



Black Wildebeest



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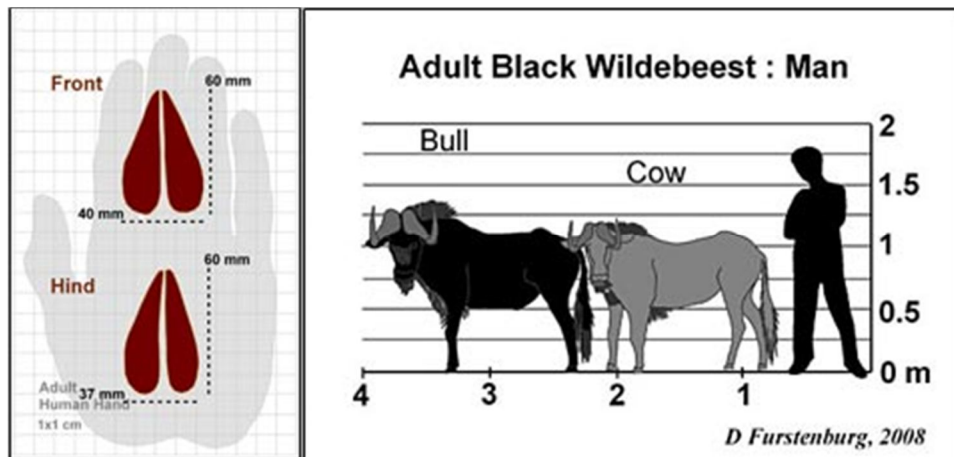
Black Wildebeest

Description

A large antelope with a stiff, straight mane of long, pale-cream hair tipped with brown; a long white, horse-like tail; and the brush of brown, curly hair on the

muzzle. The body is a dark yellow-brown that appears black from a distance. The face is darker in colour than the body. The back is hollow with both the shoulders and the buttocks at a higher level than the rump. A long beard stretches from the throat across the centre of the breast to the navel. Calves are a cream to light-brown at birth that continues to darken until an age of 18 months.

Comparison to Man



Trophy

Both genders have well-developed horns that have their origins in a thickened boss on the head and then extend forwards in a deep, downwards curve. The anterior halves of the horns are straight and then project vertically upwards with the tips bent slightly backwards. The horns of cows are thinner than those of the bulls and are thus lighter. Horn development is relatively rapid and trophy status may be reached at 2.5 years of age.

Some facts about the Black wildebeest

Adult weight : 132.25 kg (290.95 lbs)

Maximum longevity : 22 years

Female maturity : 763 days

Gestation : 259 days

Weaning : 228 days

Litter size : 1

Weight at birth : 11 kg (24.2 lbs)