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FROGS

Chantaburi Bug-eyed Frog

Theloderma stellatum

Theloderma stellatum is a small, tree-dwelling mossy frog from the lowland rainforest of Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. It resembles a darker version of *Theloderma asperum*, grows to about 3-4 cm and lays its eggs above water in water-filled tree hollows. Its care is similar to that of its relatives, but almost all figures are borrowed from them, because the species is rare in captivity.

Family: Rhacophoridae

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**3-4 cm** snout-vent length
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal and semi-aquatic**
Habitat	**Rainforest**
Skin toxins	**None known**
Difficulty	**Intermediate**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 45 cm** L × W × H for 4 adults
Temperature, day	**20-24 °C**
Temperature, night	**17-21 °C**
Humidity	**75-95%**
Water	**Water section** depth 5-10 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	**On leaves over water**
Sexually mature	**8-10 months**
Eggs per clutch	**4-15**
Hatching	**10-14 days**
Larval period	**75-180 days** from hatching to metamorphosis
Larval diet	**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 *Theloderma stellatum*.
TEMPERATURE	By day the temperature should be 20-24 °C and at night 17-21 °C.
HUMIDITY AND MISTING	Humidity should be 75-95 % and never below 60 %, otherwise the frogs may dry out. The large water surface keeps the humidity up on its own, so the frogs do not need much misting.
WATER AND WATER QUALITY	The frog spends a lot of time at the water's edge and even sits under water, so the water section is not there for show.
LIGHTING AND UVB	The frog is nocturnal and has no documented need for UVB. A weak UVB tube for shade species (Ferguson zone 1) can be used and is optional, but the frogs must always be able to retreat into shade.
FEEDING	*T. stellatum* eats insects. Small crickets are the main food, supplemented with waxworms, flies, springtails for the smallest young, small dubia roaches and soldier fly larvae.
BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING	*Theloderma stellatum* is nocturnal and sits hidden by day in tubes, among plants or close to the water. The frog does well in a group as long as there is enough space. The males call at night.
NATIVE RANGE	Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.