

# Common eland ... an antelope with *massive* appeal!

ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS  
ANTELOPE AND  
GIRAFFE TAG



## MEASUREMENTS

**Length:** 6.5-11 feet  
**Height:** 4-6 feet  
at shoulder  
**Weight:** 850-  
1,500 lbs



Savanna



Southern Africa

IUCN  
LEAST  
CONCERN

<110,000  
in the wild

## Why exhibit common eland?

- Because size matters! Eland are the world's largest antelope and they attract attention with their distinctly non-antelopine appearance.
- Surprise guests by sharing the athleticism of these seemingly ungainly antelope: they can leap over 6 feet in the air from a standing start, and can sustain speeds of 20 miles per hour for several miles!
- Invoke more than just your visitors' sense of sight: eland (especially adult males) make an audible castanet-like clicking when they walk.
- Enhance educational programming by allowing visitors to "dress to impress" like a male eland, with a pendulous dewlap, a shaggy forehead toupee, and twisted horns.
- Add mass to existing savanna exhibits by mixing in this hardy, low maintenance antelope that is compatible species with many other species.

## Stewardship Opportunities

Northern Rangelands Trust (Kenya)

<http://www.nrt-kenya.org/>

## Care and Husbandry

**YELLOW SSP:** 66.116.3 (185) in 23 AZA institutions (2018)

**Species coordinator:** Lou Keeley, Lincoln Park Zoo

[lkeeley@lpzoo.org](mailto:lkeeley@lpzoo.org) ; (312) 742-2376

**Social nature:** Gregarious. Often housed in single-male, multiple female herds. With larger herds, multiple calves often form a "creche" or nursery group. All-male groups have been successful.

**Mixed species:** Generally mix well with other hoofstock, including giraffes, zebra, and gazelles. Large birds such as storks and vultures also work well. Hybridization risk with other spiral-horned antelope.

**Housing:** Cold-hardy if acclimated; will tolerate below freezing temps with wind breaks and/or indoor access. Barriers need to be >8 feet high (taller in confined areas) due to exceptional jumping ability.

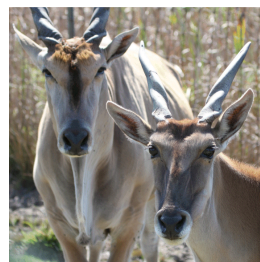
**Medical notes:** Some reports of skin allergy issues. Susceptible to capture myopathy and typical risks of large ruminant anesthesia.

**Special requirements:** A hardy, low-maintenance species.

**Keeper resources:** Protected contact is advisable. Some individuals may show exaggerated flight responses, especially during medical or transportation procedures.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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



Photos by B. Huffman. Published June 2019.