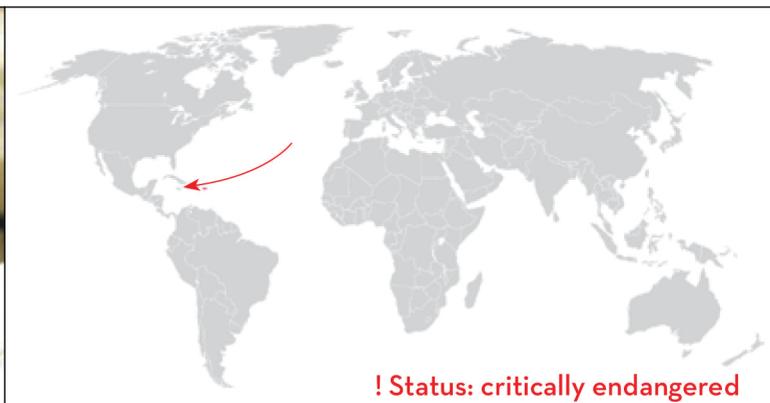


PUERTO RICAN CRESTED TOAD

updated 03/17



Range	Main island of Puerto Rico
Habitat	Found in drier, semi-arid regions with rocky limestone areas that can collect rain pools for breeding
Diet (wild)	Insects, worms, insect larvae, and other invertebrates
Diet (captivity)	Crickets
Description	Length: 3–4 inches. Females are larger than males. Textured, pebbled skin with striking marbled golden eyes and a distinctive long, upturned snout. Males are olive green and gold while females are dull brown. The skin on females is rougher than that on males and they have a high crest above the eye while the crest on males is less defined.
Lifespan	Wild: Unknown. Captivity: Up to 10 years
Reproduction	Females can lay up to 15,000 eggs in long black strands in rain pools. The growth from egg to toadlet only takes 18 days. The young toadlets will clump together to conserve body moisture as they move away from the breeding pond. Breeding is prompted by and dependent upon heavy rains that form temporary pools of water that are appropriate for laying eggs. Captive breeding and release programs have been used with this species; over 4,000 toadlets and 12,000 tadpoles have been reintroduced to Puerto Rico. However, it is unknown how many of the released animals survive.
Behavior	The crested toad is nocturnal and their dispersed population makes it difficult to determine the exact numbers of adults. The toads only come together during mating season. The filling and draining of breeding sites, competition from an introduced toad species, and predation from introduced rats and mongooses have all contributed greatly to the decline of this species.
Our animals	Several males and females of varying ages. Many are off-exhibit in the breeding room.
Cool stuff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puerto Rican crested toads are the only toads native to Puerto Rico. • Puerto Rican crested toads were thought to be extinct until 1967. It was the first amphibian SSP animal. • PPZ has participated in the breed and release program for the past few years. Part of the basement of the bird/reptile house has been converted to a breeding room to allow staff to artificially produce the proper conditions necessary for breeding. Puerto Rican crested toads are the only PPZ animals that are part of a wild release program.

Phylum
Chordata

Class
Amphibia

Order
Anura

Family
Bufonidae

Genus
Peltophryne

species
P. lemur