate reptile cage cleaner; we recommend [Natural Chemistry's Healthy Habitat](#).

While these calmest of amphibians will quickly learn to hop onto the hand for a meal, they should be handled only when necessary, and then with wet hands so that the skin's protective mucus is not removed. Amphibian skin secretions may cause irritations when transferred to their owner's wounds, eyes, or the mouth. Always wash your hands before and after handling any animal.

Fun Fact

White's Treefrog skin secretions have been shown to kill staph bacteria and to lower blood pressure. Therefore, they are being investigated for possible medicinal use.

Jungle Bob's Reptile World
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www.JungleBobsReptileWorld.com

Maps courtesy of the University of Texas Libraries.