



SABLE ANTELOPE

Hippotragus niger



When pursued by a predator, the sable antelope can run at speeds of up to 35 miles per hour for considerable distances. Unlike most antelopes, the sable antelope will, at times, stop running from predators and defend itself using its sharp horns, known to grow between two to five feet in length. Older males are often territorial and will defend their territory by dropping to their knees and using their horns to wrestle male intruders. While these wrestling matches have been known to end in casualties, it is more common for one of the competitors to grow tired and walk away from the fight.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

The sable antelope can reach a standing height of 46 to 56 inches.

WEIGHT

An adult sable antelope averages between 480 to 520 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

The sable antelope is a grazer, feeding on grasses, herbs, and foliage.

HABITAT

The sable antelope prefers a combination of savanna woodland and savanna grassland habitats.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The majority of sable antelope are located in the southern savanna of Africa.

FUN FACT

Sable antelope never travel more than two miles from a water source.