

HAND-REARING GREATER KUDU (*TRAGELAPHUS STREPSICEROS*) AT THE CALDWELL ZOO

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Abstract

Three greater kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*), one male and two females were hand-reared at the Caldwell Zoo (Tyler, TX). Hand rearing was essential due to unfavorable birth conditions. One male and one female were bottle fed goat milk and the other female bottle fed cow's milk. Each kudu was initially bottle fed five times per day and gradually feedings were reduced to one feeding per day. Over this period of time, intakes and body weight were recorded. At the end of the first month, the females had gained 44% bodyweight and the male, born premature, gained 59% bodyweight. The kudus were weaned at five months of age.