

Kirk's dik-dik ... small package, BIG impact!

ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS
ANTELOPE AND
GIRAFFE TAG



MEASUREMENTS

Length: 2 feet

Height: 16 inches
at shoulder

Weight: 6-14 lbs



Shrubland



Africa

IUCN
LEAST
CONCERN

~1 million
in the wild

Why exhibit Kirk's dik-dik?

- Appeal to visitors' sense of humor with their name - and sneak in education by interpreting the purpose behind the "dik-dik" sounding alarm call: life is full of risks when you're small!
- Compare the family lives of animals and humans using this monogamous, pair-living antelope.
- Add interest and diversity to numerous exhibits - from aviaries to larger paddocks - with this compact, easy-to-care-for ungulate.
- Consistently deliver "cuteness" with this active, miniature antelope that has a trunk like an elephant and a mohawk crest!
- Help solve the genetic riddle behind the different chromosome counts within this species (which may prove to be several species), and talk to your guests about your zoo's genetics work.

Get involved with stewardship!

Wild Nature Institute – Northern Plains Campaign
www.wildnatureinstitute.org/corridor-campaign.html

Northern Rangelands Trust
www.nrt-kenya.org

Care and Husbandry

RED SSP: 20.10 (30) in 16 AZA (+ 2 non-AZA) institutions (2019)

Species coordinator: Paige McNickle, Phoenix Zoo
pmcnickle@phoenixzoo.org ; (602) 451-8364

Social nature: Typically kept in breeding pairs. Single-sex groups may work for a limited time; bachelors pairs only successful if no females are nearby.

Mixed species: Success with gerenuk, duikers, guenons, kori bustards, and sulcata tortoises. A perfect fit in African savanna aviaries, but not with large predatory birds. Potential for territorial aggression towards other ungulates.

Housing: Not cold tolerant, but cope well with heat (require shade and misters). Indoor holdings are recommended to provide warmth and for hand-restraint or medical care. Hides or tall grass on exhibit are needed to provide security.

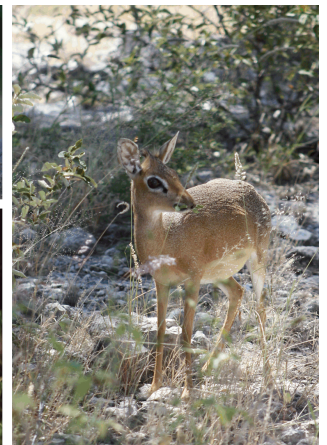
Medical notes: Susceptible to toxoplasmosis (usually fatal). Fractious nature may lead to trauma; solid walls are preferable over chain-link as a barrier.

Special requirements: Prolific breeders; breeding institutions need additional holding space for offspring, or options to separate the pair. Complex genetics in this population require more research.

Keeper resources: Cleaning is simple due to use of latrine spots. Crate training is worth the investment as they can be fragile when restrained.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.

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



Photos by J. Beilby, M. Hatwood, and B. Huffman. Published June 2019.