

GREATER KUDU

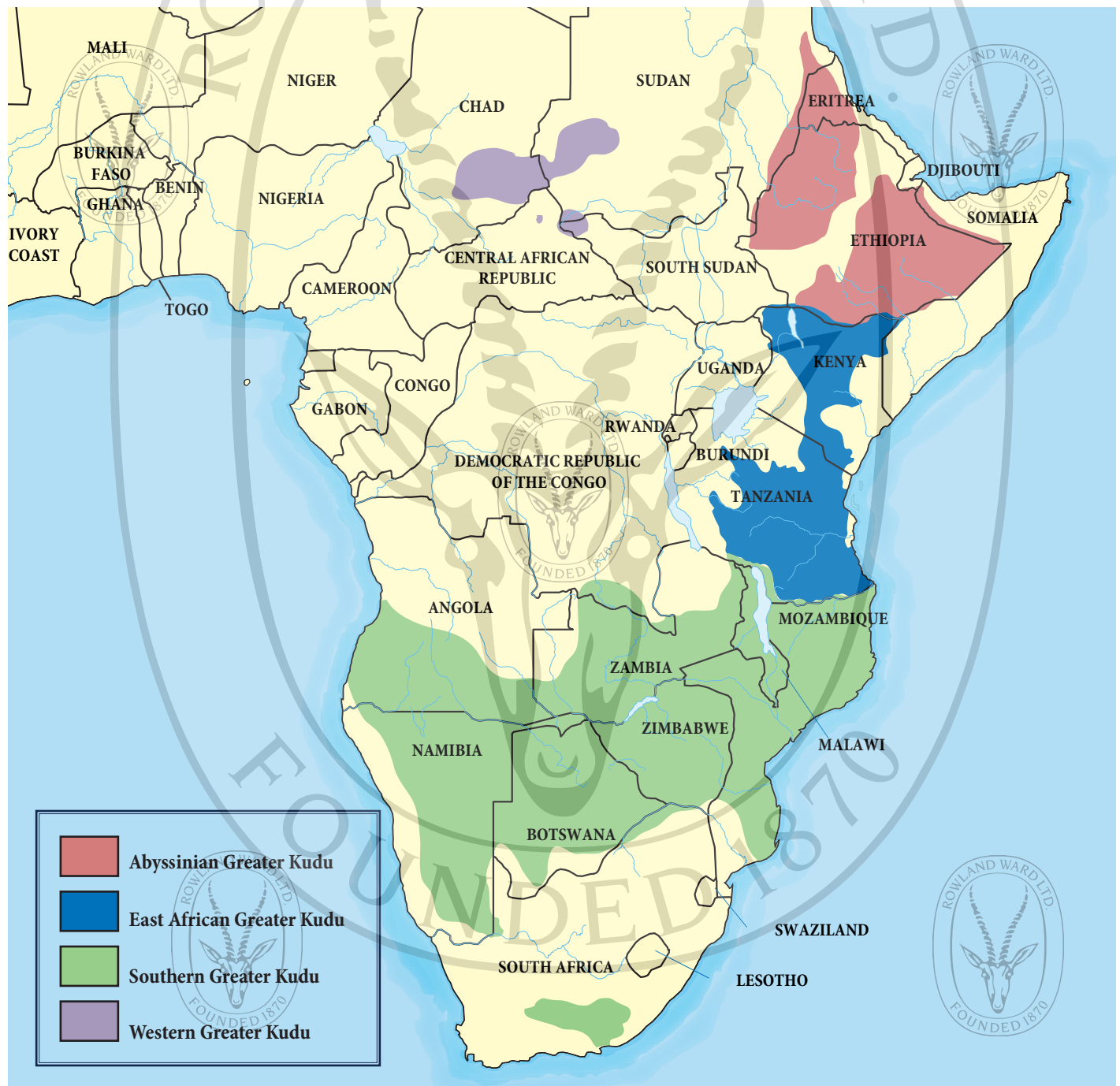
Tragelaphus strepsiceros

Distribution — Found originally in the mountains of southeastern Chad and Ethiopia and on south throughout the drier areas of eastern and Southern Africa wherever there were thickets and dense woodland. Kudus are fairly abundant throughout their wide range. With such a wide distribution, there is a certain amount of variation; we recognize four subspecies for the purpose of this work.

