

# **White's Tree Frog**

*Scientific name: Litoria caerulea*

**Description:** These frogs range in coloration from blueish green to emerald green with white or gold spots on their sides. Their second finger is longer than their first and they also have completely webbed feet with large toe pads. One distinct trait they have is the fatty ridge over their eye.

**Range:** Australia and Southern New Guinea

**Habitat:** Have adapted to both dry and wet habitats, although they prefer wet environments. They are found in suburban and agricultural areas with humans.

**Diet:** Insectivores: eat moths, roaches, locusts, and other insects. They can also eat small mammals.

**Weight:** ~2 oz

**Length:** 3 to 4.5 inches

**Lifespan:** 8-16 years, can live up to 23 years under human care

**Status:** Least concern

**Predators:** Snakes, birds, and lizards. In human-populated areas, their main predators are dogs and cats

**Threats:** Pollution

**Relatives:** Red-eyed tree frog, American tree frog, and gray treefrog

**Breeding:** The mating season correlates with the summer rainy season. The female expels her eggs into the water with such force that they travel through the deposited sperm cloud for fertilization. A female can lay anywhere from 150 to 300 eggs. Eggs are continued to be ejected and fertilized for several days laying around two to three thousand eggs total. The eggs take one to three days to hatch and metamorphosis occurs 2-3 weeks later.

## **Quick Facts:**

- When threatened they emit a loud, ear-piercing distress call.
- Females are larger than males.
- Their eyes have horizontal pupils, whereas other tree frog species have vertical pupils.

**Conservation:** White's tree frogs are protected under Australia's Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act of 1999. Special permits are required to attain them as pets or export them.

## **GSC Residents:**

Name: Toby

Date of Birth: ~June to August 2015

Sex: Undetermined

Origin: Private Donation



**Sources:**

[https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/onlinelearningcenter/species/whites\\_tree\\_frog](https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/onlinelearningcenter/species/whites_tree_frog)

[https://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Litoria\\_caerulea/#:~:text=It%20is%20a%20rather%20large.inch%20range%20\(Mattison%201987\).](https://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Litoria_caerulea/#:~:text=It%20is%20a%20rather%20large.inch%20range%20(Mattison%201987).)

<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/whites-tree-frog#:~:text=Like%20many%20other%20tree%20frogs.tree%20frogs%20have%20vertical%20pupils.>