



Common Duiker



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Duiker (*Sylvicapra grimmia*)

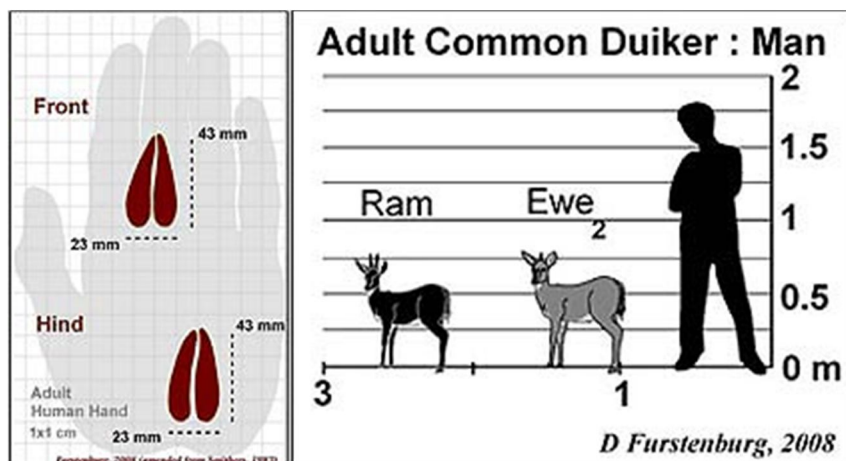
Common Duiker (Grey/Bush/Grimm's Duiker)

Afrikaans:	Gewone duiker / Grysduiker
German:	Kronenducker
French:	Céphalophe couronné

Description

A small hunch-backed, slender-legged, short-tailed and smooth-skinned antelope varying in size between the sub-species. The Cape common duiker is the largest at 21 kg, the Angolan sub-species weighs 13 kg and the western sub-species 12 kg. The ewe is slightly larger than the ram. The coat colour varies markedly from pale yellow-grey in the lowveld, to red-brown in northern Zululand and the Eastern Cape valley bushveld, red-brown with an orange-yellow tint in the Sahel and a bright tawny with minimal speckling in central east Africa. The hair is soft and thick and generally 16 mm long, although in Botswana it grows as long as 30 mm. This gives the coat a furry appearance. Most distinctive are the dark brown facial blaze, the dark brown pre-orbital scent glands in front of each eye and the crowned tuft between the horns.

Comparison To Man



Trophy

Unlike most duiker species, where both sexes bear horns, only the male common duiker bears well developed, straight horns that are heavily grooved for 30% of the length. The horn ends are extremely sharp and smooth. Trophy status of 11.4 cm (4.5 inch) may be reached at 12 months. Rudimentary and deformed horns up to 3.5 cm long occur with 18% of the females.

