

TABLE 1. Comparison of Properties Between *Xenopus tropicalis* and *Xenopus laevis*

Property	Species	
	<i>X. laevis</i>	<i>X. tropicalis</i>
Ploidy	Allotetraploid	Diploid
Haploid chromosome number	18 chromosomes	10 chromosomes
Genome size	3.1×10^9 bp	1.7×10^9 bp
Temperature range	16–22°C	22–32°C ^a
Adult size	10 cm	4–5 cm
Egg size	1–1.3 mm	0.7–0.8 mm
Eggs per spawning	300–1000	1,000–9,000
Generation time ^b	8–12 months	3–4½ months

^aOptimal temperature range is 25–28°C.

^bRate of development for both *X. tropicalis* and *X. laevis* depends significantly on husbandry conditions. The numbers shown here for *X. tropicalis* would be achieved using currently optimized conditions for raising a population to sexual maturity: 3 months for males, 4½ months for females. The time needed to reach sexual maturity for *X. laevis* is often reported to be well over a year. Under the same rapid growth conditions used for *X. tropicalis*, the *X. laevis* would be less than this reported figure, but would typically still require 8 months or more to reach sexual maturity; the fastest males may reach sexual maturity in 6 months.