

OVERVIEW						
<p>The tomato frog of Madagascar (<i>Dyscophus guineti</i> or <i>D. antongili</i>) is popular terrestrial frog. Although young frogs are yellowish, adults are orange to cherry-red, hence the common name. Males may reach 2.5", while females reach a plump 3.5-4". They can be hardy and enjoyable tropical terrarium pets and are well-suited to the beginner. A well cared for tomato frog may live in excess of six years. NOTE: Tomato frogs may "play dead" when disturbed!</p>						
ENVIRONMENT						
Conditions »	Day Temp	76-82°F	Night Temp	65-78°F	Humidity	70-85%
Heat Source »	<p>Low wattage terrarium bulb that also provides 12-14 hours of daylight. Full spectrum lighting is beneficial. Any heat should be provided in a in a manner that establishes a gradient from the warmer to cooler end to the enclosure, and should be thermostatically controlled to ensure excessive heat is avoided.</p>					
HOUSING	<p>A secure enclosure that maintains humidity is required. Small plastic terrariums are adequate for raising young frogs and a 10 gallon tank is sufficient for an adult. For a group of adult frogs 5 gallons should be added for each additional frog. The substrate should provide moisture. Damp coconut coir covered with orchid or sheet moss works well. A large, shallow dish should be provided as a soaking pool. In small containers the orchid moss or other substrate should be changed out every 4 to 5 days as waste products, bacteria and other contaminants will accumulate.</p>					
DIET	<p>A variety of insects will be eagerly accepted, including crickets, waxworms and butterworms. Feed small meals using insects no longer than the width of the frog's head and offer food daily. Lightly dust crickets or other prey items with a quality reptile vitamin and calcium supplement once or twice a week. Large adults may accept pinky mice, but these should be offered sparingly, if at all, to prevent obesity and related health problems.</p>					
AMPHIBIAN SAFETY						
<p>Amphibians have moist, sensitive skins that absorb their environment. They should not be touched or exposed to chemicals. Only non-chlorinated water must be used in their care. Tap water may be treated to remove chlorine, but the purchase of ultra-purified water is recommended. Use disposable latex or nitrile gloves when servicing their enclosures. Thoroughly wash your hands before touching any food to be offered or coming into contact with anything in the terrarium. To move frogs use a small clear cup or vial to trap them temporarily rather than touching them (even with gloved hands). If the use of mild cleaning solution or disinfectant is necessary rinse thoroughly with hot water and then rinse again. It is better to clean amphibian enclosures, water dishes or pools, etc. solely with hot water. When raising young frogs in small containers the damp moss or other substrate in contact with the frog should be changed every 4 to 5 days so the frog isn't exposed to waste, bacteria or toxins.</p>						