

## *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 77 – 80F)

pH 7.0 (range 6.8 - 7.2)

Conductivity: 1000  $\mu$ S (range 900 - 1100)

#### Adult Parameters

Water temperature: 76F (range 74 – 78F)

pH: 7.0 (range 6.8 – 7.2)

Conductivity: 1200  $\mu$ S (range 1000 - 1300)

#### Water Quality

NH<sub>3</sub>/NH<sub>4</sub>: 0 (0 – 0.5)

NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>: under 1

NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>: 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.