herpy

FROGS

Gliding Leaf Frog

Agalychnis spurrelli

Agalychnis spurrelli is a tree frog of 5-9 cm from the humid lowland forests of Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador: green on the back with white spots, orange flanks and a dark red iris. It is nocturnal, lives high in the trees and can glide from branch to branch on its large webbing. In the terrarium it is hardy and breeds readily when the terrarium is kept clean and dries out by day.

Family: Phyllomedusidae Former name: *Agalychnis litodryas*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**5-9 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Skin toxins	**None known**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**60 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 4 adults
Temperature, day	**22-27 °C**
Temperature, night	**20-23 °C**
Humidity	**65-75%**
Water	**Water dish** depth 2-3 cm
UVB	**Recommended** Ferguson zone 2
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**In pairs or in groups**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Development	**Tadpoles in water**
Egg-laying site	**On leaves over water**
Sexually mature	**12-18 months**
Eggs per clutch	**30-110**
Hatching	**7-9 days** at 24-26 °C
Larval period	**42-63 days** from hatching to metamorphosis
Larval diet	**Algae/plants and complete diet**
Parental care	**None**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Appendix II**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE

Agalychnis spurrelli lives high up in the vegetation, so the height of the terrarium and the number of branches matter more than floor area. A terrarium of at least 60 × 45 × 60 cm holds a small group of four animals.

TEMPERATURE

By day the terrarium is kept at 22-27 °C, and at night the temperature may fall 3-5 °C to 20-23 °C. There is no need for a hot basking spot: gentle heating of the room or a heat mat on the side of the terrarium is enough.

HUMIDITY AND MISTING

Humidity is kept at 65-75 % outside the breeding season.

WATER AND WATER QUALITY

There must always be a large, shallow bowl of clean water in the terrarium, where the frogs can easily climb in and out. The water depth is 2-3 cm.

LIGHTING AND UVB

The terrarium must have 12 hours of light and 12 hours of darkness. Plant lighting from LEDs or fluorescent tubes gives the plants what they need and the animals a clear day.

FEEDING

Agalychnis spurrelli eats live insects. Brown crickets of a suitable size are the staple food, supplemented with, for example, cockroaches, waxworms and houseflies.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

Agalychnis spurrelli is calm and nocturnal. Males are not aggressive towards each other outside the breeding season, and several males and both sexes can be kept together as long as there is enough space.

NATIVE RANGE

Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Ecuador.