

September 2012

We are Back Home!

Letter from the Editor



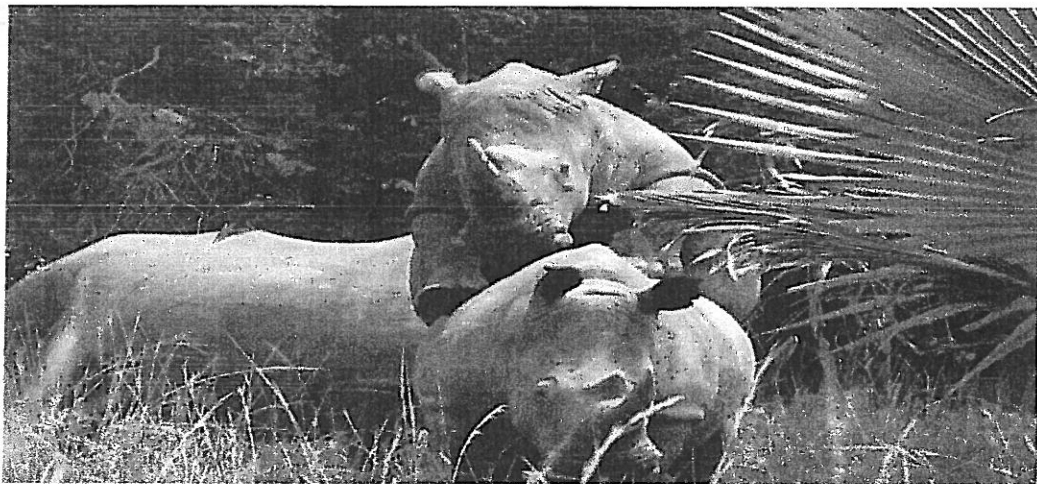
Although it is the beginning of the second rainy season, your coming around always brings the sun. This month has been exciting with our rhinos in great health and condition. The sanctuary has come a long way in trying to bring back the rhinos to Uganda since their extinction in the 1970's. Through the establishment of breeding and re-introduction programs we have managed to raise a population of 14 rhinos in Uganda, of which 12 are at *Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary*. It's still our dream of having rhinos roam back in wild places of Uganda and this keeps us on our feet every single day. Around this time of the year, our males are up to something, maybe you can tell me. Otherwise we would like to send our appreciation to groups/individuals who have contributed towards bringing rhinos back to Uganda, either by visiting or donating.

"Keep rhinoceros"

Peace Nakitto

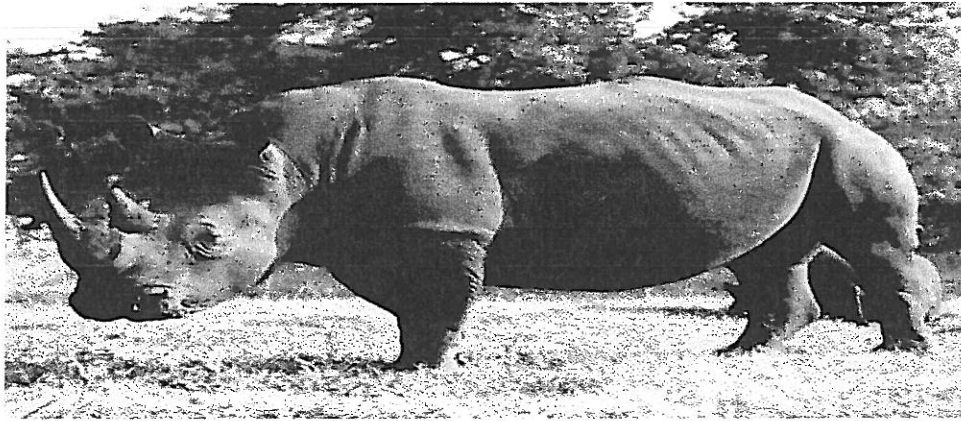
Peace Nakitto

Taleo our dominant bull goes "rhino-mantic"



Taleo is our most handsome dominant bull that rules the sanctuary; well you might say he is the “boss” in a way. One of the most treasured assets in his realm are of course his 3 beautiful wives; **Nandi, Bella** and **Kori** whom he always keeps under his keen watchful eye from other advancing males; **Hassan** and **Moja**. White rhino breeding begins later at around **seven** to **eight** years of age. Females spray urine on dung piles or bushes to alert males when in estrus and ready to mate. Males may come along and spray over their urine to ward off potential competition. Females also coil their tails in order to signal that they are ready for mating. In most cases the male bulls have to put up a fight with each other for the females to select the strongest male available to mate with. These mating instances can last over an hour. Males and females have little to do with each other during moments where no mating is occurring. Once the act of mating has finished, the male will usually leave the female. Some rhinoceros males have been observed to stay around the female for a few days after mating to make sure no other males take over.

Are our Rhinos changing colors?



It was a surprise to see our rhinos changing colors from deep black, to earth red, grey and brown. But this is mainly due to the **color of the mud** they wallow in mostly during the dry season to cool off. The rhinos found on the sanctuary are Southern white rhinos. They are known as “white rhinos” not because of their skin color, but because of their “wide mouths”. This was a mistranslation of the Dutch word “**wijd**” which means “wide” in English that the early English-speaking settlers in South Africa misinterpreted as “**white**”.

Rhino Q & A

How many toes does a rhino have all together?

YOU CAN JOIN US IN BRINGING RHINOS BACK TO UGANDA BY:

- **Buying a Rhino Brick for 10\$**
- **Leaving behind a Rhino Footprint for 5\$**
- **Adopting a Rhino (details can be found on our website)**
- **Making a donation of any amount of money preferred.**

For details, please contact angie@rhinofund.org/0772713410