herpy

RANE

Blue-legged Mantella

Mantella expectata

Mantella expectata is a small, diurnal frog from the dry rocky gorges of the Isalo massif in south-western Madagascar: lemon-yellow on the back, with sky-blue legs and black flanks. It grows to 2-3 cm, feeds on ants and other small arthropods and is short-lived: in the wild it lives for three years at most. It must be kept drier and slightly warmer than most other species in the genus.

Famiglia: Mantellidae

DATI ESSENZIALI

L'ANIMALE

Dimensioni da adulto	**2-3 cm** lunghezza muso-cloaca
Aspettativa di vita	**3-5 anni**
Attività	**Di giorno**
Stile di vita	**Terrestre**
Habitat	**Semideserto e terreno roccioso**
Tossine cutanee in natura	**Lievi**
Tossine cutanee in cattività	**Nessuna** Animali nati in cattività. Gli animali catturati in natura possono conservare le tossine a lungo
Difficoltà	**Intermedio**

CURA

Terrario min.	**45 × 45 × 30 cm** L × P × H per 4 adulti
Temperatura, giorno	**20-26 °C**
Temperatura, notte	**16-20 °C**
Umidità	**50-70%**
Acqua	**Ciotola d'acqua**
UVB	**Facoltativi** Zona Ferguson 1
Alimentazione	**Piccoli invertebrati (collemboli, moscerini della frutta)**
Detenzione	**In gruppo**

RIPRODUZIONE

Riproduzione	**Ovipara**
Sviluppo	**Girini in acqua**
Luogo di deposizione	**Sul terreno**
Uova per deposizione	**25-30**
Schiusa	**3-12 giorni**
Periodo larvale	**42-56 giorni** dalla schiusa alla metamorfosi
Alimentazione delle larve	**Alghe/piante e mangime completo**
Cure parentali	**Nessuna**

TUTELA E DOCUMENTI

CITES	**Appendice II**
IUCN	**In pericolo (EN)**

La cura in breve

IL TERRARIO	Only limited knowledge exists on the care of *Mantella expectata*. The species is only occasionally bred in captivity.
TEMPERATURA	During the day the temperature should be 20-26 °C, and at night 16-20 °C. The frog tolerates more heat than most other species in the genus, and a day at 28 °C does no harm.
UMIDITÀ E NEBULIZZAZIONE	The species comes from a dry area and needs lower humidity than the rainforest species. Keep it at 50-70 % day to day.
ACQUA E QUALITÀ DELL'ACQUA	Place a shallow water bowl in the enclosure, and keep it full at all times. Mantella frogs are poor swimmers, so the bowl must be so shallow that they can easily get out, and it must not take up much of the floor.
ILLUMINAZIONE E UVB	No UVB requirement is documented for the species. It does, however, live in open, sunlit terrain, so a weak UVB light (Ferguson zone 1) is probably an advantage, provided there is shade and cover so the animals can choose.
ALIMENTAZIONE	The frog is an eager hunter. In the wild it feeds on ants, mites and other small arthropods. In the enclosure it takes prey up to crickets 2-3 weeks old and prefers them to fruit flies.
COMPORTAMENTO E MANIPOLAZIONE	*Mantella expectata* is diurnal and keeps to crevices and shade during the day. The males call and defend small territories. Outside the breeding season the animals are largely peaceful towards each other.
AREALE D'ORIGINE	Madagascar.