

# Building an artificial bromeliad for *Eleutherodactylus*

# *Eleutherodacylus* and bromeliads

- Used as breeding and retreat sites by some species.
- For some settings, like terraria in low temperature regimes, bromeliads may be hard to keep and take care off.
- Functional artificial bromeliads can be made as substitutes...



Egg clutch of *E. portoricensis* in a leaf axil of a bromeliad in a terrarium.

# Materials

- 8-oz deli cups
- Foam disks, 3" and 2" in diam.
- Plastic sheets (cut from garden flowering pots)
- Plastic champagne glasses
- Non-toxic, water proof hot glue
- Sphagnum moss
- Scissors
- Rotary tool, abrasive disk

# Gardening pot used for hand-made 'bromeliad leaves' (perching sites)





# The base of the 'bromeliad'

1)



x = drilled holes for  
drainage-important



3" foam disk  
glued on bottom



2" foam disk  
glued on top

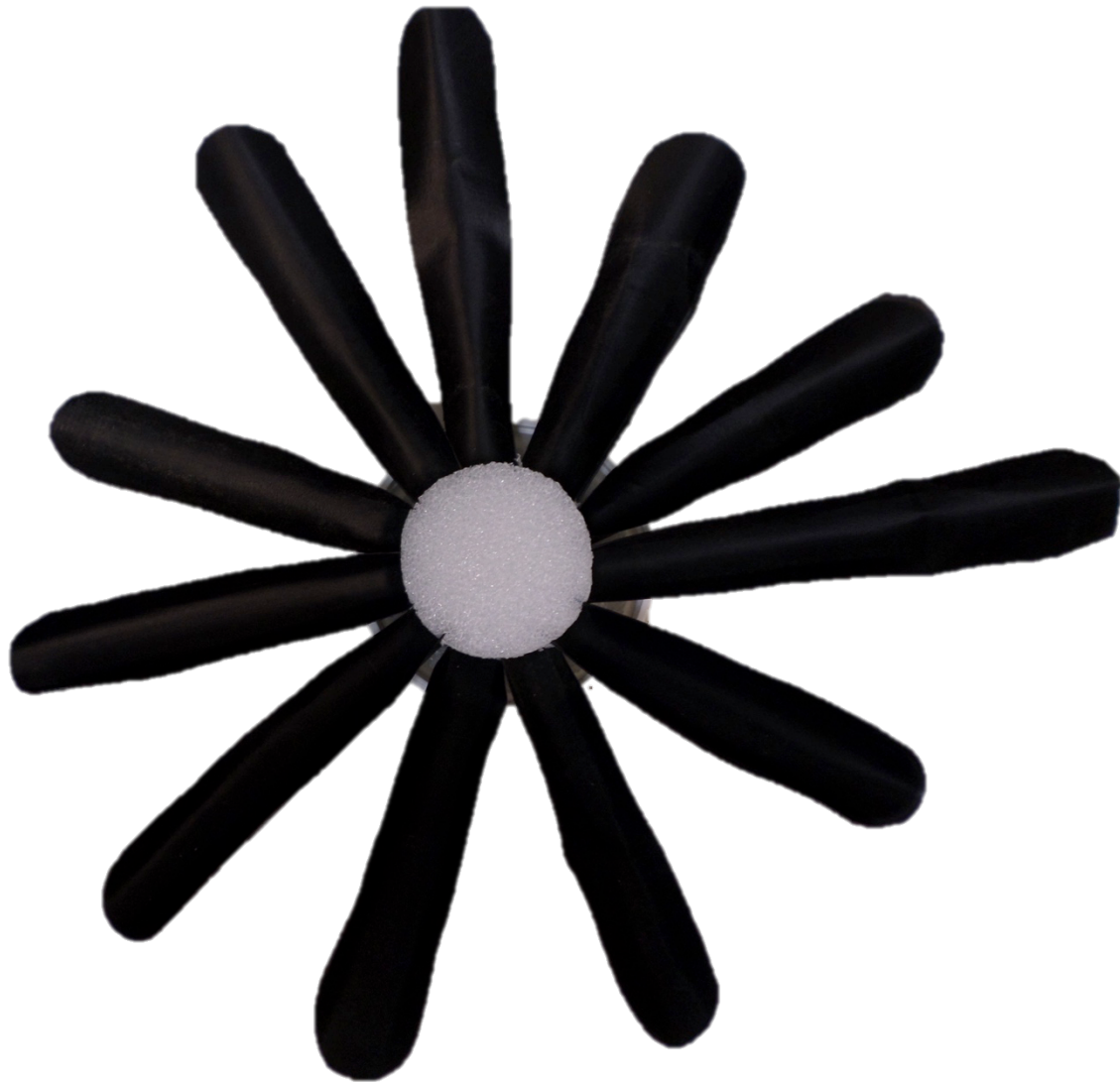
2)



