

SOUTH-EAST ASIAN GAUR

Bos gaurus laosiensis

Heude, 1901



CLASSIFICATION

Class: Mammalia

Order: Cetartiodactyla

Family: Bovidae

1 other subspecies



APPENDIX I



VERY RARE



VULNERABLE

Identification : Body length of 330 cm, shoulder height of 220 cm, weight of 1000 kg. Males are much bigger than females. Coloration dark velvety brown to black. Subspecies with throat fringe, bigger dewlap and larger clear area on forehead.

Range: This subspecies occurs from Myanmar to Vietnam and Peninsular Malaysia. The species is also found in India, south Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan.

Habitat : All kinds of forests, also plantations and open woodlands, to 3000 m.

Behavior: The species is herbivorous but will also eat leaves and bark. Males live in bachelor groups or alone, females live in groups. Foraging mostly occurs at night.

Status in the wild: The species is alarmingly declining because of loss of habitat to agriculture and poaching. Indian subspecies remains the safest in the wild for now.

In captivity: The species is known from a few zoos in Asia, Europe and America, nominate subspecies being the only one displayed outside south-east Asia. Subspecies targeted by a government-run breeding program. Kept in 2 Malayan zoos.