Description — The greater kudu is grayish-brown, in some specimens grayer, and in others more rufous. Both sexes have a mane on the neck, continued as a whitish dorsal crest from which six to ten vertical white stripes descend on each side of the body, the number being less in the East African race. There is a white chevron between the eyes; the muzzle

and lips are white; the insides of the ears are ochre; there are three white spots on the cheek below the eye; the underparts are grayish; and the insides of the legs are white or off-white. The legs are fawn on the outside and black behind the lower legs. The underside of the short, bushy tail is white, and the tail is tufted with black at the tip. The ears are large and mobile. The magnificent horns, usually found only on the males, are spread in beautiful open spirals. It is an inoffensive antelope except in fights with rival bulls.

During the rut, greater kudus live in small herds of from five to ten females and a dominant bull. After the rut, the males form their own small bands and separate entirely from the females for the rest of year; old bulls are often found alone. They prefer hilly



country with fairly thick bush for cover. They need water as they drink regularly, but where water is not available, as in some parts of Namibia, they will obtain liquid from watermelons.

Despite their size, they conceal themselves in the most elusive way, remaining stationary, merging their bodies in the stripes of light and shade in the bush. They have remarkably keen hearing and scent, and, if disturbed, slide off in the scrub, tilting their heads so that the horns lie horizontally along their back, going under rather than jumping over thick thornbushes. They are not fleet of foot and rely on concealment rather than speed for safety. They are principally browsers, living on the tender shoots and leaves of bushes, such as euphorbia and acacia, as well as wild fruit and seed pods. A

delicacy is young grass, such as that which shoots up after a fire, and it is then that they may be seen in the open. They are largely nocturnal, feeding in the valleys and ascending the hills at dawn to rest in the shade during the heat of the day. Calves appear at different times in different parts of Africa; the gestation period is seven to eight months. Together with the roan and possibly the bongo, it vies for Africa's heaviest antelope after the eland clan.

Height at shoulder: about 53 inches (134 cm), weight 650 lbs. (295 kg.).

Note: The kudu was seen and admired by the early explorers of South Africa, and later Selous described it as "one of the most beautiful animals in the world."

ABYSSINIAN GREATER KUDU

Tragelaphus strepsiceros chora

Distribution — Found in eastern Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Somalia. It should be noted that probably till the 1930s the Abyssinian and the western kudus joined in the Kordofan region of the Sudan. It appears they no longer exist there; therefore, we have assigned the animals from the eastern sections of the Sudan to the Abyssinian category

and the animals from the western parts of the Sudan to the western kudu category.

Description — In some cases the Abyssinian kudu is a bit darker than the other races, and it has the smallest body of all the greater kudus. Interestingly, it has been observed in mountainous terrain in proximity to the mountain nyala.

