

Title : The general behavior of white rhinoceroses (*Ceratotherium simum*) in semi-natural conditions at Chiang Mai Night Safari Zoo, Chiang Mai Province

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Major : Zoology

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Type of presentation :

- Oral Presentation (เฉพาะ ตัวแทนนศ.ที่สาขาเลือกให้นำเสนอแบบบรรยาย)
- Poster (กรณี นำเสนอผลงานปัญหาพิเศษ/การค้นคว้าอิสระ)
- Cooperative Education (กรณี นำเสนอผลงานสหกิจศึกษา)

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on the behavior of the white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*) in a semi-natural environment at Chiang Mai Night Safari Zoo, Chiang Mai Province, from August to November 2024. The study observed two white rhinos, consisting of one male and one female. The behavior of the rhinos was monitored using the focal sampling method, with observations every 5 minutes from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. The results showed that the most frequent behavior exhibited by the rhinos was feeding, accounting for 37.9% of their activities. This was followed by resting (30.1%), standing (24.3%), moving (2.5%), defecating (1.6%), wallowing (1.6%), and rubbing their horns (1.2%).

An analysis of behavior patterns at different times revealed that the white rhinos rested the most between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM, which coincided with the highest ambient temperature, averaging 30.72°C. In contrast, at 10:00 AM (average temperature of 28.33°C) and 4:00 PM (average temperature of 30.75°C), the rhinos exhibited the greatest variety of behaviors. Additionally, there were some behavioral differences between the male and female white rhinos; the male exhibited mud wallowing, mud digging, and charging the cage door, while the female did not show these behaviors.