

Xenopus laevis 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: 75F (range 73 – 77F)

pH 7.4 (range 7.2 - 7.6)

Conductivity: 1000 μ S (range 900 - 1100)

Adult Parameters

Water temperature: 68F (range 64 – 68F)

pH: 7.8 (range 7.0 - 8.5)

Conductivity: 1600 μ S (range 1200 - 1800)

Water Quality

NH₃/NH₄: 0 (0 – 0.5)

NO₂⁻: under 1

NO₃⁻: under 40

Alkalinity: over 40

Feeding

laevis are fed depending on size.

Juveniles are fed *twice* daily.

J strain frogs are fed once a day.

Adult frogs are fed on Monday and Thursday.

Feed **froglets** a 1:1 of Nasco post-metamorphic frog brittle (medium brittle)/Bio-Oregon Bio Vita Fry 2.0 mm

Feed **adults** 1:1 of Adult frog brittle/Bio-Oregon BioTrout 4.0 mm according to size.

Feed large adults approximately 4 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)

Bio Vita-Fry: Feed size 2.0mm

BioTrout: Feed size 4.0 mm

Nasco Products (www.enasco.com/xenopus/)

Post-Metamorphic Brittle: SB29027(LM)MX

Adult Brittle: SA02764(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 froglets per liter (10-15 froglets in 16L XR3 Tank).

Juvenile (3-8 month olds) and **adults** should be kept at no more than 1 frog per 3 liters (15 frogs in 40L XR4 tank).