



## *Dama Wallaby*

*Macropus eugenii*

**Geographical Range:** Found south and southwestern coastal areas of Tasmania and Australia.

**Habitat:** They may be found in dense vegetation for coverage and open forests or savannas for feeding.

**Exhibit Location:** This animal is found in the Eco Station's Australian Scrub Forest Exhibit.

**Physical Characteristics:** There are many different species of wallabies, but the dama wallaby is unique. They are mostly nocturnal but they can be seen foraging for food or sunning during the day. They have small front legs with five digits and a sharp claw. Their hind legs are very powerful and much larger. The head and body length is about two feet long., with a tail of 15 to 17 inches. They are usually dark brown or gray looking with short rough fur.

**Diet:** In the wild this marsupial will eat shoots, licking dew & eating succulents like eucalyptus flowers and grasses. In captivity the dama wallaby is fed grain, carrots, alfalfa, lettuce, bananas, apples, and primate chow.

### Did you know?

- Dama wallabies give a warning thump with their hind legs when they feel they are in danger.
- They have long tails which they use for balance when leaping and as a third leg when sitting.
- The gestation period for dama wallabies is twenty eight days. The newborn joey climbs into the pouch on its own and feeds until it is ready to look out into the world. The joeys usually do not peak out of their mother's pouches until they are about 150 days old.
- The Dama Wallaby, also known as the Tammar or Scrub Wallaby, is a fairly small kangaroo that is becoming more popular as a pet. They are particularly popular in Mexico, which has a free trade agreement with New Zealand.

**Status:** Protected.