



Oriental Fire Bellied Toad Care Sheet

Species name:

Bombina orientalis

Adult size:

5cm

Lifespan:

20 Years

Breeding age:

1 Year



Fire-bellied toads, scientifically known as *Bombina orientalis*, are small frogs with bright orange or red undersides. They are native to Europe and Asia, living in standing water or calmer backwaters of rivers or ponds. These toads are easy to raise and handle, making them advantageous for scientific studies. In captivity, they are robust, flamboyant, and long-lived amphibians, with some living over 20 years. Fire-bellied toads are insectivores and consume a variety of food like crickets, locusts, and worms. They breed easily in captivity, with mating calls starting in May and continuing into mid-August.

Housing:

Enclosure: Fire bellied toads are a terrestrial species; they will benefit from a glass enclosure which is longer than it is tall, 30x30x20cm is suitable.

Substrate: Use a substrate that retains moisture well, such as coconut coir or orchid bark.

Temperature:

Maintain a temperature gradient of 23-27°C within the enclosure. Provide a heat source, such as a heating pad or ceramic heat emitter on one side, to achieve a warm side.

Night-time temperature: 22-25°C

Lighting:

Oriental Fire Bellied Toads do not require UVB lighting however, there are studies which indicate it is beneficial to their health. A UVB bulb of 2-5% UVB light can be used at the owner's discretion.

They will also require a day/night cycle. It is recommended they are provided with around 14 hours of light during the summer and down to 10 hours in the winter.

Feeding:

Diet: Fire Bellied Toads have a big appetite, in captivity they will eat insects like locusts, crickets. As a treat you can provide mealworms, wax worms and calci worms.

Feeding Schedule: Feed every day and dust insects with a multivitamin supplement at least twice a week.



Hydration:

Water Bowl: Provide a shallow water dish for the toad to bathe in. Mist the enclosure daily to maintain humidity levels around 70-80% and provide water droplets for the toads to lick.

Handling and Enrichment:

Handling: It is best your toad is not handled unless it is necessary.

Enrichment: Provide rocks and branches. Artificial plants and hiding spots can help create a more stimulating environment.

Health Care:

Health Checks: Regularly observe your toads to see if you notice any changes in behaviour, appetite, or appearance. If something does not seem right seek professional advice promptly.

Hygiene: Keep the enclosure clean, removing waste and uneaten food promptly.

Quarantine: Quarantine new toads before introducing them to existing ones to prevent the spread of disease.

Oriental Fire Bellied Toads make fascinating pets when provided with the right care. Always do thorough research and consult with a veterinarian for specific advice based on your animals' individual needs.