

Slender-horned gazelle ... a master of sand!

ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS
ANTELOPE AND
GIRAFFE TAG



MEASUREMENTS

Length: 3.5 feet

Height: 2.5 feet
at shoulder

Weight: 30-40 lbs.



Desert



North Africa

IUCN
ENDANGERED
CITES I

<500 in
the wild

Why exhibit slender-horned gazelles?

- Take pride in working with the principal *ex situ* population of this endangered gazelle. It has very little representation in other regional zoo programs, so the role of AZA zoos is vital.
- Interpret the numerous desert adaptations of this “sand gazelle” to zoo visitors – their sandy color, small size, and elongated hooves make them well-suited to their Saharan habitat.
- Not equipped to handle a herd? Consider housing a single bachelor male in a smaller exhibit, or mix a male with other Saharan antelope. These gazelles are often solitary in the wild, and can add interest and diversity to existing exhibits.
- Link your zoo with a strong conservation project, and educate visitors not only about the threats of over-hunting and habitat disturbance, but about how your zoo is involved in finding solutions.

Stewardship Opportunities

Sahara Conservation Fund

(Termit & Tin Toumma National Nature Reserve)

www.saharaconservation.org

Care and Husbandry

YELLOW SSP: 44.50 (94) in 8 AZA (+2 non-AZA) institutions (2018)

Species coordinator: Brigid Randle, The Living Desert

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Social nature: Solitary or in small herds (one breeding male and 2-5 females). Males can be extremely aggressive toward each other.

Mixed species: Often mixed with other Saharan species like scimitar-horned oryx and/or larger gazelles. Mixes well with larger ungulates; has also been housed with vultures, storks, and cranes.

Housing: Extremely heat-tolerant, but heated shelter required in cool and inclement weather. Chainlink fencing (at least 8 feet high) combined with a visual barrier is preferred for flexibility/strength.

Medical notes: Typically robust. Heat and stress effects may occur during procedures; manual restraint is recommended over anesthesia.

Special requirements: Male aggression may make herd dynamics challenging. Juvenile males need to be separated at 6-8 months.

Keeper resources: Individuals show varying degrees of flightiness; keepers can work in with this species but must be mindful of flight distances. Males will often use dung middens, simplifying cleaning.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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



Photos by B. Huffman. Published June 2019.