CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Great Bustard

Otis tarda

Otis tarda is arguably the heaviest flying bird on Earth, with exceptional males exceeding 18 kg - some records approach 21 kg - which puts them right at the theoretical ceiling for powered flight. S…

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Otididae
Habitat: Open grasslands and steppes
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 10-15 years
Weight: 5-16 kg (males), 3.5-5 kg (females)
Scientific name: Otis tarda

Did you know?

- A male Great Bustard can weigh more than three times as much as a female, making them one of the most sexually dimorphic bird species on Earth.
- The cantharidin in blister beetles is the active compound in "Spanish fly", and male great bustards tolerate doses that would poison most birds. Grea…

What I learned

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