

SAMBAR DEER

Kingdom: Animalia Phylum: Chordata Class: Mammalia Order: Artiodactyla
Cervidae Cervus Unicolor

Description: The Sambar Deer is the most widely spread deer species in the world, covering many countries on the Asian continent. It is also one of the largest species in size. The coat is coarse and shaggy. The males have a mane around the throat and neck

Status: Stable

Habitat: Primarily in the woods or areas with dense scrub brush

Range: Southeast Asia from the Philippines through southern China, Indonesia and Burma to India and Sri Lanka. Populations have been introduced to the United States, Australia and New Zealand for hunting purposes.

Diet in the Wild: Grass, foliage and fruit

Length: Males are 5.5-8 feet and females are 5 to 6 feet

Height: 3.5 to 4.5 feet

Weight: Males are 290-540 pounds, females 240-400 pounds.

Lifespan: 20 years in captivity



Special Features:

- Only Males have antlers, which can grow up to 2.5 feet long
- Nocturnal
- Males live solitary lives while females live in pairs or small groups
- Below each eye there is a tear gland that will protrude at will.
- Acute sense of smell and hearing.
- The sambar tends to alertly watch a predator and will keep giving alarm calls until the danger has passed instead of fleeing.
- Has a peculiar bare patch of skin in the middle of the throat about 3 inches across with tiny spots of blood in the center. The purpose of the glandular lesion is unknown. However, it disappears in captivity.
- The male is darker and larger than the female
- Except for mating season, they are non-territorial.
- Sambars are excellent swimmers.

Breeding/Care of Young:

- Sexually mature at 2-4 years old.
- Mating season is November through December.
- Gestation is 8 months
- Single birth
- Fawn stays with the mother one year
- The young male grows antlers at age 2.

