

A review on the endangered tiger (*Panthera tigris*) : What we know so far ?

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Structured Abstract

Background: Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) is the top predator that acts as a conservation symbol for Asia's forest biodiversity. Throughout the years, numerous efforts and studies have been carried out by government and researchers alike to aid in the conservation of tigers. In this paper, studies from multiple disciplines which have been conducted to address the issues related to tigers that could assist in their conservation effort will be reviewed.

Methods: All the articles in this review article were gathered using several platforms which are Google scholar, Scopus, Web of Science and Google. The articles were searched using numerous keywords according to the research questions such as “Panthera tigris genome”, “Panthera tigris reproduction parameters”, “Panthera tigris behaviour” and “Panthera tigris diet”. The articles that related to this review paper were selected and compiled according to the research questions.

Results: The statistics formed after compiling the related articles in this review paper stated that the most studied subspecies of tigers is Bengal (38.5%) due to its abundance in captivity (8000 tigers) and in wild (2000 tigers) and their ability to endure harsh climates. The next highest studied subspecies of tigers is Siberian (34.6%). Much lower than Bengal and Siberian, studies on Malayan (7.7%), Sumatran tiger (7.7%) and South China Tiger (SCT) (8.3%) are still limited due to the scarcity of the data and sample that can be used. Lastly, studies on Indochinese tigers were the lowest (5%) as there is not much information available about this subspecies in the wild or captive.

Conclusion: Despite the extinction of another tiger subspecies (South China tiger) in the wild, we still know extremely little about the optimum habitat or environmental condition that may prevent the reintroduction project to help save our tigers. There are still many gaps to be filled, especially the research on reproductive parameters of another subspecies like Malayan, Indochinese and Sumatran tiger that can contribute in efforts to increase tigers' populations.

Keywords: Panthera tigris , Reproduction , Pathogen , Extinction , Hand-rearing

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