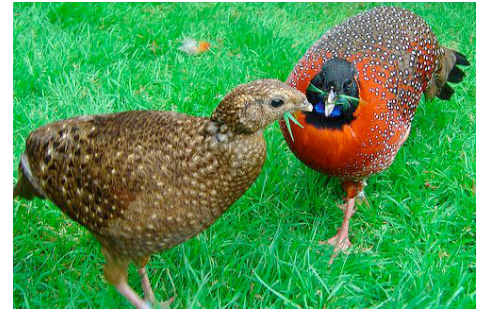




Satyr Tragopan

Galliformes
Family: Phasianidae
Genus: *Tragopan*
Species: *satyra*



Range: central and eastern Himalayas, from north India and Nepal, east to Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh, India, and also penetrating some lower valleys in nearby Xizang, China.

Habitat: moist oak and rhododendron forests with dense undergrowth and bamboo clumps from 8,000 to 14,000 feet in summer and 6,000 feet in winter.

Niche: terrestrial, omnivorous, diurnal

Wild diet: seeds, fresh leaves, moss, bamboo shoots, berries and insects

Zoo diet:

Life Span: (Wild)
(Captivity)

Sexual dimorphism: sexually dichromatic

Location in SF Zoo: Short bird string

APPEARANCE & PHYSICAL ADAPTATIONS:

Satyr Tragopans are also known as Crimson Horned Pheasants. Males are usually red with blue, black, and white spots and freckles. The male of this species has the darkest, deepest red underparts of all tragopans, with the brighter crimson-red coloration typical of these birds being restricted mainly to the neck and upper breast. Like other tragopans, males are strikingly adorned with vibrant blue skin on their face, throat and bib-like lappet, which is decorated with a series of triangular scarlet patches down each side. Two fleshy blue horns also project above the eye during male displays. In contrast, females are rufous to dull-brown, with black and buff markings.

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| Weight: M 3.5 – 4.6 lbs F 2.2 – 2.6 lbs |
| Length: M 26.4 – 28.3 in F 22.6 in |
| Wingspan: |

STATUS & CONSERVATION

Classified as Near Threatened (NT) on the IUCN Red List 2007 and listed on Appendix III of CITES. Satyr tragopans are the least threatened of the tragopans but still face many threats; they have a moderately small population that is subject to hunting and habitat loss throughout most of its range.

SATYR TRAGOPAN

COMMUNICATION AND OTHER BEHAVIOR

The call of the male is a wail uttered as "wah waah oo-ah oo-aaaaa," becoming louder as the call progresses. The call is repeated 12 to 14 times usually at sunrise.

Males have elaborate displays that they use to attract females during the breeding season. They grow blue horns and a gular wattle. When ready to display, they will inflate their horns and hide behind a rock, waiting for females to pass by. When one does, they will perform an elaborate and attractive display in front of the females. At the end of the display, the male will stretch to his full height and show off all of his ornaments.

These birds are more dependent on flight than other tragopans. They also like to perch. Satyr tragopans are often hidden and difficult to see in their natural habitat. Even when flushed, the birds will quickly fly into nearby branches and disappear from view. During the summer, they are found in pairs. During the post-breeding season, they may be found in small groups. At other times of the year, they may be solitary.

COURTSHIP AND YOUNG

The breeding season extends from March to June. The nest is made of sticks and twigs and is built off the ground well concealed in trees and shrubs near the forest edge.

The precocial chicks can survive without food for 2 days after hatching. After two or three days, the chicks are able to fly and perch. They also huddle under the mother satyr tragopan's wings. The young remain with the mother for their first year.

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|------------------|------------|
| Incubation: | 28 days | Sexual Maturity: | 2 years |
| # of Eggs: | 2 – 3 | Fledging: | 2 - 3 days |

MISCELLANEOUS

T. satyr differs from *T. temminck's* in it has deepest red underparts and *T. satyr* has low back, rump and upper wing coverts are brown rather than crimson. Both have bare blue skin on their faces.

Sources:

Handbook of the Birds of the World, Vol II © 1996 Josep del Hoya, Lynx Edicions.

<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/speciesfactsheet.php?id=238>

http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/accounts/Tragopan_satyra/

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