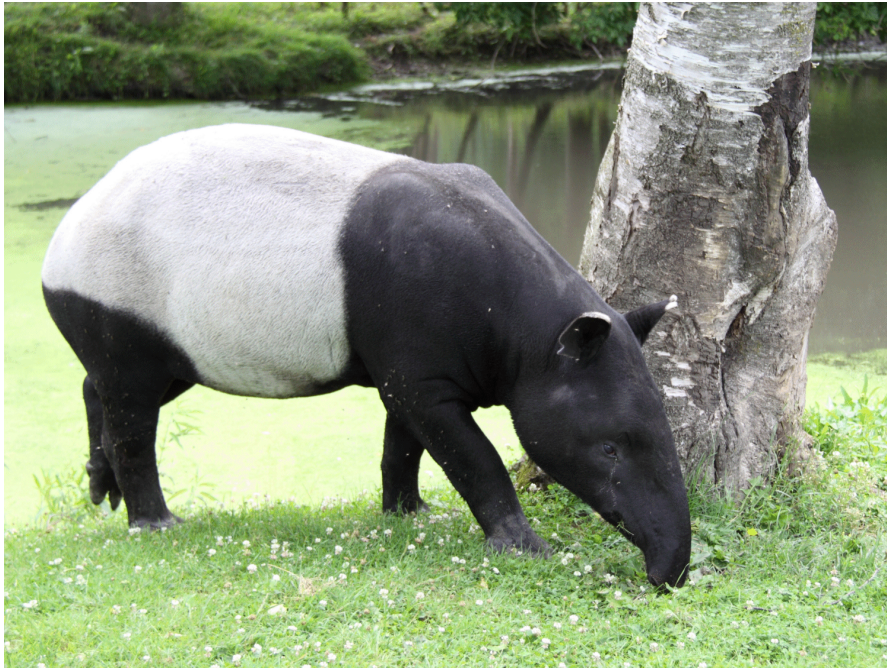


Malayan tapir ... an eye-catching enigma!

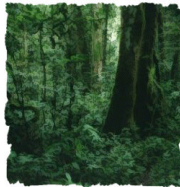


MEASUREMENTS

Length: 6-8 feet

Height: 3-4 feet
at shoulder

Weight: 550-800 lbs



Rainforest



Southeast Asia



Why exhibit Malayan tapirs?

- Fascinate guests with this distinctive and memorable species, with its bold markings, a prehensile proboscis, and a great story to tell.
- Expand your visitors' knowledge of the natural world by helping them identify the differences between tapirs, pigs, and anteaters. And highlight the similarities tapirs share with their closest relatives: horses and rhinoceroses!
- Surprise visitors with the Malayan tapir's unexpectedly high-pitched, bird-like vocalizations.
- Generate significant social media and press coverage with remarkably cute, boldly-striped babies that are thought to resemble the tapir's ancestors from 30 million years ago.
- Interpret the concept of camouflage using the counter-intuitive bold black-and-white coloration of adults and the striped pelage of infants.
- Reinforce palm oil conservation messaging.

Stewardship Opportunities

Support Tapir Specialist Group field projects!
Contact SSP coordinator for details.

Care and Husbandry

RED SSP: 14.20 (34) in 17 AZA institutions (2019).

Species coordinator: Michele Stancer, Utah's Hogle Zoo
mstancer@hoglezoo.org ; (801) 584-4544

Social nature: Solitary in the wild. Often housed as a breeding pair plus offspring. Adult mother-daughter groups are possible.

Mixed species: Successfully mixed with a variety of primates, including gibbons and langurs, muntjacs, and a wide range of birds.

Housing: Temperatures up to 95°F are well-tolerated. Heated indoor areas needed in cold climates; outdoor access can be given above 35°F. At least 25% of outdoor enclosure should be shaded.

Medical notes: Generally hardy. Common health problems include eye and skin issues, rectal prolapse, and dental ailments. Provision of substrate is helpful in minimizing foot issues.

Special requirements: Pools are strongly recommended for enrichment and health (tapirs frequently defecate in pools; their presence reduces the risk of rectal prolapse).

Keeper resources: Temperaments vary significantly, and even calm tapirs can be easily startled and react aggressively. Generally very tactile.

For full husbandry guidelines, see the Tapir ACM or contact the TAG.

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

