



BARASINGHA

Cervus duvaucelii



Barasingha is Hindi for “twelve horns,” an accurate description of this species, which typically has twelve tines, or points, on its antlers. Each antler can grow to lengths of over 3 feet. During the breeding season males attempt to gather harems of up to 30 females. To gain breeding privileges, males fight amongst each other to create a dominance hierarchy from which the higher ranking individuals have priority access to females in heat. During this time, the stags often call out with a roaring sound. The other major vocalization of this deer is an alarm call, which consists of a shrill bark.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

The barasingha stands 4 feet tall at the shoulder and is about 6 feet in length.

WEIGHT

Barasinghas will weigh between 375 and 600 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

The barasingha primarily eats grasses, but it will occasionally feed on leaves.

HABITAT

The barasingha is found in marshy grasslands, floodplains and meadows.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The barasingha is restricted to northern India.

FUN FACT

The barasingha is the only deer known to be monestrous, with females coming into heat only once every year.