

Tufted deer ... get a load of this killer smile!



MEASUREMENTS

Length: 3.3-4 feet

Height: 1.5-2.3 feet
at shoulder

Weight: 35-65 lbs



Forest



China

IUCN
NEAR
THREATENED

500,000 (est)
in the wild

Why exhibit tufted deer?

- Fascinate your public with this adorable small deer that has long, fang-like upper canines! (Males do have antlers, but they are so small they are usually hidden within the namesake tuft)
- Provide a year-round display, even in cold climates, with this winter-hardy species.
- Add interest and increase diversity in existing Asian exhibits by adding this unique small deer. The species mixes well with a wide range of other hoofstock, birds, and even red pandas.
- Educate the public on the conservation issues of hunting and habitat loss, and maximize impact by tying in high-profile species from the same habitat like the giant panda, golden monkey, clouded leopard and takin.
- Surprise visitors with interactive graphics on animal sounds: the alarm call of tufted deer sounds like the bark of a dog!

Stewardship Opportunities

In situ initiatives involving this species are currently being identified and reviewed by the TAG.

Care and Husbandry

YELLOW SSP: 32.22 (54) in 15 AZA institutions (2019)

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Social nature: Typically housed in small groups (one male with a few females, or single-sex groups), breeding pairs, or individually.

Mixed species: Mixes well with medium and large ungulates (including goral and various deer); also housed with red pandas, cranes, peafowl, and waterfowl. Successfully exhibited in large aviaries.

Housing: Does well in warm to cool/temperate weather. Cold tolerant; shelter should be offered when temperatures are below 40°F (supplemental heat can be given, but is not strictly necessary).

Medical notes: Generally robust. Superficial wounds may occur during aggressive encounters as a result of the sharp canines.

Special requirements: Space is needed to separate males from females before parturition.

Keeper resources: Typical cleaning of exhibit and holding areas. Care is needed when restraining males due to their short, pointed antlers and sharp canines.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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

