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POISON DART FROGS

## Yellow-bellied Poison Frog

# *Andinobates fulguritus*

*Andinobates fulguritus* is one of the smallest poison dart frogs: only 14-17 mm, black with yellow or greenish-yellow stripes and a yellow, black-marbled belly. It lives in the leaf litter of humid lowland forest in north-western Colombia and central and eastern Panama. The species is hardly kept, and little is known about its care.

Family: Dendrobatidae  Former name: *Ranitomeya fulgurita; Dendrobates fulguritus; Minyobates fulguritus*

KEY FACTS

### THE ANIMAL

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| Adult size | **14-17 mm**<br>snout-vent length |
| Lifespan | **5-10 years** |
| Active | **By day** |
| Lifestyle | **Terrestrial** |
| Habitat | **Rainforest** |
| Skin toxins in the wild | **Mild** |
| Skin toxins in captivity | **None**<br>Captive-bred animals. Wild-caught animals can keep their toxins for a long time |
| Difficulty | **Experienced** |

### CARE

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| Min. enclosure | **45 × 45 × 45 cm**<br>L × W × H for 2 adults |
| Temperature, day | **22-25 °C** |
| Temperature, night | **19-22 °C** |
| Humidity | **80-100%** |
| Water | **No water dish** |
| UVB | **Optional**<br>Ferguson zone 1 |
| Diet | **Small invertebrates (springtails, fruit flies)** |
| Kept | **In pairs** |

### BREEDING

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| Reproduction | **Egg-laying** |
| Development | **Tadpoles carried to water** |
| Egg-laying site | **On the ground** |
| Eggs per clutch | **1-8** |
| Larval period | **60-80 days**<br>from hatching to metamorphosis |
| Larval diet | **Complete diet** |
| Parental care | **Guards the eggs and carries the tadpoles** |

### PROTECTION AND PAPERWORK

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

## Care at a glance

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| THE ENCLOSURE | Little is known about the care of *Andinobates fulguritus*. The care is based on the habitat: warm, humid lowland forest with rain for most of the year and a thick layer of leaf litter. |
| TEMPERATURE | The daytime temperature should be 22-25 °C and the night 19-22 °C. The temperature must not exceed 27 °C for long, and above 29 °C is dangerous, so the enclosure must not stand in sun or close to a heat source. |
| HUMIDITY AND MISTING | Humidity should be 80-100 %. Spray the enclosure 1-2 times a day with rainwater or reverse osmosis water so that the leaf litter is kept damp, or use a rain system on a timer. |
| WATER AND WATER QUALITY | The adult frogs do not need a water bowl; they take up water through the skin from spraying and the damp leaf litter. |
| LIGHTING AND UVB | The species is diurnal and lives in shade on the forest floor. LED lighting for about 12 hours a day is enough for the plants. UVB is not necessary; a weak UVB light in Ferguson zone 1 can be used if there is plenty of shade. |
| FEEDING | In the wild, poison dart frogs live on small ants and mites. |
| BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING | The species is diurnal and stays in the leaf litter and by the hiding places. The males call from fixed spots and defend their territory, so a pair is the way to keep them. |
| NATIVE RANGE | Colombia and Panama. |