Method 8. Minimum Score 42. SL=Straight Line Measurements *=New Entry 2019							Method Taken
Length		Circumference			Date	Owner	
L-Left.	L-Right	C-Left	C-Right	Locality			
SL 59 4/8	0	10 4/8	0	Eritrea	1927	C. Hankey	
58 1/8	56	10	10 3/8	Ethiopia, south.	1906	T. Morse	
SL 58	0	10	0	Somalia	1902	Sir G. Chetwynd, Bt.	
57 7/8	57 6/8	10 2/8	10 2/8	Somalia	1934	N.W. Holbrook	
57 7/8	57	9	9	Sudan	1913	Earl of Sefton	
57 5/8	57 1/8	9 6/8	9 5/8	Somalia	1913	H.J.T. Hamer	
57 5/8	56 5/8	9 4/8	9 5/8	Somalia	1909	P.K. Glazebrook	
SL 57 3/8	0	9 5/8	0	Somalia	1898	J. Johnston-Stewart	
57 2/8	56 4/8	10	10	Sudan	1909	Capt. G. Stewart	
57 2/8	56 4/8	9 6/8	9 7/8	Somalia	1961	Flight Lt. E.A. Rise	
57 2/8	56 3/8	9 4/8	9 5/8	Sudan	1909	Earl of Kingston	
SL 57	0	9 6/8	0	Somalia	1913	Maj. J.H. Brocklehurst	
SL 57	0	9 5/8	0	Somalia	1898	Orléans Collection	
56 6/8	56	9 6/8	9 6/8	Eritrea	1927	Capt. L.V. Dart	
56 6/8	55 1/8	9 6/8	9 6/8	Sudan	1921	A. Wyllie	
SL 56 4/8	0	10 1/8	0	Somalia	1906	Whitehead Collection	
56 4/8	56 3/8	9 4/8	9 4/8	Ethiopia	1977	Maurizio Braitto	
SL 56 4/8	0	9 4/8	0	Somalia	1898	J. Benett-Stanford	
SL 56 4/8	0	8 4/8	0	Somalia	1906	R.E. Drake-Brockman	
56 2/8	56	10 4/8	10 4/8	Somalia	1934	H.R.H. Duke of Gloucester	
56	55 7/8	10 4/8	10 4/8	Somalia	1921	G. Blaine	
56	55 2/8	9 6/8	9 6/8	Eritrea	1927	R.B. Loder	
56	55 6/8	9 4/8	9 6/8	Ethiopia, Matahara	1978	H.E.A. Vojinovic	
55 5/8	55 3/8	11 4/8	11 3/8	Somalia	1909	Capt. A.E.H. Breslin	
55 5/8	54	10 4/8	10 5/8	Eritrea	1927	Maj. H.C. Maydon	
55 5/8	55 2/8	10	9 5/8	Somalia	1909	Capt. F.M. Ransford	
55 5/8	54 7/8	10	9 7/8	Sudan	1902	Lt. Gen. Sir B.T. Mahon	
55 1/8	54 1/8	11	11 1/8	Somalia	1909	A. de L. Long	
55 1/8	54 1/8	10	10	Sudan	1906	Capt. A.C. Parker	
55 1/8	54	9 4/8	9 4/8	Somalia	1909	Maj. G.G. Gilligan	
54 7/8	53 1/8	10 6/8	10 5/8	Ethiopia	1927	P.H. Thomas	
54 7/8	54 3/8	10 6/8	10 7/8	Somalia	1913	J.H. Miller	
54 7/8	0	10 1/8	0	Ethiopia, Denakil	1972	H.M. King Juan Carlos	
54 7/8	54 3/8	10	10	Somalia	1934	A. Akroyd	
54 5/8	53 4/8	10	10	Sudan	1913	Capt. S.J. Burton	
54 5/8	53 2/8	9 6/8	10	Sudan	1913	Capt. J.A. Pollock	
SL 54 4/8	0	10	0	Sudan	1909	Maj. Hon. H. Fraser	



