

BLACKTAILED GAZELLE

Kingdom: Animalia **Phylum:** Chordata **Class:** Mammalia **Order:** Artiodactyla **Family:** Bovidae

Gazella subgutturosa

Description: The Blacktailed Gazelle is also known as the Goitered or Persian Gazelle.

Length: 3-3.8 feet

Height: 2-2.6 feet

Weight: 40-73 pounds

Habitat: Deserts, semi-deserts, hilly plains and plateaus

Distribution: Central and southern Asia

Diet: Grasses, leaves and shoots

Life Span: 10-12 years

Status: Near risk

Special Characteristics:

- During mating season the males will expand their throats resembling the look of a goiter.
- Live in herds of 2-5
- During midday they rest in shaded areas making large oval shaped pits to lie in.
- When startled they will run several yards and then stop to reassess the situation, leaving them vulnerable to predators.
- Run up to 35 mph.
- They eat 30% of their body weight each day.
- Get most of their moisture from food and not from direct water sources.
- Only the males have horns

Reproduction:

- 1 Sexual maturity at 9 months for females and 18 months for males
- 2 Gestation 5-6 months
- 3 1-2 young
- 4 Unlike most gazelles, the Blacktailed or Goitered Gazelle has a restricted breeding season from November to January.