

GREEN & GOLDEN BELL FROG

Litoria aurea

The Green & Golden Bell Frog is a distinctive bright emerald-green frog reaching 70mm in length (males) & 100mm (females). The frog has large blotches ranging from brown to rich golden-bronze & a yellowish stripe running from behind the eye to the lower back. The hind toes of the frog are almost fully webbed but the fingers of the front feet lack webbing. They have a four-part call that sounds a bit like a motor bike changing gears: craw-awk, crawk, crok, crok.

DISTRIBUTION & HABITAT

They were one of the most common species in south-eastern Australia & abundant in NSW before their rapid & continuous decline. They occur mainly along coastal lowland areas in permanent, open-water swamps or ponds in colonies of usually less than 20 adults.

DIET

These frogs will eat almost anything that moves & will fit in their mouths, mainly insects, but will also feed on larger prey such as worms & mice even other frogs of the same species.

LIFE EXPECTANCY & BREEDING

They breed during late winter to early autumn with a peak around January - February. Males reach sexual maturity at 9-12 months & females at 2 years. When ready to spawn, the female deposits her eggs & the male



fertilises them externally. Females lay 5,000 eggs on average & two days later the tadpoles hatch out. They can live from 10-15 years in captivity but the lifespan in the wild has not been determined.



CONSERVATION STATUS

VULNERABLE (The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species)
ENDANGERED (EPBC - NSW)

