

# GAUR



**Habitat:** Forested hills and grasslands

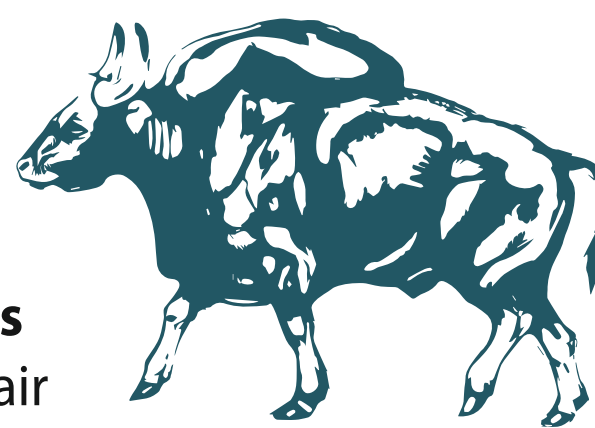
## Population

Worldwide	Approximately 30,000
India	Approximately 28,000

**IUCN Status:** Vulnerable

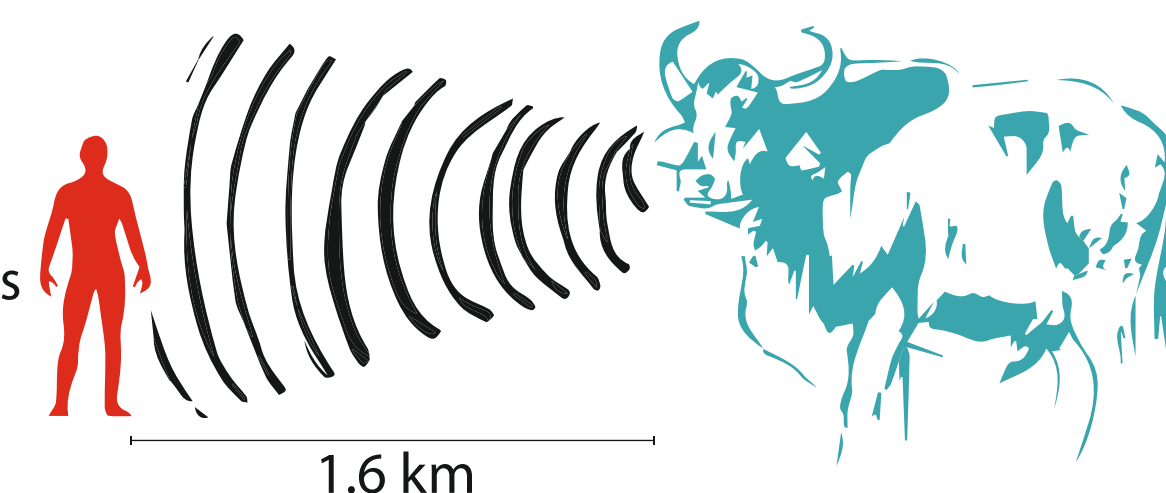


- **Tallest** living oxen species and one among the heaviest
- Sexually dimorphic, **both males and females have horns**
- Adult males have shiny black hair with loose skin hanging from the throat to the forelegs
- Adult females are dark brown in colour, with thinner horns
- Mostly active in the morning and evening; **nocturnal in human-disturbed areas**
- **Lowers its head and hind side to attack** with horns when threatened
- Gives out a call known as a 'whistling snort' when alarmed
- **Very shy and calm** despite huge size
- **Rarely attacks** unless provoked or approached closely