Method 8. Minimum Score 50. SL=Straight Line Measurements *=New Entry 2019							Method Taken
Length		Circumference		Locality	Date	Owner	
L-Left.	L-Right	C-Left	C-Right				
53 ³ / ₈	52 ⁶ / ₈	9 ⁶ / ₈	9 ⁵ / ₈	Kenya, Baragoi	1976	J.P. Hennell	
53 ² / ₈	53 ² / ₈	9 ² / ₈	9 ² / ₈	Tanzania, Selous	1976	Jaakko Ojanpera	
53	51 ⁶ / ₈	10 ⁴ / ₈	10 ⁴ / ₈	Tanzania, Kizigo	1966	Mufindi Rod & Gun Club	
53	0	10 ² / ₈	0	Tanzania, Wembere R.	2002	Robert Crew	
53	52 ⁷ / ₈	10	10	Tanzania	1927	Maj. R.W.V. Bruce	
52 ⁴ / ₈	0	10 ⁵ / ₈	0	Tanzania, Manyoni	1963	C.A. Boswell	
52 ⁴ / ₈	0	10 ⁴ / ₈	0	Tanzania, Mbeya, Chunya	1999	Dirk K. Subjetzki	
52 ² / ₈	0	9 ⁵ / ₈	0	Tanzania, Selous	1984	John B. Brent	
52 ¹ / ₈	0	9 ³ / ₈	0	Tanzania, Selous	1983	L. Irvin Barnhart	
52	0	10 ² / ₈	0	Tanzania, Ruaha R.	1959	J.H.M. Niblett	

SOUTHERN GREATER KUDU

Tragelaphus strepsiceros strepsiceros

Distribution — Found in South Africa, Namibia, Angola, D.R.C, Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe; possibly still occurring in Malawi.

Description — This is the largest variety of greater kudu. Its majestic horns are very long and may form several complete turns of a spiral. Its body color is less rich than that of the East

African variety; it is gray in old males due to the hair wearing away and the skin showing through. The number of transverse stripes on the body is usually nine or ten. Cows with undersized horns have been recorded. The southern greater kudu is one of only two game animals on Earth that can grow horns to a length of 70 inches (178 cm) or more; the other is the Marco Polo sheep.

