



Dart Frog Emergency Kit #1: Dermal Abrasions

Includes:

- 0.5mL Colloidal Silver Gel
- 4 Sterile Synthetic Swabs
- 2 Pairs of Non-Sterile Vinyl Gloves

This kit is provided Free of Charge by Houston Frogs and is the same we use for treatment of dermal abrasions on amphibians. We use this product on our own amphibians with excellent success in treating skin wounds, which may appear as a light gray or white patch on typically the nose, ocular crests, or back of frogs. The included silver gel product is called ACS 200 Silver Gel: Extra Strength; Advanced Cellular Silver, manufactured by Results RNA and can be purchased online at \$24.94 USD for 8oz.

The ingredients list for this Colloidal Silver Gel product is: Ultra-Pure Deionized Water, Carbomer, Advanced Cellular Silver 200 Parts Per Million, L-Glutathione Tripeptides (Reduced), Acetyl-L Carnitine, Lipoic Acid (R-Fraction), L-Glutamine, TMG (trimethylglycine).

The included products are repackaged in our laboratory at Houston Frogs LLC. If you choose to use any of the products in this kit, you agree to hold harmless Houston Frogs LLC, the owner, and all subsidiaries and affiliates for any negative reactions, damages, or other harm caused by this kit. Remember that it is best to consult a veterinarian before using any products on your animals. By using this product, you also agree that you have consulted a licensed veterinarian about the use of this Colloidal Silver Gel on your animal(s). By providing this product for free, we are not engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine nor recommending it be used on your animals. Use at your own risk.

How we treat our own animals using Silver Gel:

First, we prepare a treatment tub, which typically consists of a large, clean plastic tote with moistened (using distilled water) paper towels on the bottom. This tub will reduce the chance that the amphibian escapes during treatment and becomes further injured. Secondly, we put on a set of vinyl gloves for handling the amphibian needing treatment. Third, we rinse the gloves using distilled water, which will help to reduce stress on the animal. Amphibians should never be handled using bare hands or with dry gloves as their skin is very delicate and can absorb any oils, salts, or chemicals from our skin. Finally, we gently collect the amphibian from its habitat by either cupping it with gloved hands or by coaxing it into a clear container to transfer it into the tub. If the gloves become soiled, they will then be rinsed a second time with distilled water before treatment.

With the amphibian now in the treatment tub, we remove one sterile swab from one of the packages, dab into the vial of silver gel to coat the tip of the swab, then gently apply to the wound on the skin of the amphibian. We ensure that the wound is completely covered with a semi-thick coating of gel, which can help to both protect the wound and to kill harmful bacteria. If the wound occurs on the underside of the amphibian, we gently grasp it with a gloved hand while simultaneously applying the gel with our free hand. We have to remember to be very gentle when doing this as the bones of amphibians are extremely fragile. We typically use a new swab each day, but have re-used synthetic swabs for the same frog by washing them with 70% isopropyl alcohol after each use.

We will leave the amphibian in this treatment tub until it is fully healed, which may take 1-2 weeks. During this time, we will apply the gel to the wound up to 2x a day assuming the gel has been rubbed off during this time. The paper towel is additionally changed daily and misted down each time with distilled water until moist (Not saturated). Once per week, the tub is sprayed down (after the amphibian is removed) with 70% alcohol, wiped dry, then sprayed down with distilled water and wiped dry a second time to sanitize it before laying down more moistened paper towel. If the wound grows larger or a "bubble" forms under the skin of the amphibian, then we know that anti-biotics are needed, which can be prescribed by a veterinarian. If the wound heals, which is typical, then the amphibian is placed back into its original habitat once the wound is fully healed.

What can cause dermal abrasions/skin wounds:

These abrasions can sometimes be caused accidentally, such as scrapes from falls or hopping under objects with abrasive edges. Sometimes they can be caused by shipping stress, resulting typically in "nose rubs". If occurring on the back or on the ocular crests (above the eyes), this is typically caused by them hiding under objects or repeatedly crawling under objects that are abrasive such as rocks or wood décor, which should be removed if the problem persists. If dart frogs are kept in too small of a tank, nose rubs can also occur from the frogs hopping into the glass repeatedly.

For more information, visit us at www.HoustonFrogs.com