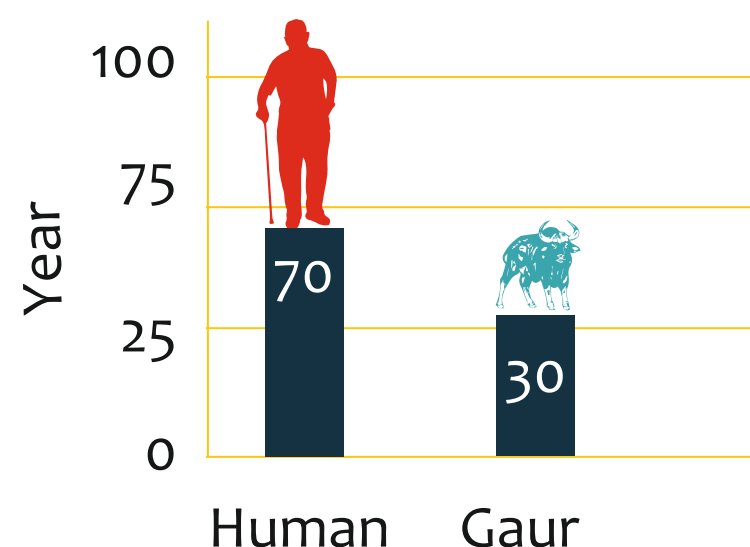


## Breeding

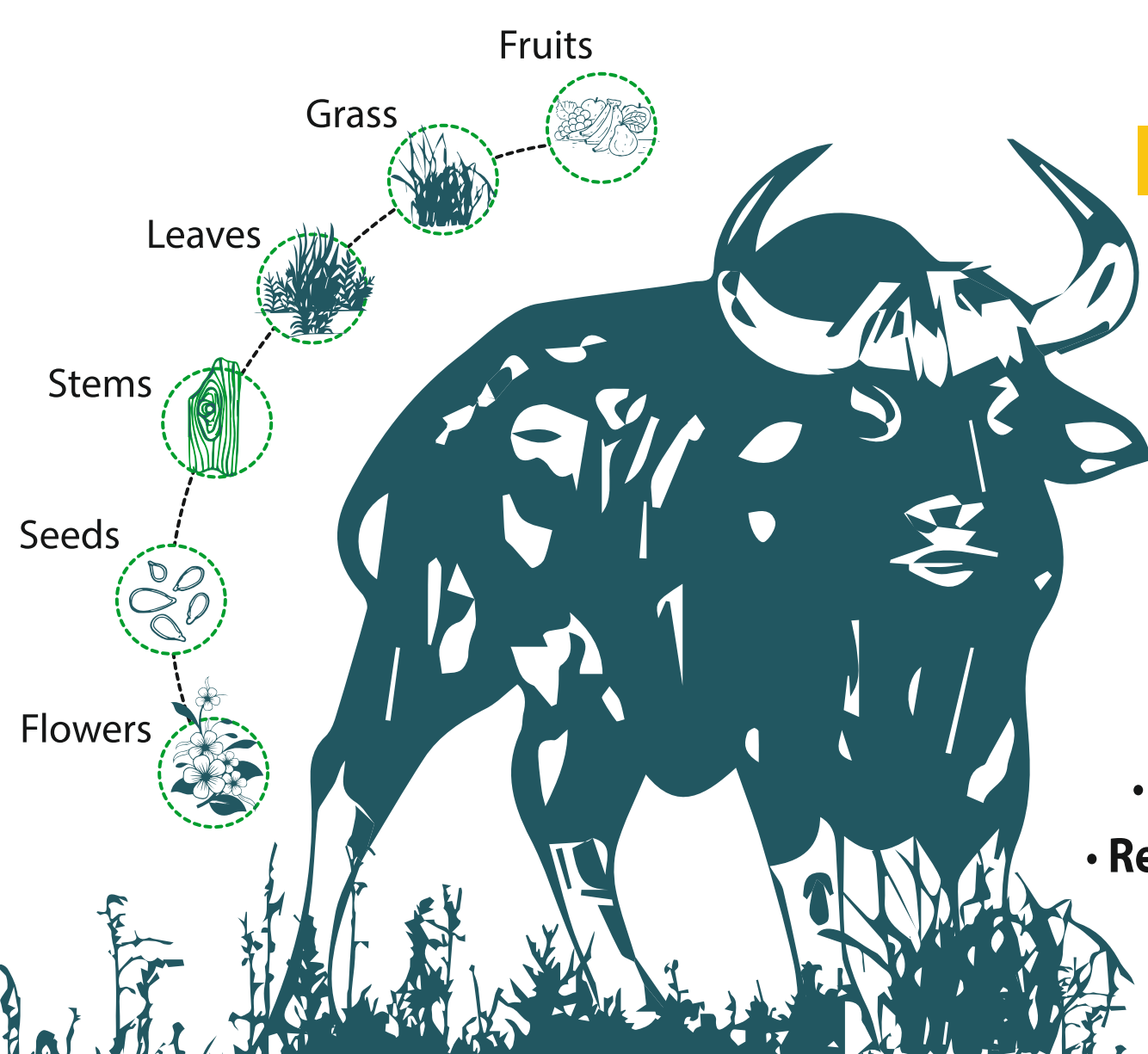
Breeding takes place year-round, but typically peaks between December and June. In the breeding season, the bellow of the male can be heard from 1.6 km away



