



BUSH (RED RIVER) PIG

Kingdom: Animalia **Phylum:** Chordata **Class:** Mammalia **Order:** Artiodactyla **Family:** Suidae
Potamochoerus porcus

Height: 24-30 inches

Length: Up to 5 feet plus a 12 inch tail

Weight: 120-260 pounds

Habitat: Dense forest and underbrush

Distribution: Africa south of the Sahara

Diet: Vegetable matter, insects, eggs, and dead animals

Life Span: 20 years

Status: Stable

Special Characteristics:

- Live in groups of up to 40.
- In its search for roots and tubers it digs up large tracts of land and can cause serious damage to crops.
- It is nocturnal and spends the daylight hours hidden in the dense forest in burrows.
- On the back of the bush pig there is a long whitish crest of hairs which can be erected when the animal is excited or alarmed.
- The tusks are short but sharp.
- Males have warts over their eyes and females do not.
- Old males have two warts on the snout.
- Bush pigs are also called "tufted pigs" due to their long, white whiskers and ear tufts.
- They have foot glands, neck glands and preorbital glands they use to mark their territory.
- They are fast runners and good swimmers.

Reproduction:

- Sexual maturity at 18-21 months
- Gestation 120-127 days
- The sow will make a grass nest to give birth.
- Litter size is 3-6
- Monogamous, both parents care for the young.
- Weaned at 2-4 months

