

GAZELLE, MHORR

RANGE:

Formerly found inhabiting deserts and dry grasslands of southwestern Morocco. Extinct in the wild.

HABITAT:

Dry, sparsely vegetated, open areas, deserts, semi-deserts and bushlands.

SIZE:

Weight: 40 – 85 kg (90 – 190 lb.) Note: Males tend to be larger than females.

Length: 1.4 m – 2 m (4 – 6.5 ft.)

Height: 90 – 120 cm (3 – 4 ft.) at the shoulder.

LIFE EXPECTANCY:

Unknown

DIET:

Wild: Browsers: Feeding mainly on dry, bushy and woody plants, grasses, herbs, succulents & acacia.

Zoo: Pelleted herbivore diet, timothy hay, assorted browse.

REPRODUCTION:

Gestation: 198 days (*Approximately 6 months*)

Usually give birth to single young, commonly referred to as a "lamb".

Births usually take place at the beginning of the rainy season.

Females reach sexual maturity in their first year.

BEHAVIOR:

Mhorr Gazelle are diurnal by nature. Can be found moving singly or in groups of up to 15. Groupings may be made up of solitary males, several females with a single male, or bachelor groups of either sex containing individuals of varying ages.

Mature males will stake out territories and during breeding season they will scent mark throughout that territory.

During times of play or alarm, they are known to perform a stiff-legged bounding known as "pronking", in which all four limbs leave the ground and land together.

STATUS:

Extinct in the wild. Numbers declined in 1950's & 1970's mainly due to over hunting by people in motorized vehicles with high powered, modern firearms.

IUCN—Endangered – "Taxa in danger of extinction and whose survival is unlikely if the causal factors continue to operate.

CITES — Appendix I—"Most restricted; species threatened with extinction"

ISIS (International Species Identification System) –as of March 2006—Lists 22 facilities Worldwide housing 39 males and 88 female Mhorr Gazelle in captivity.

theZOO

L O U I S V I L L E



photo by Laura Lamb

Class:	Mammalia
Order:	Artiodactyla
Family:	Bovidae
Genus:	Gazella
Species:	dama
Subspecies:	mhorr

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REFERENCES:

WALKER'S MAMMALS OF THE WORLD, Fifth Edition. Ronald M. Nowak,
The John Hopkins University Press: Baltimore and London, 1991.

Animal Info- Dama Gazelle: <http://www.animalinfo.org/species/artiperi/gazedama.htm>

http://www.mtnviewfarms.com/html/body_mhorr.htm

Mhorr Gazelle. The Zoological Society of Philadelphia, copyright 1998
<http://www.phillyzoo.org/pz0102.htm>