

AFRICAN PALM CIVET

Nandinia binotata

Gray, 1830



CLASSIFICATION

Class: Mammalia

Order: Carnivora

Family: Nandiniidae

4 subspecies recognized



NOT LISTED

VERY RARE



LEAST CONCERN

Identification : Body length of 62 cm, tail length of 76 cm, weight of 3 kg. Very long furry tail. Fairly broad nose, small ears, yellow eyes. Fur coloration is gray-brown with rufous tinge on back and tail. Darker legs. Black spots on flanks, bands on neck.

Range: The species occurs in equatorial Africa, from Gambia to Dr Congo, east to Kenya and south Sudan, south to Zimbabwe and Angola.

Habitat : Tropical rainforests and woodlands, both humid and dry, up to 2500 m.

Behavior: This species is mostly arboreal and primarily nocturnal. Mostly solitary, males are territorial. Feeds mostly on fruits but also takes small animals.

Status in the wild: This species is still fairly common but declining in many parts of its range because of overhunting (especially for food) and habitat reduction.

In captivity: This species is very rare in captivity and has been rarely imported. Today, it's known from a single collection in Europe and one or two zoos in America. It is bred in Europe and has been so since at least 1882.