

# Gaur ... the ultimate bovine body-builder!



## MEASUREMENTS

**Length:** 8-11 feet  
**Height:** 5.5-7.5 feet  
at shoulder  
**Weight:** 1,400-  
2,200 lbs



Forest



Southeast Asia

IUCN  
VULNERABLE  
CITES I

<30,000 in  
the wild

## Why exhibit gaur?

- Wow visitors with this exotic wild cattle species - one of the largest ungulates!
- Impress even the most ardent fitness buffs with the awesome muscles of male gaur, complete with self-oiling pelage for extra shine!
- Give ecosystem context to popular displays featuring Asian elephants, sloth bears, tigers, or macaques with an exhibit of this striking member of the Asian forest community.
- Highlight the similarities and differences between familiar domestic cows and exotic gaur ... and compare both with the gayal - a domestic form of gaur used in southeast Asia.
- Emphasize the importance of conserving flagship species: removal of snares designed to trap gaur saves virtually every other species in the forest.

## Stewardship Opportunities

Support the work of the IUCN's Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group

[www.asianwildcattle.org](http://www.asianwildcattle.org)

## Care and Husbandry

**Candidate Program:** 20.13.1 (34) in 6 AZA institutions (2019)

**Species coordinator:** Joshua Patrick, Zoo Miami

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**Social nature:** Typically housed as a female herd with one breeding male. Large herds can be kept in large spaces.

**Mixed species:** Have shared large enclosures with other ungulates and numerous avian species. Injuries to other species may occur in smaller spaces. Gaur must not be kept near wildebeest (MCF risk).

**Housing:** Strong barriers are required - chainlink is not sufficient. Gaur tolerate heat if provided with shade and misters. Can be exhibited outdoors below freezing if given access to heated indoor housing.

**Medical notes:** Generally a healthy, hardy species. Susceptible to all domestic bovid diseases. Mechanical restraint and/or chemical immobilizations are recommended for handling.

**Special requirements:** Can be very hard on vegetation. Trees must be adequately protected from horn rubbing and head butting.

**Keeper resources:** Feces are large and easy to shovel. Wet cleaning may be required in indoor areas. Can be aggressive; close contact with keepers should be in protected contact situations.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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