## Average lifespan



## Diet



## Group structure

Varies from habitat to habitat over seasons  
8-11 females with a bull  
**During mating season:** More males join the group  
**After the mating season:** Males move out of the group



## Do you know?

- Gaur provide **crucial ecosystem services** for **control of plant communities** and landscape change
- Gaurs are hunted for animal trophies, horns, sports and meat in some places
- Gaurs are prone to cattle diseases such as rinderpest and foot & mouth disease
- **Habitat loss is the biggest threat** to the population
- Gaur-human conflict was not a serious problem earlier, but due to habitat loss it is emerging as an issue
- As gaurs are shy, **conflict is largely confined to crop damage** in forest villages and encroachments
- **Regenerating degraded habitats** can reduce gaur-human conflict

## Reproductive age

2-3 years

**Gestation period:**

9 months → A female reproduces every 1-1.5 years



1 calf at a time  
**Weight:** 23 kg



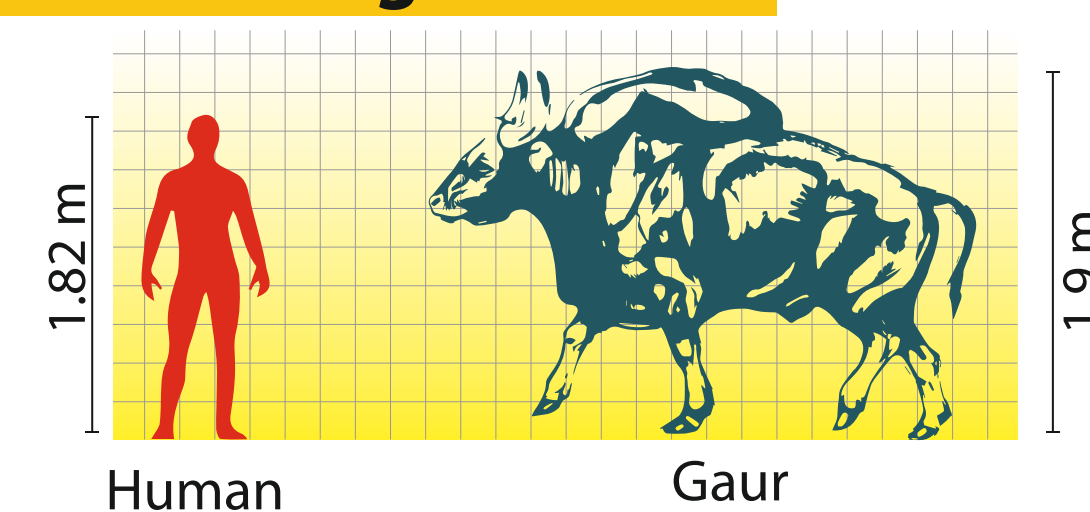
1 Gaur calf



10 Human babies

**Maximum weight** – 1,000 kg

**Maximum height** – 1.9 m



Indo-German Cooperation on Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India  
2017-2023  
Taking a Harmonious Co-existence  
approach to Human-Wildlife Conflict Mitigation in India



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