Method 8. Minimum Score 54. SL=Straight Line Measurements *=New Entry 2019							Method Taken
Length		Circumference		Locality	Date	Owner	
L-Left.	L-Right	C-Left	C-Right				
73 7/8	71 5/8	11	11	Mozambique, Save R.	1963	Dr. Carlo Caldesi	PU
62 5/8	72 5/8	10 1/8	0	Namibia, Hochfeld	2001	Johann Rohrer	
72 4/8	57 7/8	9 3/8	10 1/8	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Hoedspruit	2010	Dewald Joubert	
66 2/8	69 2/8	11	0	RSA, E. Transvaal	1916	James Cole Rous	
68 7/8	68	11 4/8	11 3/8	RSA, Mpumalanga, Marble Hall	1998	Nico Coetzee	
67 1/8	68 5/8	10 5/8	10 7/8	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Marken	2012	Paul Douglas Carmichael III	
68 3/8	67 5/8	11 4/8	11 4/8	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Soutpansberg	2005	Ghaleb M.Y. Al-Hamad	
68 2/8	67 5/8	11 4/8	11	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Alldays	2002	Dave Tallman	
68	0	11 6/8	0	Zimbabwe, Mashonaland W., Chinhoyi	1976	Michael Courtney Duffy	
68	66 3/8	11 2/8	11 2/8	RSA, Mpumalanga, Burgersfort	1999	Marnus Pretorius	
67 5/8	67 3/8	12 2/8	12 1/8	RSA, N. Prov., Marble Hall	1996	J.H. Harmse	
67 1/8	65 2/8	10 6/8	10 6/8	RSA, N Prov., Steenbokpan	1999	Arnold Pistorius	
67	66 1/8	12 2/8	12	Zambia	1953	R.B. Aitken	
67	66 3/8	10 4/8	10 5/8	RSA, NW Prov., Zeerust	2008	Pieter Willem Adrian Strydom	
66 5/8	0	11 1/8	0	RSA, N Prov., Potgietersus	1972	J.P. Verster	
66 5/8	65 7/8	10 4/8	11	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Ellisras	2009	Angus Murray	SL
66 4/8	0	12	0	Swaziland	1927	W.J. Hughes	
66 2/8	0	10 6/8	0	Zimbabwe, Bulawayo	1981	Gray Scarterfield	
66 1/8	65	11 4/8	11 3/8	Namibia, Khomas, Dordabis	2003	Jeremy Boyd	
66	0	10	0	Namibia, Dordabis	2007	Francois du Toit	
65 6/8	56 6/8	11 4/8	10 7/8	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Waterpoort	2011	Rudi Britz	
61 7/8	65 5/8	12 4/8	12 4/8	RSA, N. Tvl., Louis Trichardt	1995	H.I.H. Prince Abdorreza of Iran	
65 5/8	65 1/8	11 2/8	10 6/8	Botswana, Ghansi	1992	Ben Miller	
65 4/8	65	12	11 6/8	RSA, N. Transvaal	1990	A.J. Steele	
65 4/8	0	11	0	Zimbabwe	1921	O.G. Thiel	
65 3/8	64 1/8	12 4/8	12 3/8	RSA, North West Province	2003	Dr. J.C. Keevy	SL
65 3/8	0	11 4/8	0	Zimbabwe, Limpopo River	1914	M.D. Delpont	
65 3/8	64 3/8	11	11	Namibia, North	1993	Boet Prinsloo	
65 3/8	63 7/8	11	11	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Marken	2006	Etienne van Jaarsveld	
65 2/8	65 1/8	12	12 1/8	RSA, Mpumalanga, Nelspruit	2010	Angus Murray	
65 2/8	65 2/8	11 4/8	11 6/8	RSA, Limpopo Prov., Naboomspruit	2008	R.J. van Emmenes	
65 2/8	63 2/8	10	10	RSA, NW Prov., Zeerust	2006	Sydney Smit	
65 2/8	64 2/8	9	9 1/8	Namibia, Grootfontein	2008	C.H. White	
65 1/8	63 1/8	12 2/8	12 4/8	Namibia, Otjiuarongo	1994	S.P. Du Toit	
65 1/8	64 4/8	10 3/8	9 7/8	Zambia, Mtendere	1992	S.M. O'Donnell	
65	0	11	0	RSA, Transvaal	1963	Bruce Truter	
65	63 5/8	10 4/8	10 4/8	RSA, N. Tvl., Ellisras	1994	J.C. Lambrecht	
65	0	8 7/8	0	RSA, Mpumalanga, Marble Hall	2007	C. van Aarot	
64 7/8	63 5/8	12	11 7/8	RSA, NW Prov., Groot Marico	2003	Berry Hendry	
64 6/8	62 6/8	10 3/8	10 3/8	Zambia, Luangwa	1999	Angus Murray	
64 6/8	63 6/8	10	10	RSA, NW Prov., Zeerust	2009	B.D. Koekemoer	*
63 5/8	64 5/8	13 2/8	11 2/8	Zimbabwe, Dande North	2010	Ralph De Natale	
64 4/8	64	11 4/8	11 3/8	RSA, N Prov., Dwaalboom	1996	A.M. Erasmus	

WESTERN GREATER KUDU

Tragelaphus strepsiceros cottoni

Distribution — Found in the C.A.R.; Sudan; Chad, especially near Melfi-Mongo-Abou Deia. It should be noted that probably till the 1930s the Abyssinian and the western kudus joined in the Kordofan region of the Sudan. It appears they no longer exist there; therefore, we have assigned the animals from the eastern sections of the Sudan to the Abyssinian category

and the animals from the western parts of the Sudan to the western kudu category.

Description — The background color of the cottoni is much paler than in other races, the stripes are fewer, and the size smaller.

