

Latin name : Bufo bufo

Size : 9 to 11 cm

Lifespan : 10 years

Common toad

The common toad is the largest toad in France. It walks rather than jumps and has a rather clumsy gait. It lives mainly in damp areas, seeking out undergrowth and the vicinity of ponds and pools. It burrows into holes during the day and comes out mainly at night.



The skin of toads is covered with tuberosities, some of which are granular glands. This gives them an unattractive pustular appearance. They secrete a venom that is both antibiotic and antiseptic. Apart from the fact that the toad tries to make itself as big as it can to scare off predators by inflating itself and standing on its hind legs, its venom is its only means of defence. It can be very dangerous for predators such as dogs.

This amphibian is a real ally in the garden, as it is very fond of slugs and snails as well as beetles, caterpillars and woodlice. It also kills flies and midges, ants and spiders.