

**University of Notre Dame**  
**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee**  
**Environmental Enrichment for *Xenopus laevis***

1. To enrich the environment of laboratory housed *Xenopus laevis*, a stainless steel rabbit J-feeder (5½" x 6½") is placed in the tank. \* Large *Xenopus laevis* may require a T or Y-shaped PVC pipe in place of the J-feeder.
2. The *Xenopus* are group housed in fiberglass tanks. The number of enrichment devices is based on population density as follows:

1 - 10 Frogs	1 J-feeder
11 - 20 Frogs	2 J-feeders
1 - 5 Frogs	1 PVC T or Y-piece
6 - 10 Frogs	2 PVC T or Y-piece
1 - 5 Frogs	1 opaque plastic bag
6 - 10 Frogs	2-3 opaque plastic bag
3. The maximum number of J-feeders per tank is 2. The maximum number of PVC tubes per tank is 2.
4. The feeders are placed in the tanks to provide a hiding area inside or around the corner of the feeder.
5. Opaque plastic bags are cut into circular pieces and floated on the surface of the water to provide hiding areas.
6. Singly housed *Xenopus* in clear plastic tanks (15" x 21") receive only one J-feeder.
7. The cleaning schedule for the enrichment devices is the same as the tanks.

\* Michael L. Kaplan, DVM, DSC. "An Enriched Environment For The African Clawed Frog (*Xenopus laevis*)" : Lab Animal Magazine, May 1993, Vol. 22, Number 5, pp. 25-29.