

REEDBUCK and RHEBUCK

There are three different species of reed-buck and these together with five species of waterbuck, constitute a sub-family of the antelopes, the REDUNCINAE. There is but a single species of rhebuck, the Grey Rhebuck, and this constitutes another subfamily, the PELEINAE. The Mountain Reedbuck



Head of male Mountain Reedbuck

and the Grey Rhebuck are often confused, because both species are confined to higher altitudes in the Orange Free State, both have the same suffix in Afrikaans ("Rooiribbok" and "Vaalribbok" respectively), and the females of the two species are difficult to distinguish at a distance, as they do not possess horns. The main differences are as follows:

The Mountain Reedbuck ("Rooiribbok", *Redunca fulvorufula*) is a solitary animal, but can occasionally be found in pairs or small herds. It in-



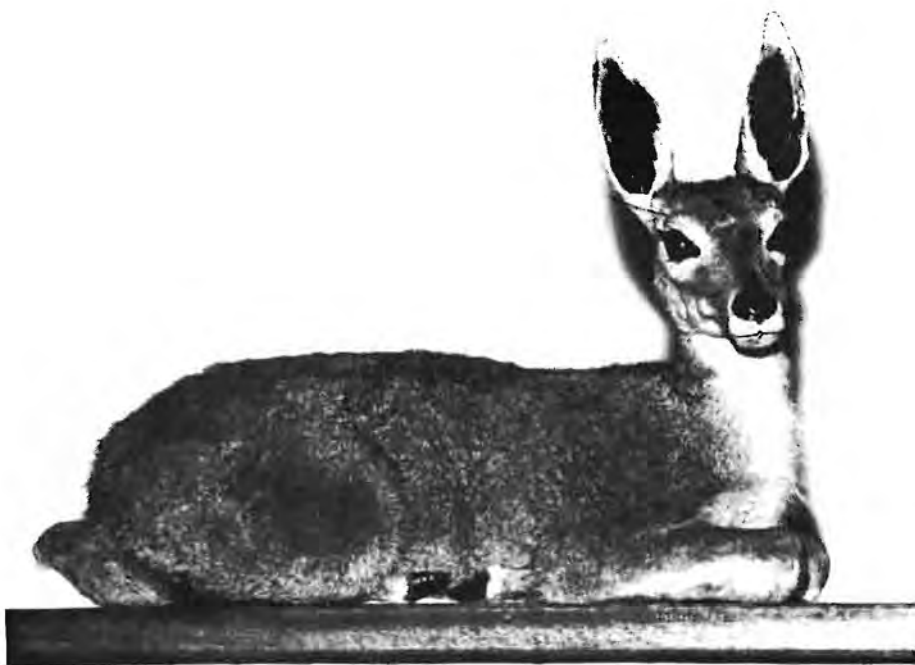
Above: A female Mountain Reedbuck ("Rooiribbok"), *Redunca fulvorufula*.

Below: A female Grey Rhebuck ("Vaalribbok"), *Pelea capreolus*. (Photo by N. Ferreira). Note: No person, not even the landowner, may hunt grey rhebuck during the period 1 January 1978 to 31 December 1978 inclusive.

habits rocky hills or broken country where there are some scattered bushes or trees and grass. The male has curved horns and in both sexes the belly is white and sharply demarcated from the rest of the body. It is worthwhile remembering that the ear tips are rounded in this species. The Mountain Reedbuck is found in South Africa, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Sudan and Ethiopia.

The Grey Rhebuck ("Vaalribbok", *Pelea capreolus*) prefers open grassland on the plateaux and pediments of mountains. The male has vertical, parallel horns and in both sexes the belly is hardly paler than the rest of the body and there is no sharp line of demarcation. The ear tips are pointed. The Grey Rhebuck is indigenous to South Africa.

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Head of male Grey Rhebuck