



WATER BUFFALO

Bubalus bualis



Wild water buffalo commonly form cohesive herds varying from 10 to 20 individuals, although herds of up to 100 individuals have been observed. These herds occupy a home range that provides areas for feeding, drinking, wallowing, and resting.

A dominance hierarchy exists within these groups, with the leader being an older cow. Although they are considered terrestrial, water buffalo are heavily dependent on water and spend a majority of their time wallowing in rivers or mud holes.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

The water buffalo stands 5 to 6 feet tall at the shoulder and has a body length of 8 to 10 feet.

WEIGHT

The water buffalo can weigh from 550 to 2600 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

The water buffalo is predominantly a grazer of grasses.

HABITAT

Water buffalo are found in tropical and subtropical forests as well as in wet grasslands.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The native range of the water buffalo was from India to Vietnam and Malaysia. However, it has been widely domesticated and is now found in many areas of the world.

FUN FACT

Water buffalo wallow in the mud because they are more sensitive to heat than other bovids, due to the fact that they have fewer sweat glands.