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FROGS

Dainty Green Tree Frog

Ranoidea gracilenta

Ranoidea gracilenta is a slender, pale green tree frog of 3-5 cm from Australia's east coast, with yellow sides, orange eyes and a thin pale line from nostril to eye. It is active at night, lives in vegetation by water and is adaptable, but very little documented knowledge exists on its care in captivity.

Family: Pelodryadidae Former name: *Litoria gracilenta; Chlorohyla gracilenta; Hyla gracilenta*

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**3-5 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Rainforest and wetland**
Skin toxins	**None known**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 30 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 4 adults
Temperature, day	**22-27 °C**
Temperature, night	**16-20 °C**
Humidity	**70-90%**
Water	**Water dish** depth 3-5 cm
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**In pairs or in groups**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Development	**Tadpoles in water**
Egg-laying site	**In water**
Eggs per clutch	**100-500**
Larval period	**60-100 days** from hatching to metamorphosis
Larval diet	**Algae/plants and complete diet**
Parental care	**None**

PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

CITES	**Not listed**
IUCN	**Least Concern (LC)**

Care at a glance

THE ENCLOSURE	Little documented knowledge exists on the care of *Ranoidea gracilenta* in captivity.
TEMPERATURE	Keep the terrarium at 22-27 °C by day and 16-20 °C at night. The slightly cooler night corresponds to the coastal climate. A heat mat on the side of the terrarium, controlled by a thermostat, is enough.
HUMIDITY AND MISTING	Keep humidity at 70-90 %. Mist the terrarium once a day, preferably in the evening when the frog wakes, so that plants and walls are dewy.
WATER AND WATER QUALITY	Give *Ranoidea gracilenta* a large, shallow water dish with 3-5 cm of water, which the frog can easily climb out of, for example via a branch or a stone. The frog likes to sit in the water and absorbs it through the skin.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The frog needs no light other than what the plants require. Fluorescent tubes are better than incandescent bulbs, because they give less heat. Keep the light on 12 hours a day, with dark nights.
FEEDING	Adult *Ranoidea gracilenta* eat small crickets, blowflies, houseflies, fruit flies, moths, small cockroaches and other soft insects of a suitable size. The feeder animal must not be larger than the distance between the frog's eyes.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Ranoidea gracilenta* is nocturnal and rests by day in the plants with its legs drawn in. It is fast and jumps well, so the terrarium must always be opened carefully. The frog is not shy, but does not tolerate being handled much.
NATIVE RANGE	Australia and Papua New Guinea.