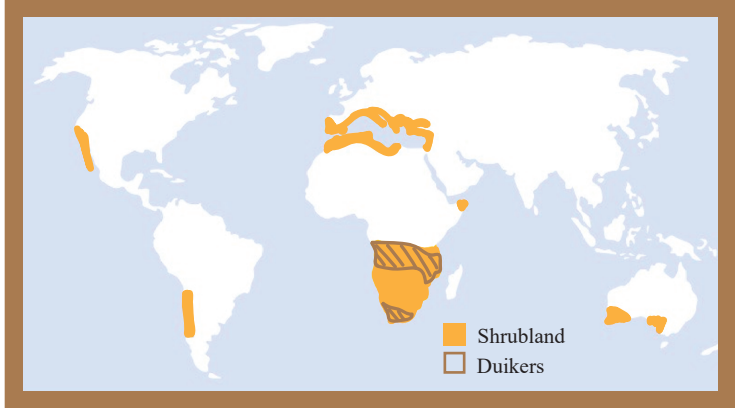


Bush Duiker | *Sylvicapra Grimmia*

Also known as: Grimm or Common Duicker

A bush duiker is a small to medium sized brown antelope native to sub-Saharan Africa found in woody shrubland areas. They are part of the Cephalophus family.



Trophic Level and Food:

Bush duikers are primary and secondary consumers. They are browsers that feed primarily on leaves, fruit and berries, but will occasionally eat birds and rodents.



Hunger Games:

Bush duikers will be a hinderance to a Hunger Games's participant's ability to survive. Male duikers fight with other animals and very likely, people, especially when their territory is invaded. Hunger Games participants that encounter a duiker will likely be injured from a blow from its horns. Duikers mark their territory and guard it, decreasing the space available for a Hunger Games participant to camp during the night.

Habitat:

Bush duikers live in the wooded areas of shrublands in sub-Saharan Africa. Hence their name, their habitat contains ranges of bushes and dry, woody plants like various shrubs. They do not live in areas with dense vegetation and never go into forests.



Adaptions:

In order to thrive in dry, woody areas, bush duikers have developed many features that distinguish them from forest duikers, including:

- Long legs allow them to run further distances across the open land and through underbrush.
- Four chambered stomach allows them to digest large quantities of plants, as well as most nutritious part of plant.
- Tan colored coat blends in with woody shrubs.
- Large mouths allow them to eat variety of bulky plants that are otherwise unedible.
- Live alone or as couple to avoid intraspecies competition.

Keystone Species:

Bush duikers function as keystone species as a number of plants and berries would have a hard time surviving w/o them. Duikers are a critical influence for the environment because they are seed dispersers for the plants and berries that they eat. Dispersing the seeds allows the plants and berries to reproduce, giving more food to not only themselves, but also other organisms.

