

INTERNATIONALES ZUCHTBUCH FÜR
AFRIKANISCHE NASHÖRNER
(*Diceros bicornis*/*Ceratotherium simum*)

Herausgeber
ZOOLOGISCHER GARTEN BERLIN AG
Direktor: Dr. Hans Frädrieh

Zuchtbuchführer/EEP Koordinator
Diceros bicornis
Dr. Reinhard Göltenboth

Zuchtbuchführer
Ceratotherium simum
Dr. Andreas Ochs

Hardenbergplatz 8, 10787 Berlin, Deutschland

Telefon: 030 / 25 401-0
Fax: 030 / 25 401-255

INTERNATIONAL STUDBOOK FOR
AFRICAN RHINOCEROSES
(*Diceros bicornis*/*Ceratotherium simum*)

Published by
ZOOLOGISCHER GARTEN BERLIN AG
Director: Dr. Hans Frädrieh

Studbook Keeper/EEP Coordinator
Diceros bicornis
Dr. Reinhard Göltenboth

Studbook Keeper
Ceratotherium simum
Dr. Andreas Ochs

Hardenbergplatz 8, 10787 Berlin, Germany

Telephone: 030 / 25 401-0
Fax: 030 / 25 401-255

RHINO SITUATION IN EAST AFRICA AND ZIMBABWE

y

R. RICHARD A. KOCK
Senior Veterinary Advisor Kenya Wildlife Service
Headquarters P. O. Box 40241
Nairobi, Kenya

BLACK RHINO

Kenya: The population has grown steadily since 1987 from a low of under 400 animals to the present number of nearly 500. The reason for this was an improved anti poaching policy and placement or securing in protected areas, the majority of the rhino in Kenya. Many of the locations were relatively small sanctuaries - sometimes fenced and some with a maximum capacity of 50 animals. The animals are located in 18 areas with populations of 6 to 60 in number. As the population has expanded it has been possible to begin a free release policy into Tsavo where up to 6000 animals were known to live in recent times. This project is similar to the Intensive Protection Zones (IPZ) set up in Zimbabwe. It is notable that to date this project has had the least mortality of all translocated groups (1/20 - a hand reared animal did not adapt and was killed by elephant). 90% of the Kenyan population are individually known and many are tracked by radiotelemetry.

This programme has involved the translocation of over 150 animals over the last 10 years with a mortality up to 1 year after translocation of 16% (7% at capture but none in the last 70 translocations with improved techniques). By 1994 the populations were well balanced for breeding and an annual growth rate of up to 10% can be expected in the future if poaching remains negligible.

The main cause of mortality in the population is intra-specific aggression and this has been exacerbated by the mixing of animals in order to achieve the founding sanctuary stock and unnatural densities associated with e.g. salt licks for tourism and fencing.

Disease has not been a major concern in the last decade with trypanosomiasis in translocation of native animals of interest and 2 cases of a lumpy jaw type lesion from an ex cattle ranch predisposing to a septicaemia during translocation and death.

There are no black rhino (except for rumours!) in Uganda, Somalia, Ethiopia or Sudan and the population in Tanzania is in the region of 100 animals the majority in Selous Game Reserve. There is a policy developing in Tanzania for sanctuary management of this remnant population but this has not reached implementation as yet.

In Zimbabwe there has been a catastrophic decline but in the last 2 years the situation has stabilised with minimal poaching and as a result of improved protection through translocation to sanctuaries or intensive protection zones and dehorning. The number is approximately 300 animals, split equally between private land and national parks. There will be intensive monitoring and management of this population over the next few years and if the Kenyan history is used as a model bodes well for Zimbabwe rhino

recovery.

WHITE RHINO (Southern subspecies)

Kenya: The population in Kenya is now in the region of 110 animals with no major problems. Translocation has been carried out successfully but boma management remains difficult with 50% of animals never adapting to captive conditions. 24 animals have been brought in from South Africa Natal in the last 5 years to boost the numbers. There is breeding success at Solio Ranch and at Lake Nakuru National Park. There are two other sights likely to become net producers in the near future at Ol Choro Oiroua in the Mara region and Lewa Downs Conservancy at Isiolo.

Zimbabwe: Have lost nearly all their white rhino to poaching. Some remain in private areas and at Matopos National Park.