Insert 'leaf' in between foam disks;  
secure with hot glue



The completed base (viewed from top)

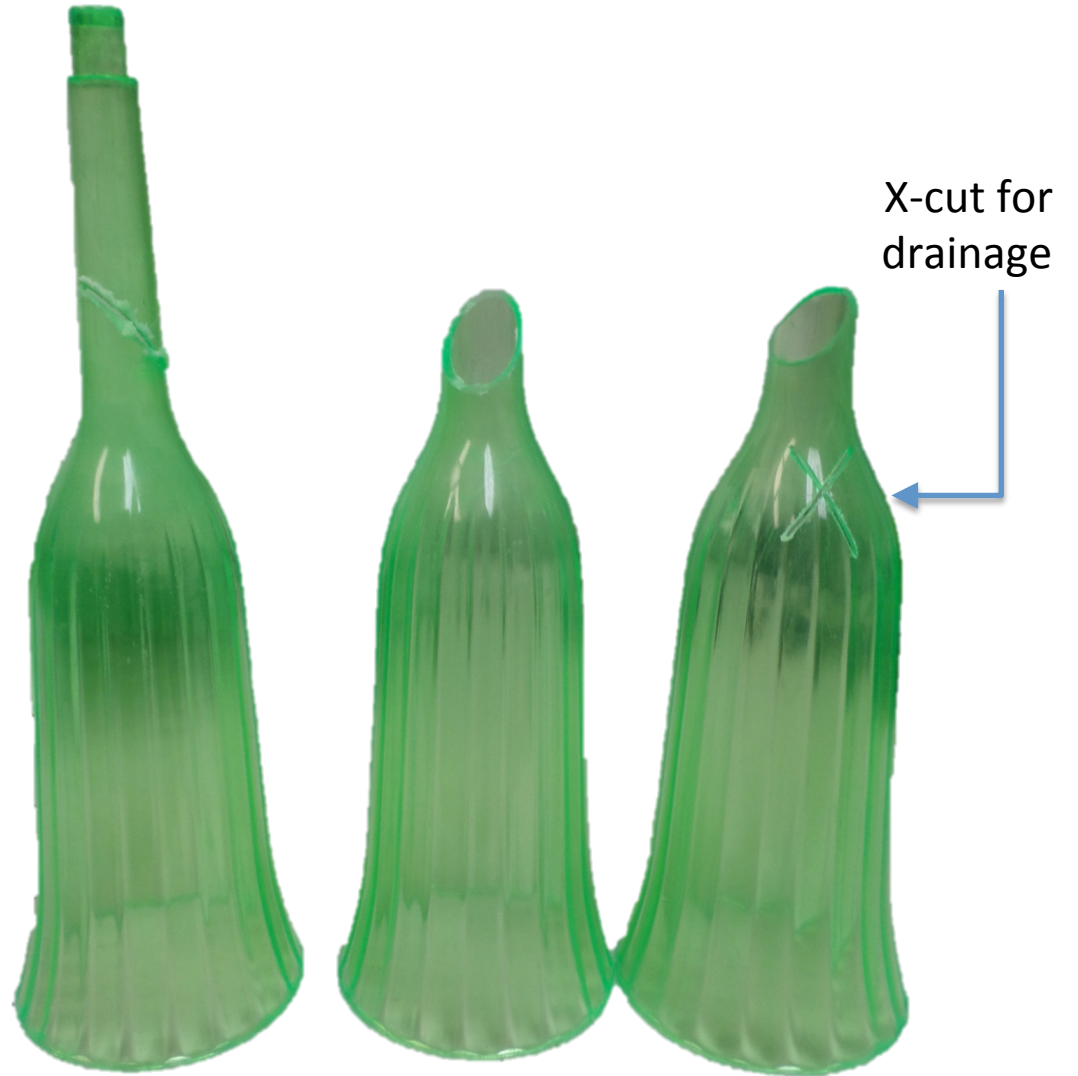


# Plastic champagne glasses used for hand-made 'bromeliad leaves' (breeding sites)

- The idea...

