

# Fringe-eared oryx ... a sure-thing with a fringe on top!

ASSOCIATION  
OF ZOOS &  
AQUARIUMS  
ANTELOPE AND  
GIRAFFE TAG



## MEASUREMENTS

**Length:** 5.5 feet

**Height:** 4 feet  
at shoulder

**Weight:** 250-450 lbs



Arid grassland



East Africa

IUCN  
VULNERABLE

<6,000  
in the wild

## Why exhibit fringe-eared oryx?

- Enhance species diversity in existing savanna- and desert-themed exhibits with this boldly-marked east African antelope.
- Increase exhibit activity levels during hot weather: these oryx tolerate high heat well.
- Use this species to illustrate adaptations to hot climates. From behaviors (shade-seeking) to physiology (their body temperature can safely rise to 113°F!), interpretative possibilities abound.
- Develop interactive visitor activities using this species' elaborate dominance displays and postures - a great way to get visitors involved in observing and miming behaviours.
- Connect the fringed ears of this antelope with other species in your collection with amazing ears (e.g., red river hog, bat-eared fox, elephants), and discuss their various roles in hearing and/or visual communication.

## Get involved with stewardship!

Wild Nature Institute – Northern Plains Campaign

[www.wildnatureinstitute.org/corridor-campaign.html](http://www.wildnatureinstitute.org/corridor-campaign.html)

## Care and Husbandry

**RED SSP:** 11.36 (47) in 3 AZA (+1 non-AZA) institutions (2019)

**Species coordinator:** Lissa McCaffree, San Diego Zoo Safari Park  
[lmccaffree@sandiegozoo.org](mailto:lmccaffree@sandiegozoo.org); (760) 492-4486

**Social nature:** Does well in bachelor herds and breeding groups. Housing multiple adult males in the presence of females will increase aggression. Ritual displays are more frequent than physical violence.

**Mixed species:** Large and small hoofstock (giraffe, plains zebra, antelope, gazelle) and various birds. Adequate space is needed to moderate conflicts. May hybridize with other oryx and addax.

**Housing:** Extremely heat tolerant, but avoid stressing these animals during very high temperatures. Standard chainlink fence will contain this species, but be aware that the long horns can easily stab through it.

**Medical notes:** Generally robust.

**Special requirements:** Males of comparable size and age will fight. Females are reproductively active as young as a year so sires should not be housed with dam and offspring for long.

**Keeper resources:** Typical cleaning. Browse is a preferred form of enrichment and dietary enhancement.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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



Photos by B. Huffman. Published May 2019.