

Ornate Horned Frog

(*Ceratophrys ornata*)

Habitat and Distribution: Tropical and montane forests of Northern Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, and the Rio Grande del Sul region of Brazil.

Size: Up to 6 inches

Wild Diet: Will eat any prey that will fit into its mouth, including insects, mice, lizards, snakes, birds and other frogs.

Predators: Unknown

Life Span: Up to 10 years

Reproduction: These frogs are sexually mature at 18-24 months. The female deposits 1,000-2,000 eggs in standing water. The young have an exceptionally fast growth rate. Tadpoles metamorphose within 2 weeks of hatching, and can reach their full adult size in 5 months.

Behavior: The ornate horned frog is a terrestrial frog that burrows into leaves and mud on the forest floor, waiting for prey to wander close. They are ambush predators and swallow their prey whole. They are most active during the day.

Conservation Connection: Secure

Interesting Facts: Also known as the “pac-man” frog. The patterns and colors of their skin help them to camouflage on the forest floor.