Method 8. Minimum Score 42. SL=Straight Line Measurements *=New Entry 2019							Method Taken	
Length		Circumference		Locality	Date	Owner		
L-Left.	L-Right	C-Left	C-Right					
SL	53 ³ / ₈	0	9 ² / ₈	0	Chad, Aya	1921	Powell-Cotton Museum	R
	50 ⁵ / ₈	49 ⁵ / ₈	9 ⁷ / ₈	9 ⁷ / ₈	Chad, Koutoutou	1963	G. Descamps de Posson	
	50 ² / ₈	50	8 ⁵ / ₈	9	Chad	1955	Ct. Seefried	
SL	49 ⁶ / ₈	0	10	0	Chad	1950	G. Steward	
	49 ⁴ / ₈	0	10 ⁴ / ₈	0	Chad, Kapka Mts.	1958	E.T. Gates	
	49 ⁴ / ₈	48 ⁴ / ₈	9 ² / ₈	9 ³ / ₈	Chad	2003	Peter H. Flack	
	49 ⁴ / ₈	49 ² / ₈	9	9	Sudan, Darfur	1921	Capt. H. Chown	
	49 ³ / ₈	49 ¹ / ₈	9 ⁴ / ₈	9 ⁴ / ₈	Chad, Melfi	1963	Ct. X. de Montbel	
	48 ⁵ / ₈	48	9 ⁷ / ₈	10	Chad, Biltine	1967	G. Pejrone	
	48 ⁴ / ₈	47 ⁵ / ₈	9 ⁴ / ₈	9 ⁵ / ₈	Chad	1959	J. Perez	
	48 ⁴ / ₈	47	9 ¹ / ₈	9 ¹ / ₈	Chad	1961	I. Font	
SL	48 ³ / ₈	0	9	0	Chad, Abeche	1960	M. Caragorry	
SL	48 ² / ₈	0	10 ⁴ / ₈	0	Chad, Chinguil	1979	G. Elias	
	47 ⁷ / ₈	46 ³ / ₈	9 ⁴ / ₈	9 ³ / ₈	Chad	1962	B.B. Brooks	
SL	47 ⁶ / ₈	0	10	0	Chad, Chinguil	1962	J. Sirot	
	47 ⁵ / ₈	47 ³ / ₈	9	8 ⁷ / ₈	Chad, Kontoufan	1961	P. Pascaud	
	47 ² / ₈	46 ² / ₈	9 ⁵ / ₈	9 ⁶ / ₈	Chad, Kapka Mts.	1958	R. Dussud	
	47	45 ³ / ₈	8 ⁶ / ₈	8 ³ / ₈	Chad, Daguela	1955	O. Sarraut	
	46 ⁶ / ₈	46 ⁵ / ₈	9 ⁵ / ₈	9 ⁴ / ₈	CAR, Delembe	1986	L. Irvin Barnhart	
	46 ² / ₈	0	9 ¹ / ₈	0	Sudan, Darfur	1937	Toni A. Debben Collection	
*	46	45	10	10	Chad	1964	E. Thorn	
	45	46	9 ⁶ / ₈	9 ⁶ / ₈	Chad, Melfi	2013	Christian Brendel	
	46	44 ⁴ / ₈	7 ³ / ₈	7 ⁴ / ₈	Chad, Biltine	1948	F. Edmond-Blanc	
	45 ⁴ / ₈	44 ⁷ / ₈	8 ⁴ / ₈	8 ⁴ / ₈	Chad, Daguela	1958	Baron A. de Rothschild	
	45 ³ / ₈	44 ¹ / ₈	9 ⁴ / ₈	9 ⁴ / ₈	Chad, Biltine	1968	M. Deramond	
	45 ³ / ₈	43 ⁶ / ₈	9	9	Chad, Melfi	1951	Ernst Zwilling (4)	



(Courtesy of Bernard Gagnon and Wikimedia)



Long thought lost, James Roux's No. 4 southern greater kudu is on display today at the premises of the SA Hunters Association in Pretoria. It measures 69 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches and was shot in 1916 in the Transvaal, South Africa.



Johann Rohrer's No. 2 southern greater kudu measures 72 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches, Namibia. The diameter of the right horn curl is remarkable.



Dewald Joubert's No. 3 southern greater kudu measures 72 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches and was shot near Hoedspruit, South Africa, 2010. The right horn has an enlarged curl diameter.



Dr. Carlo Caldesi with the largest southern greater kudu ever recorded of any subspecies. This pick-up from Mozambique measures 73 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches.