

# Nyala ... antelope that love to strut their stuff!

ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS  
ANTELOPE AND  
GIRAFFE TAG



## MEASUREMENTS

**Length:** 4.5-6.5 feet

**Height:** 2.5-4 feet  
at shoulder

**Weight:** 120-275 lbs



Woodland



Southern Africa

IUCN  
LEAST  
CONCERN

32,000  
In the wild

## Why exhibit nyala?

- Get two animals in one! In this striking sexually dimorphic species, the sleek, brilliantly-striped females contrast sharply with the shaggy, dark gray males with impressive spiraling horns.
- Entrance visitors with showmanship: during courtship or when just feeling confident, males raise their spectacular dorsal crest, increasing their apparent size while they strut around.
- Help the SSP by holding a bachelor group, and you can have several of these handsome antelope showing off at the same time!
- Add interest to existing exhibits: nyala mix well with many species.
- Melt the hearts of your guests and light up your social media: nyala breed readily at a young age and produce adorable calves annually.

## Stewardship Opportunities

Support the mountain nyala, an endangered relative of the nyala and *in situ* TAG focus species:

MELCA-Ethiopia

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

## Care and Husbandry

**YELLOW SSP:** 56.128 (184) in 16 AZA (+5 non-AZA) institutions (2019)

**Species coordinator:** Steve Metzler, San Diego Zoo Safari Park  
[smetzler@sandiegozoo.org](mailto:smetzler@sandiegozoo.org); (760) 473-6993

**Social nature:** Herd-living. Females usually kept in groups with/without a single breeding male. Multiple males can be housed together in bachelor groups (how many depends on space and management).

**Mixed species:** Mix well with a wide variety of ground birds and hoofstock. Breeding males may show aggression to other male ungulates. Hybridization risk with other spiral-horned antelope.

**Housing:** Tolerant of both hot and cold weather. Supplemental heat and well-bedded shelter should be provided below 32°F; also when neonates are less than a month old. Barriers should be 8 feet high.

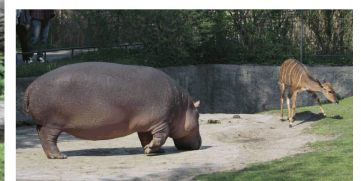
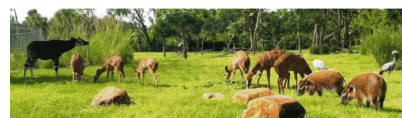
**Medical notes:** This is a hardy species with few medical issues.

**Special requirements:** Cover, visual barriers, and hiding locations help reduce stress and flightiness.

**Keeper resources:** Overall this species is a mellow and easily-managed antelope. Husbandry requirements are similar to those for most large antelope.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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



Photos by M. Covey, B. Huffman, C. Hunter, L. Kirkman, and A. Schoeman. Published May 2019.