

Black Rhino

*Diceros bicornis*



# European Studbook 2007



The North of England Zoological Society,  
Chester Zoo  
1st edition



**Black Rhinoceros**  
*Diceros bicornis* Gray, 1821



**European Studbook for the year 2007**

**1<sup>st</sup> Edition**

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# 1 Acknowledgements

Mark part

## 2 Biological data

- Present distribution:** Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
- Population status:** Critically endangered, total population of 3,610-3,750 animals including Eastern population (*D.b.michaeli*) of 520 and Southern-central (*D.b.minor*) population of 1,770 animals
- Habitat:** Transitional zone between grassland and forest, generally in thick thorn bush or acacia scrub.

### Food

The black rhino is a browser who mainly eats the thin regenerating twigs of woody plant growth and legumes. Acacias seems to be favourite, but a great variety of plant species are utilized. (Walker's mammals)

### Behaviour

Social groupings:  
Short-term aggregations  
Home ranges

### Reproduction

Birth weight in captivity:  
Gestation length in captivity:  
Oestrus cycle in captivity:  
Interbirth interval in the wild:  
Interbirth interval in captivity: 43.9 months (*Average n=98*)  
First reproduction in the wild: Females:  
Males:  
First reproduction in captivity: Females: 4 years, 9 months and 25 days  
Males: 3 years, 4 months and 18 days

### Size and weights

Body weight in the wild: 800-1400 kg  
Body weight in captivity:  
Shoulder height in the wild: 140-80 cm  
Shoulder height in captivity:  
Head-body-length in the wild: 300-375 cm  
Horn length: The anterior horn is larger than the posterior one, averaging around 50 cm, with a record of 135,9 cm.

### Longevity

The oldest dead males in the studbook are numbers 39, 56 and 31 died at the ages 41, 36 and 35. They are wild caught and their birth date is estimated in years. The oldest living males in the studbook are numbers 171, 268 and 283 with the ages 38, 30 and 28.

The oldest dead females in the studbook are numbers 32, 185 and 33 died at the ages 38, 35 and 35. They are wild caught and their birth date is estimated in years. The oldest living females in the studbook are numbers 153, 175 and 195 with the ages 41, 37 and 37.

### 3 Species Status

## **4 Demographic and Genetic Analysis**

### ***4.1 Demographic analysis***

### ***4.2 Genetic Analysis***

### ***4.3 Black Rhino survey***

## 5 Rhino Global Captive Action Plan



## 6 References

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## **8 Events 2007**

### ***8.1 Births 2007***

### ***8.2 Deaths 2007***

### ***8.3 Moves 2007***

## 9 Abbreviations

## Appendix I - Living studbook population

## Appendix II - Historical studbook population

## Appendix III - Contact list for Black Rhino holders



# Appendix IV - Black Rhino Pedigree

