

Golden Mantella

 DOMAIN Eukaryota	 KINGDOM Animalia	 PHYLUM Chordata	 CLASS Amphibia
 ORDER Anura	 FAMILY Mentellidae	 GENUS Mantella	 SPECIES <i>M. aurantiaca</i>

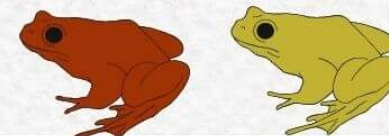
WHERE DO THEY HANG OUT?

Golden Mantella frogs are only found in Madagascar. The distribution of these frogs is limited to Mormanaga-Beparasay and Amboihabany communes, Torotorofotsy Wetland, and Ambakoana.



A LOOK FOR THE SPOTLIGHT!

Uniformly yellow, orange, or red. The inner legs have splashes of red. They have short legs, and their fingers and toes have adhesive pads. Size is 0.78 in to 1.02 in. Males are typically smaller than females.



WHAT'S ON THE MENU?



Golden Mantellas are insectivorous, meaning they eat small invertebrates such as mites, ants, flies, and collembolans. They use their tongue to capture their prey.



Extinct
EX EW CR EN VU NT LC
Threatened
Least Concern

**DANGER FROG**

The bright color warns predators that it is poisonous. Interestingly, they are not poisonous from birth, but rather accumulates toxins through their diets. These toxins are then secreted through their skin. Toxicity can vary! Their skin absorbs water, helps them breathe, and helps them control their body temperature.

GOLDEN FAMILY DYNAMIC

When the temperature warms and the rain comes, they breed. Males call out to females near water sources. Males get onto the females' backs. The females lay the eggs on damp leaf litter near a water source. The males then proceed to fertilize the eggs. Each clutch contains 20 to 60 eggs. Two weeks later, the tadpoles hatch and get pushed into the water via rain. It takes 70 days for the tadpoles to become froglets.

**THREATS TO THEIR SURVIVAL**

Habitat loss



Fungal Diseases



Pet Trade

- Pet trade overcollection.
- Habitat destruction by
 - subsistence agriculture,
 - timber extraction,
 - fires, and
 - expanding human settlements.
- More natural causes are
 - droughts and
 - fungal diseases.

*Did you know?***5 FUN FACTS ABOUT GOLDEN MANTELLAS**

Golden Mantellas are Madagascar's most threatened amphibian.



These frogs are toxic due to their diet. By eating specific ants, mites, and other small insects they acquire potent alkaloid toxins. Because of this, they can lose their toxicity when kept in human care due to their different diet.



A group of mantellas can be called an army!



Males do not call as often as other Mantella species.



Tadpoles do not have external gills, and their eyes are on top of their heads.