Kordofan aoudad  ... who can beat this beard?!

Why exhibit Kordofan aoudad?
• Get bang for your buck! Aoudad are easy to care for but have high visual impact: impressive horns, a long beard, an incredible jumping ability, and a social nature which makes large groups easy.
• Put on a great year-round display no matter your weather — hot, cold, wet, or dry! Aoudad are a perfect fit for that steep, rocky, or marginal terrain in your zoo that’s hard to put an exhibit on.
• Challenge visitors to decide “sheep or goat”?! Aoudad are an isolated relative that look like sheep but are more closely related to goats.
• Underscore conservation messaging with the themes of habitat destruction, competition with livestock, and poaching.
• TAG RECOMMENDATION: Holders of generic Barbary sheep are urged to switch to SSP Kordofan aoudad of known origin.

Get involved with stewardship!
Conservation focus efforts, notably the Termit & Tin Toumma National Nature Reserve, can be found at www.saharaconservation.org

MEASUREMENTS
Length: 4.5-5.5 feet
Height: 2.5-3.5 feet at shoulder
Weight: 70-300 lbs

IUCN
VULNERABLE
CITES II
< 10,000
In the wild

Care and Husbandry
RED Program: 25.28 (53) in 7 AZA institutions (2019)
Species coordinator: Molly Shea, Fossil Rim Wildlife Center
mollys@fossilrim.org ; (254) 898-4209

Social nature: Does well in large breeding groups or single-sex herds. Multiple males can be kept with females, but this can prove problematic for purposes of genetic management.

Mixed species: Very tolerant of larger ungulates, but may dominate or show aggression towards smaller hoofstock. Have also been successfully exhibited with macaques, baboons, and hyraxes.

Housing: Handles extreme temperatures (high and low) well with only basic shelters. At home on steep, rocky terrain. Aoudad are excellent climbers/jumpers and need tall fencing (~10 feet high).

Medical notes: Few medical issues, mostly arthritis in aged animals. Hoof care may be needed if housed on soft substrate.

Special requirements: Aoudad are tough on vegetation; Like to rub horns on trees which can destroy foliage, however sunken post can satisfy this behavior.

Keeper resources: Work load is minimal and enrichment is open to anything from feeder puzzles, balls, rubbing post, etc.

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

Photos by B. Huffman. Published September 2019.