Red brocket ... a literal “splash” of red!

Why exhibit red brockets?
- Challenge the perception that deer are boring and brown: this vibrant red South American species is guaranteed to catch the eyes of visitors.
- Add taxonomic diversity and a splash of color to existing South American exhibits. Brockets mix readily with many other mammals and birds.
- Take advantage of the compact size of these deer by displaying them a variety of enclosures: larger aviaries, small yards, and expansive paddocks provide flexible management options.
- Do your exhibits have underused water features? Red brockets frequently wade in ponds and can swim well, providing a great display and a link to discuss rainforest adaptations.
- Help pull this species out of a demographic crisis. If you are waiting to acquire pudu, consider displaying red brockets instead!

Stewardship Opportunities
Brockets remain one of the most poorly studied groups of ungulates. This species would benefit from a champion taking on a new program from scratch.

Care and Husbandry
Candidate Program: 3.3 (6) in 3 AZA institutions (2019)
Species coordinator: Megan Tedeschi, Bergen County Zoological Park
megtedeschi@yahoo.com

Social nature: Typically maintained in mated pairs or small groups.
Groups can be all female or mixed gender with multiple males.

Mixed species: Successfully exhibited with tapir, guanaco, giant anteater, capybara, and numerous large bird species including rhea, pelicans, flamingos, cranes, and waterfowl.

Housing: Indoor heated housing required below 40°F. Brockets are good jumpers when pressed (8’ fence height suggested) and can swim well. Hiding areas should be provided to reduce stress.

Medical notes: Zinc deficiency may lead to hoof abscesses.

Special requirements: Acclimation to various stimuli can help with skittishness. Hand-rearing has helped produce calm females, but is not recommended for males.

Keeper resources: Typical cleaning. Basic husbandry behaviors (targeting, crating, and shifting) have been successfully trained. Browse and water features provide excellent enrichment.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.
http://www.azaungulates.org/