Xenopus tropicalis Animal Care

Frog Holding conditions

Frogs are housed in modular units from Pentair. These units provide a temperature, conductivity and pH controlled environment of recirculating water that is constantly undergoing mechanical, biological and UV filtration.

Tadpole/Froglet Parameters
Water Temperature: 78F (range 75 – 79F)
pH 7.0 (range 6.8 - 7.2)
Conductivity: 1000 μS (range 900 - 1100)

Adult Parameters
Water temperature: 76F (range 74 – 78F)
pH: 7.0 (range 6.8 – 7.2)
Conductivity: 1100 μS (range 900 - 1200)

Water Quality
NH$_3$/NH$_4$: 0 (0 – 0.5)
NO$_2$: under 1
NO$_3$: under 40
Alkalinity: over 40

Feeding

tropicalis are fed depending on size.

Juveniles are fed twice daily.
Adult frogs are fed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Feed froglets a 1:1 of Nasco post-metamorphic crushed brittle and Bio-Oregon Bio Vita Fry 1.2 mm
Feed juvenile and adults a 1:1 of Post-metamorphic frog brittle (medium brittle)/Bio-Oregon Bio Vita Fry 2mm.

Feed large adults approximately 6 pellets/frog and juveniles or smaller adults 10-12 medium pellets/frog. After an initial feeding, add additional pellets as needed to tanks that are still actively feeding.

1-3 hours after feeding check cleanliness of the tanks, net them out if necessary (use a different net for each tank)
When introducing trout pellets to a diet, start with a 1:3 to Nasco brittle, then 1:2, and eventually 1:1

**Bio-Oregon Products** ([www.bio-oregon.com](http://www.bio-oregon.com))
Bio Vita-Fry: Feed sizes 1.2mm and 2.0mm

**Nasco Products** ([www.enasco.com/xenopus/](http://www.enasco.com/xenopus/))
Crushed Post-Metamorphic Brittle: SA05964(LM)MX
Post-Metamorphic Brittle: SB29027(LM)MX

**Density**

_Tadpoles_ should be kept at 2-3 tadpoles per liter (40-50 tadpoles in 16L XR3 Nursery Tank).
_Post metamorphic froglets_ can be kept at 1-2 froglets per liter (15-20 froglets in 16L XR3 Tank).
_Juvenile (3-5 month old)_ and _adults_ should be kept at no more than 1 frog per liter.