

Pelophylax lessonae

System: Freshwater_terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Amphibia	Anura	Ranidae

Common name Pool frog (English), Rana Verde Minore (Italian), Little Water Frog (English), Green Frog (English), Common Water-frog (English), Italian Pool Frog (English), Italian hybrid Frog (English), Rana di Lessona (Italian), Zaba Jeziorkowa (Polish), Prudovaya Lyagushka (Russian)

Synonym *Rana esculenta* ,Linnaeus, 1758
Rana hispanica ,Fitzinger, 1826
Rana lessonae ,Camerano, 1882
Rana viridis ,Linnaeus, 1761
Rana lessonae pannonica ,Karaman, 1948
Hylarana lessonae ,(Camerano, 1882)
Rana esculenta lessonae ,Camerano, 1882
Rana esculenta bolkayi ,Fejérváry, 1909
Rana esculenta hungarica ,Toutain, 1966
Rana lessonae lessonae ,Camerano, 1882

Similar species

Summary Pool frogs *Pelophylax lessonae*, have been found to be hosts of the Chytrid fungus, *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* and co-occurring native amphibians have also tested positive. There is a concern of disease transmission.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Habitat Description

"This species is present in deciduous and mixed forests, forest steppe, steppe, bush lands (e.g. riparian alder groves), meadows, fields and fens. It may often be found in shallow stagnant waterbodies (usually without fish) such as lakes, ponds, swamps, large puddles, clay and gravel pits, and ditches, often covered with dense herbaceous vegetation. It is not very adaptable, but can occur in slightly modified habitats. It breeds in these wetlands, but may be found hibernating away from waterbodies" (IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group. 2022)

Principal source:

Compiler: Shyama Pagad (IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group)

Review:

Publication date:

ALIEN RANGE

[1] NORWAY

[1] SPAIN

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5 references found for *Pelophylax lessonae*

Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) 2025. Species profile *Pelophylax lessonae*. Available from: <https://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=2002> [Accessed 31 July 2025]

Management information

Cunningham AA, Minting P (2008) National survey of Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis infection in UK amphibians. Final report

General information

Beebee, T.J.C., Buckley, J., Evans, I. et al. Neglected native or undesirable alien? Resolution of a conservation dilemma concerning the pool frog *Rana lessonae*. *Biodivers Conserv* 14, 1607-1626 (2005). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10531-004-0532-3>

Holst, Louise-Marie J. B. The invasion success and invasiveness of the introduced *Rana lessonae* and its hybrid associate (*R. kl. esculenta* (Amphibia) in Southwest Norway. Masters Thesis NTNU.

IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group. *Pelophylax lessonae*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2022: e.T58643A177068753. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2022-1.RLTS.T58643A177068753.en>.

Pagano A, Lodé T, Crochet PA (2001) New contact zone and assemblages among water frogs of Southern France. *Journal of Zoological Systematics and Evolutionary Research* 39 (1/2): 63-68.