

Black duiker

... this little black dress is always in style!

ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS
ANTELOPE AND
GIRAFFE TAG



Why exhibit black duikers?

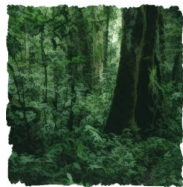
- Bolster the only *ex situ* population of this West African duiker, one of the few mammals endemic to the Guinean forest block seen in zoos.
- Add ground-level interest to larger rainforest-themed aviaries and boost the “cute quotient” of bongo and okapi exhibits with this active and attractive dwarf antelope!
- Use this heavily-hunted species group to discuss the devastating bushmeat trade and stress that this isn't a third-world problem: demand in America drives the illegal importation of ~15,000 pounds of bushmeat every month.
- Involve guests in discovering the ecological role of duikers using gumballs! Black duikers can crack large, hard-shelled fruits with their powerful jaws, ingesting seeds and dispersing them in dung.

MEASUREMENTS

Length: 3 feet

Height: 1.5 feet
at shoulder

Weight: 35-55 lbs



Rainforest



West Africa

IUCN
LEAST
CONCERN

~100,000 in
the wild

Stewardship Opportunities

Bushmeat Crisis Taskforce

<http://www.bushmeat.org/>

Flora & Fauna International: West Africa

<http://www.fauna-flora.org/location/africa-and-madagascar/>

Care and Husbandry

RED SSP: 11.6 (17) in 5 AZA (+1 non-AZA) institutions (2019)

Species coordinator: Josh Sisk, Potawatomi Zoo

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Social nature: Typically solitary in the wild, but often maintained as a breeding pair with young offspring in zoos.

Mixed species: Cohabitate well with okapi and bongo. Have been displayed in enclosed aviaries with numerous birds including turacos, weavers, various passerines, and cranes.

Housing: Not cold tolerant: heated indoor facilities required below 55°F. Barriers should be 6 feet high; fencing and solid walls will both work. Visual barriers and hiding spots should be provided.

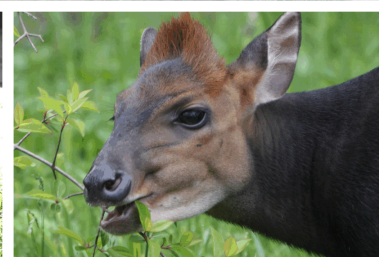
Medical notes: Regurgitation common during chemical immobilizations. Hand-reared calves cannot be given cow colostrum (causes isoerythrolysis) - need dam's colostrum or a plasma transfusion.

Special requirements: Diet should be primarily leafy greens, squash, alfalfa, and plentiful browse — this species should NOT be fed fruit.

Keeper resources: Easy care. Fractiousness is best managed by hand-rearing and training; consult with SSP Coordinator for details.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

<http://www.azaungulates.org/>



Photos by B. Huffman. Published November 2019.