



# Great Hornbill

***Buceros bicornis***

FAMILY: Bucerotidae

ORDER: Bucerotiformes

AZA MANAGEMENT: Studbook

## GEOGRAPHIC RANGE

- EUROPE
- ASIA
- NORTH AMERICA
- NEOTROPICAL
- AFRICA
- AUSTRALIA
- OTHER

## HABITAT

- FOREST
- DESERT
- GRASSLAND
- COASTAL
- RIVERINE
- MONTANE
- OTHER

## CIRCADIAN CYCLE

- DIURNAL
- CREPUSCULAR
- NOCTURNAL
- OTHER

## TEMPERATURE TOLERANCE



From 50° F to 90° F



Birds should be offered heat if temps drop below 50 degrees.

## DIET

- FRUGIVORE
- NECTIVORE
- CARNIVORE
- OMNIVORE
- PISCIVORE
- FOLIVORE
- INSECTIVORE
- OTHER

low iron, soft bill pellet and fruit with protein; increase in protein during nesting

## LIFE EXPECTANCY

	Median Life Expectancy	Maximum Longevity	
Within AZA	X	50	
In the Wild	X	35	
Within AZA	X	50	
In the Wild	X	35	

# BREEDING INFORMATION

## AGE AT SEXUAL MATURITY



Males: ~5



Females: ~5

**Incubation period:** 37-42 days

**Fledgling Period:** approximately 105 days

## CLUTCH SIZE, & EGG DESCRIPTION



1-4 clutch size, typically 1 surviving offspring



## COURTSHIP DISPLAYS

Duet calling, food sharing, nest investigation



## NEST SITE DESCRIPTION

Artificial nests are made of a wooden barrel or box with walls ~1.2" thick (to maintain stable humidity) and height ~47.2" (tall enough for female to turn around). They are placed at least 2m above ground. The opening of the nest box should be width of birds' shoulders plus 10% so female may add wood shavings, leaves, etc. to nest floor and allow defecation out of nest hole; some feces and uneaten soft food may be used by the birds to seal nest opening.



## CHICK DEVELOPMENT

Chicks hatch inside the nest cavity with no feathers and their eyes closed. When the chicks fledge from the nest cavity they are fully feathered.



## PARENTAL CARE

Chicks hatch inside with offspring for ~5 weeks, then joins male outside to feed chicks until fledge. Offspring stays with adults for 6-9 months.

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# CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION



## SOCIAL STRUCTURE

**In the wild:** Bonded pairs can be found roosting and feeding in larger groups.

**Within AZA:** Bonded pairs

**Minimum Group Size:** 1

**Maximum Group Size:** Pair with young offspring



## MIXED SPECIES EXHIBITS

**Compatible in mixed species exhibits?**

YES

NO

**Comments:** Smaller exhibit mates are looked at as potential food items and larger species would be a target of aggression.



## OPTIMAL HABITAT SIZE

40-66' x 16' x 12' (L x W x H)



## MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

They can be aggressive and territorial. This species has proven to be difficult to successfully pair, and therefore breed.

# ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

n/a

## REFERENCES

[Animaldiversity.org/accounts/Buceros\\_bicornis](https://animaldiversity.org/accounts/Buceros_bicornis)

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**Date:** 6/14/24