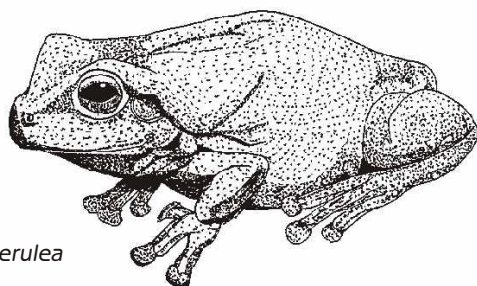


Nature Notes

Junior Ranger

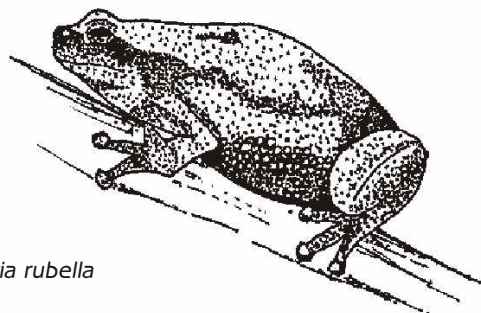
WHAT FROG IS THAT ?

The Territory is home to a number of frogs. Even in the harshest desert regions, you'll find them resting and ready to repopulate short-lived pools when the rains come.



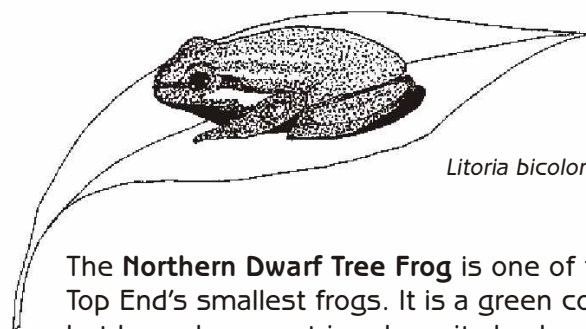
Litoria caerulea

The large **Green Tree Frog** is common in Top End gardens and toilet bowls. Large suction pads on its feet allow it to cling to vertical surfaces. Males use the acoustic properties of tree hollows (and plumbing pipes) to amplify their croaks as they call for a mate.



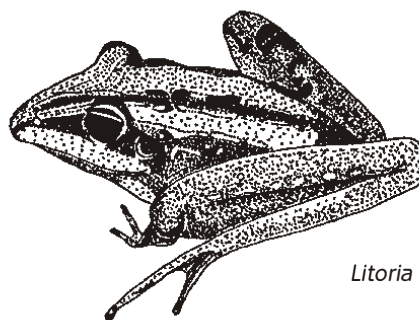
Litoria rubella

The **Desert Tree Frog** is the one most likely to be seen near waterholes in the Centre. It is a reddish-brown colour. The words "Tree Frog" give a false impression of where to find this creature. Tree Frogs are just as happy living on the ground and some only climb trees occasionally.



Litoria bicolor

The **Northern Dwarf Tree Frog** is one of the Top End's smallest frogs. It is a green colour, but has a bronze stripe down its back and a white stripe on each side. It often hides on pandanus leaves during the dry season. Water collects at the base of these leaves and keeps the frogs moist. Spikes on the leaves protect it from predators.



Litoria nasuta

If there was a Grand Prix race for the Territory frogs, the Top End's **Rocket Frog** would probably win. It is fast, muscular and streamlined. It is usually a brown colour with racing stripes along its body. Its long muscular legs allow it to launch itself incredible distances in a single leap!



Northern
Territory
Government

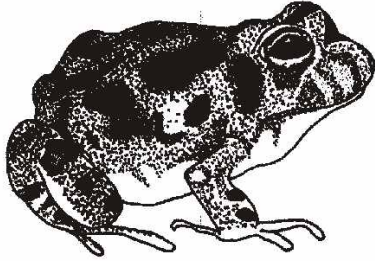


FROGS OF THE UNDERWORLD

Being a good digger comes in handy in dry places. The Territory has a number of frogs which burrow underground to avoid the dry times.

Central Australian rivers and creeks are usually dry.

Spencer's Burrowing Frog hides under the sand until rain falls and the rivers run.



Lymnodynastes spenceri

The **Marbled Frog** is common on Top End floodplains. In the dry season it burrows underground or retreats to paperbark swamps.

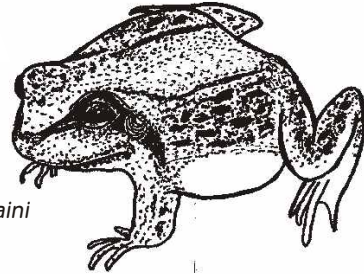


Lymnodynastes convesiussculus



The most amazing of the Territory frogs must be the **Water-holding Frog** of the desert region.

As the claypans dry up they dig under the mud with their body full of water.



Cyclorana maini

Decode the following words to reveal the survival secret of the Water Holding Frog.

Code: A = Z B = Y C = X D = W etc

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFEDCBA

G S V B

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H S V W

--	--	--	--

G S V R I

--	--	--	--	--

L F G V I

--	--	--	--	--

O Z B V I

--	--	--	--	--

L U

--	--

H P R M

--	--	--	--

R G

--	--

U L I N H

--	--	--	--	--

Z

--

D Z G V I K I L L U

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Y Z T

--	--	--

Z I L F M W

--	--	--	--	--	--

G S V N

--	--	--	--

O R P V

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T O Z W D I Z K

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Want to learn more about frogs?
Check out the affordable field guide *Frogs of the Northern Territory* by Tyler & Davies.