

BIRTHS & HATCHINGS

RHINO BORN AT CLEVELAND METROPARKS ZOO

A male eastern black rhinoceros calf was born July at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. The birth marks the start of a third generation of rhinos at the Zoo. The calf is the offspring of Kibibbi (8) and Jimma (22) and it makes the Zoo's other female adult rhino, Inge, a grandmother.

The calf weighed about 80 pounds at birth and is growing fast. He already tips the scales at about 150 pounds. When he is fully grown he will weigh about 3,000 pounds.

"We couldn't be happier with how well Kibibbi is taking care of her calf," said Andi Kornak, the Zoo's curator of animals. "But it's not surprising considering what a good example Inge has set as a successful rhino mom."

The Zoo has been very successful in breeding eastern black rhinos as part of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums' Species Survival Program® (SSP) - this is the fifth successful rhino birth at the Zoo since 2000. SSPs are cooperative breeding and management groups for endangered or threatened species including black rhinos, lowland gorillas, polar bears and African elephants. The Zoo's new calf is the first eastern black rhino birth in North America since January, 2011.

The eastern black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis michaeli*) is classified as "critically endangered" in the wild by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the primary organization for quantifying conservation assessment efforts. The IUCN estimates there are less than 1,000 of this rhino subspecies left in the wild, concentrated primarily in Kenya, South Africa and Tanzania.

LESSER FLAMINGOS HATCH AT FORT WORTH ZOO

The lesser flamingo is one of the Fort Worth Zoo's banner conservation species. Zoo staff celebrated another record-setting year after hatching 21

lesser flamingos, which is the same amount hatched in 2011. In 2010, bird staff successfully reared 18 chicks, which at the time was the most in the history of the Zoo's flamingo breeding program and at any zoo in the world.

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