herpy

FROGS

Green Treefrog

Dryophytes cinereus

Dryophytes cinereus is a slender, light green treefrog of 3-6 cm from the south-eastern USA with a light stripe along each side and horizontal pupils. It is hardy, lives 5-10 years in captivity and is one of the easiest treefrogs to start with. It is nocturnal, and the males call loudly, so the enclosure does not belong in the bedroom.

Family: Hylidae Former name: *Hyla cinerea* Published 15 November 2026 **Mild skin toxins**

KEY FACTS

THE ANIMAL

Adult size	**3-6 cm** snout-vent length
Weight	**2.2-5.1 g**
Lifespan	**5-10 years**
Active	**At night**
Lifestyle	**Arboreal**
Habitat	**Wetland and temperate woodland and meadow**
Skin toxins	**Mild** Wash your hands after contact and keep your fingers away from your eyes and mouth
Difficulty	**Beginner**

CARE

Min. enclosure	**45 × 45 × 60 cm** L × W × H for 2 adults
Temperature, day	**24-28 °C**
Temperature, night	**19-24 °C**
Humidity	**50-80%**
Water	**Water dish**
UVB	**Optional** Ferguson zone 1
Diet	**Insects**
Kept	**Singly, in pairs or in groups**

BREEDING

Reproduction	**Egg-laying**
Development	**Tadpoles in water**
Egg-laying site	**In water**
Sexually mature	**12-24 months**
Eggs per clutch	**275-3,946**
Hatching	**4-14 days**
Larval period	**24-45 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

A pair of *D. cinereus* can be kept in an enclosure of 45 × 45 × 60 cm, which also suffices for three animals. A group of 3-6 frogs thrives in 50 × 50 × 80 cm, and larger is always better.

TEMPERATURE

Keep the enclosure at 24-28 °C by day and 19-24 °C at night. In summer the day may reach about 28 °C, and a weak spot bulb over a thick branch gives a warm place of up to 29 °C, so that the frog can choose for itself.

HUMIDITY AND MISTING

Aim for 50-80 % humidity, and spray the enclosure every day, preferably morning and evening, when the light is off.

WATER AND WATER QUALITY

D. cinereus must always have access to clean water. A shallow water dish that the frog can sit in is enough; change the water daily, and scrub the dish with an amphibian-safe product once a week.

LIGHTING AND UVB

The frog needs a fixed daily rhythm with dark nights and enough light for the plants to thrive, for example 12 hours a day or 14 hours in summer and 10 in winter. Fluorescent tubes or LEDs keep the heat down.

FEEDING

Dryophytes cinereus is an insectivore and needs live food.

BEHAVIOUR AND HANDLING

D. cinereus is nocturnal and really gets going when the lights go out. It sits on leaves and branches and clings to vertical surfaces with the adhesive discs on its toes.

NATIVE RANGE

United States.