

# HADADA IBIS

## DISTRIBUTION



## *Bostrychia hagedash*

It has a loud, raucous Haa-Daa-Daa (hence its name) call which is belted out when they are in flight.

Males usually gather nest materials, which they ritually offer to their mates.



Although not quite as revered as the Sacred Ibis, Hadada's were buried with ancient Egyptian mummies as gifts to their gods. Animal mummies sold to the public as offerings to the gods and many sacred animals were specifically bred for this reason.

Many of these were not well mummified, some contained only rubble or only parts of an animal. X-rays show that numerous animals had broken necks or battered skulls, indicating they were deliberately killed for this purpose.

They feed by touch rather than sight, using their down-curved bills to probe mud and water

for prey. The "bill snap" involves the rapid closing of the bill as a reflex reaction to the tactile stimulation generated by contact with prey. When prey is dead or scarcely moves, they will seize it by means of a "bill grab" using the bill as tweezers.

## FACTS & FIGURES

Where found	Wet portions of the African savanna
Habitat	Swamps, marshes, river banks (near water)
Diet	Carnivorous; worms, snails, fish, insects, spiders, crustaceans, and amphibians.
Average length	60-80cm
Average weight	Up to 1.5kg
Number of eggs	2-6
Incubation	26 days

International Union for Conservation of Nature RED LIST for the Hadada Ibis



**THE RISK OF EXTINCTION FOR THIS SPECIES HAS CURRENTLY BEEN ASSESSED AS *LEAST CONCERN* IUCN RED LIST**