

Warthog

Phacochoerus aethiopicus



Range: Sub-Saharan Africa
Size: ♂: 60-120 cm (30-48 in)

♀: 119 cm(36 in)

Weight :♂: 9-11.6 kg (18-40 lbs)

♀:13.2-15.9kg(18-40lbs)

Horns:75 cm (2-5 in) massive

Habitat: grasslands and savannas

Estrus: 72 hours

Estrus cycle: seasonal

Gestation : 155-175 days

Litter: 4

Weaning: 21 weeks

Sexual maturity: 18 months

Lifestyle: Terrestrial

Activity: Diurnal

Social: 1 male multi-female herd

Breeding: polygynous

Movement :generally sedentary

Food: grass, roots, fungi carrion

IUCN: Least Concern

Subspecies : 4

Longevity: captive: 18 yrs Wild:

n/a

Order: Artiodactyla Family: Suidae

The Warthog is named for the large cartilaginous protuberances underneath each eye. It is believed that the warts protect the eye although this is still conjecture. The male also possesses tusks that can reach 24 inches making them the longest canines of any suid. Warthogs are grey in color but may appear red or brown due to the mud in which they wallow. The warthog has a sparse coat and no subcutaneous fat. It has many behavioral adaptations to deal with the change and temperatures and predators found on the African plains. In addition to wallowing in mud the warthog will spend the heat of the day in a burrow. The warthog will position itself face out wards in the burrow thus forcing potential predators to face its formidable tusk when attacking. If caught outside of a burrow the warthog will choose to run rather than fight if possible.

Warthogs will eat a variety of food including grass, roots, tubers and even carrion. It will use its tusk to dig for food. While feeding, they often bend their front feet backwards and move around on the wrists.[11] Calloused pads that protect the wrists.

Having a large range and high reproductive rate the warthog has a healthy population at this time. It is listed as Least Concern by the IUCN.