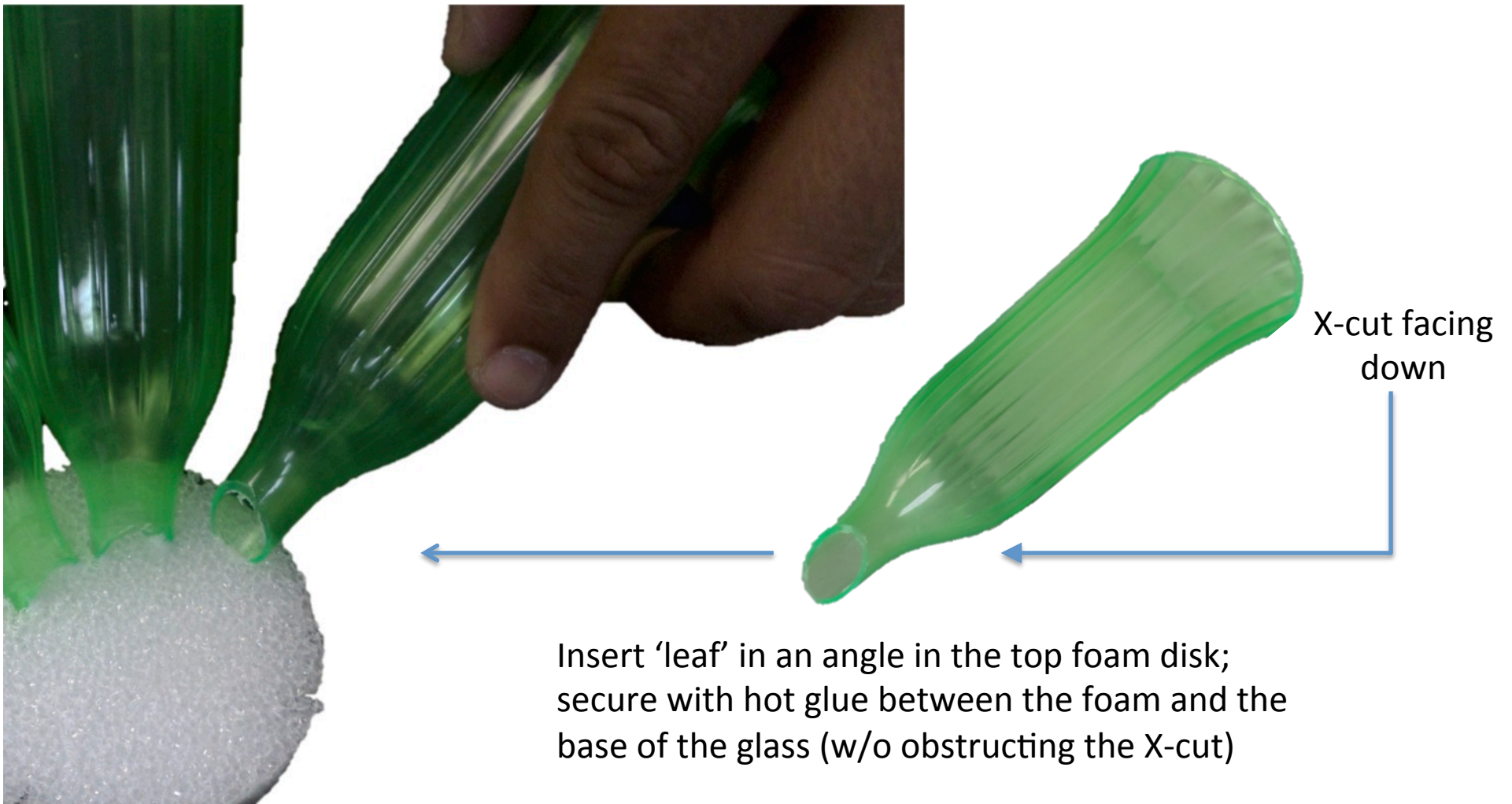


# Making 'leaves' as breeding sites





# Inserting leaves for breeding



# Almost finished

Top view



Side view



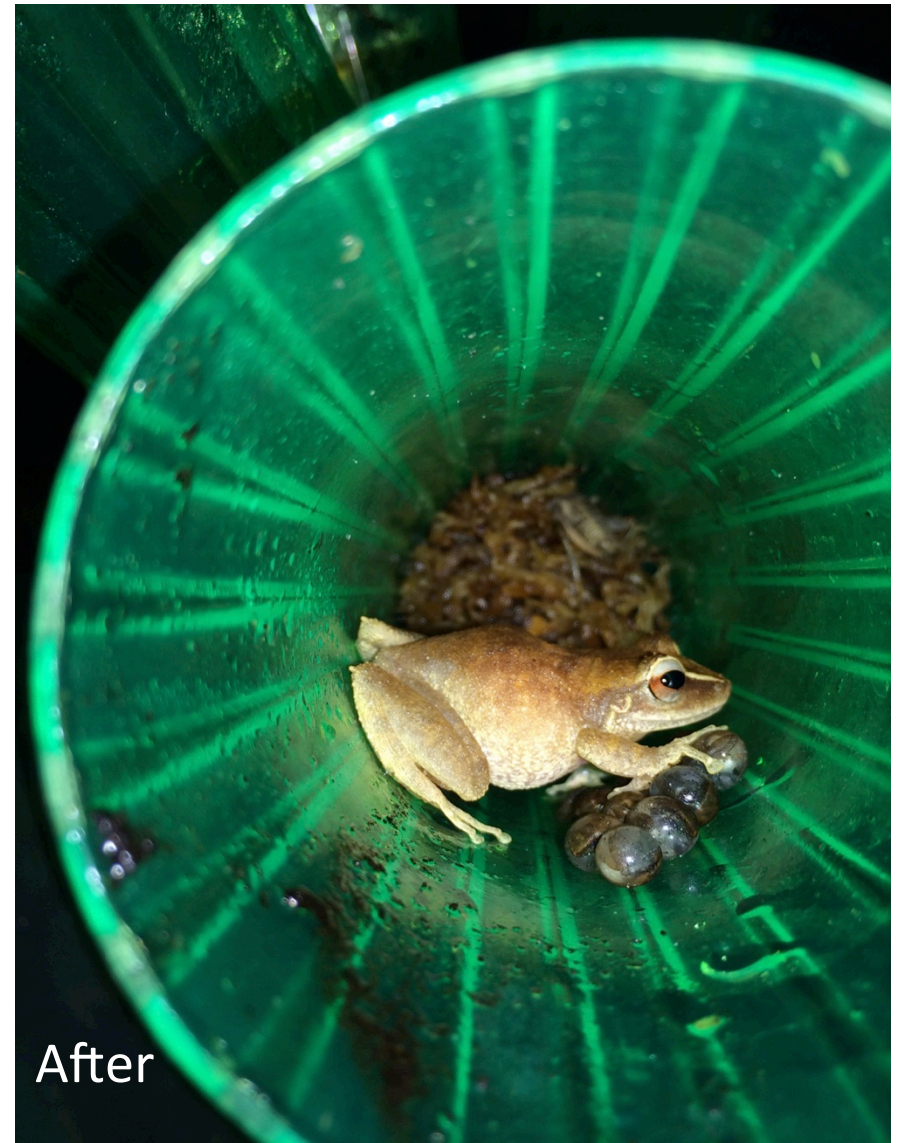


Fill in the base and  
~1" inside each 'leaf'  
with sphagnum moss  
(creates a humid and  
healthy site for frogs-  
no standing water  
against diseases)





# The final test...egg laying and care





For more, visit:  
[www.uprh.edu/labneftali](http://www.uprh.edu/labneftali)