



MAMMALS <http://www.peoriazoo.org/mammals.html>

Red River Hog

Potamochoerus porcus

Peoria Zoo Exhibit Africa!

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/africa.html>

Habitat: Thickets, forests, savannahs and swamps

Range: West and Central Sub-Saharan Africa to Northern South Africa and Madagascar

Activity Cycle: Nocturnal– active at night

Size: Average between 120-260 pounds and up to 2.5 feet tall.

Social Structure: Social animals that tend to live in small groups of 11-15 individuals with 3-6 individuals making up a typical family unit. Each family unit is made up of a dominant boar, one female and offspring. Red river hogs mate for life and males help to care for and defend the young.

Distinguishing Features: The long coat is red with black and white markings on the head. They have white eye rings, long ear tassels and a long tail with a tuft of fur at the end. They have a long white crest of hair that runs down its back. This hair will stand up when the animal is excited or scared. Its long snout is disc shaped and has short sharp tusks, the lower tusks growing up to 3 inches.

Diet: Grasses water plants, roots, bulbs, fruit insects and carrion.

Life Span: 15-20 years

Did you know?

Red river hogs have scent glands in their feet and lips, letting them scent mark everywhere they go.