

## Care & Information Sheet

# Green Tree Frog

Hyla cinerea



Green Tree Frogs are nocturnal animals, sleeping during the day and active at night. They require a humid habitat with plenty of branches for climbing. The average size is 2-3 inches long and with proper care and nutrition they will live up to 6 years. Green tree frogs are hardy and fairly easy to maintain, it is an excellent starter frog. Do not handle tree frogs unless necessary; handling them can cause stress.

### Habitat

- A glass habitat, 10-20 gallons, taller than it is wide, with a tight-fitting screen lid.
- Heavily planted, with large driftwood branches and artificial non-edible plants;
- Never place habitat in direct sunlight or in a drafty area. Cover the back wall with a dark green material. Use large suction cups to attach slabs of cork bark to the back wall.
- Temperature – About 68° F at night, and during the day 75° F to 80° F. Use a basking lamp making sure to have different temperature zones inside the habitat. Always maintain proper humidity.
- Substrate – Mulch-type commercial material, unbleached paper towels, soil, dampened sphagnum moss, and bark. Do not use gravel and artificial turf as it is too harsh for their skin.

### Food & Water

- Provide a variety of live insects, including crickets and mealworms. Dust the insects daily with a pure calcium supplement and once or twice weekly with a vitamin/mineral supplement.
- Feed 2 to 3 times a week at night. Only offer as many insects as the frog will eat overnight.
- Clean, fresh, chlorine-free water changed daily.

### Maintenance

- Mist the habitat daily to keep humidity levels high.
- Use an appropriate sized, small-mesh, soft net to move or block the frog while doing habitat maintenance. Avoid handling; if you handle them be sure to wear latex gloves. Residue or oil on your skin can harm these amphibians.
- Thoroughly clean the tank at least once a week. Place the frogs aside in a secure habitat. Scrub the tank and furnishings with a 3% bleach solution, rinse thoroughly with water, removing all smell of bleach. Dry the tank and furnishings; and add clean substrate.
- Frogs excrete high levels of ammonia, so habitats containing several frogs may warrant more frequent cleaning.

### Supplies

Habitat	Water Bowl - Small	Basking lamp
Tight Fitting Screen Lid	Live Crickets & Meal Worms	Water conditioner
Forest Bedding, Mulch	Calcium Supplement	Humidity/Thermometer Gauge
Foliage, Artificial plants	Multi-Vitamin Supplement	Book About Frogs

### Health

In general, don't handle your green tree frog unless necessary. Wear latex gloves and do not allow the frog's secretion to come in contact with eyes, mouth, or open wounds. Always wear latex gloves if you must handle your frog and wash your hands after handling the habitat contents to help prevent *Salmonella* and other infectious diseases.

**If you notice any of the following signs, check habitat temperature and humidity levels, ensure habitat is clean and water and food is available. If everything appears OK you should consult with an exotic animal veterinarian for advice.**

- Chemical Intoxication - Caused by exposure to soap, detergent, pesticides, etc. Can be lethal.
- Intestinal Obstruction - Caused by swallowing gravel or by eating too many hard-shelled insects. Surgery may be required.
- Nutritional Deficiencies - Weak hind legs, lethargy, lighter or darker skin color. Ensure a varied diet and use vitamin and mineral supplements.
- Skin Problems - Abrasions, bacterial and fungal infections. Check habitat for sharp objects.

For information regarding green tree frogs & disease, contact the Center for Disease Control at <http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets>

**NOTE:** The information contained in this document is for general reference only. Please consult a veterinarian for medical advice and concerns.

**Sources:** *The Guide to Owning American Treefrogs* by Jerry G. Wallis  
*Frogs and Toads as a New Pet* by John Coborn