



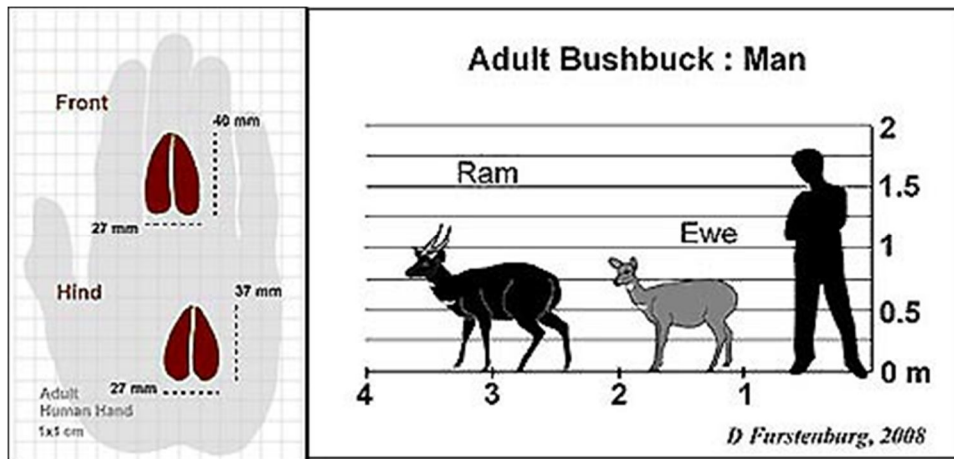
Bush Buck

Bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*)

Description

The bushbuck is a medium-sized antelope. The southern bushbuck are markedly larger than the northern sub-species. The Chobe bushbuck is 15-25% smaller. The long hair, 25-32 mm, gives the coat a furry appearance. Sub-adult rams are a deep chestnut brown that darkens with age to become almost black on the back. Ewes are a light red-brown to a light fawn-brown. Mature rams have a mane from the shoulders to the base of the tail. The tail is short, furry and white beneath. The areas around the nostrils, lips and chin are white with a distinctive white dot behind the eye and a horizontal white stripe on the front of the neck. A row of white dots and 1-3 short vertical white stripes on the flanks and scattered white dots across the hindquarters. Colouring differs throughout the distribution range. The prominence of the striped pattern decreases as the distribution of the bushbuck radiates from dense forest into savannah regions. The eastern African bushbuck becomes larger and has fewer stripes as its distribution extends further south. The southern bushbuck has only a few white dots.

Comparison To Man



Trophy

Only rams carry horns. They are smooth with a keel on both the anterior and posterior edges and are a flat triangle when viewed in cross section. They turn towards the tip and almost complete the first turn of a spiral. The Rowland Ward quality of 38.1 cm can be reached at 3.5 years.