Chilean pudu ... the ungulate answer to a teddy bear!





MEASUREMENTS

Length: 2.5 feet

Height: 14 inches at shoulder

Weight: 25-30 lbs.





South America

IUCN VULNERABLE CITES I

<10.000 in the wild

Why exhibit Chilean pudu?

- · Induce constant "aws" from your visitors: these petite deer are adorable as adults and indescribably cute as white-spotted fawns.
- · Add diversity to a wide array of existing exhibits. Pudu can make a great addition to New World primate exhibits, indoor and outdoor aviaries, and hoofstock yards, and they are a great option for filling small, intimate exhibits.
- · Join this popular program and lend support to the importation of unrelated animals from other regions to bolster genetic diversity.
- · Compare and contrast this tiny species the smallest living deer - with its larger relatives. Their tiny spike-like antlers make great biofacts next to more complex, highly branched antlers.
- · Remind guests that South America contains more than just rainforests with this hardy Andean deer.

Stewardship Opportunities

Eduardo Silva (eduardo.silva@unab.cl) has identified priorities in pudu conservation.

Care and Husbandry

RED Program: 18.23 (41) in 13 AZA (+1 non-AZA) institutions (2019)

Species coordinator: Craig Gibbs, Queens Zoo (WCS) cgibbs@wcs.org; (718) 220-7113

Social nature: Typically kept in breeding pairs with juvenile offspring. May be kept singly or in small groups.

Mixed species: Have been mixed with a wide variety of species including guanaco, coatimundi, agouti, capybara, giant anteater, various small to medium primates, and many birds including currasows, toucans, trumpeters, ibis, and many smaller species.

Housing: Tolerant of cold and snow; if acclimated, can be on display for several hours in moderate winter weather. Provide heat if below 38°F for extended periods. Shade needed in hot weather.

Medical notes: A regular endoparasite treatment program is recommended.

Special requirements: Enclosures should be well-planted or provisioned with hiding spots to help animals feel secure.

Keeper resources: Latrine use simplifies daily cleaning. Pudu can be fractious, especially as fawns, requiring keepers to know their animals and work slowly and quietly around them.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

http://www.azaungulates.org/













Photos by B. Huffman and Elko@zoochat. Published December 2019.