



## PYGMY HOG : SPECIES IN NEWS / ENVIRONMENT

**NEWS :** *Conservation efforts in Assam help tiny, shy pygmy hogs make comeback in the wild*

### WHAT'S IN THE NEWS ?

Captive breeding and conservation efforts since 1996 have provided pygmy hogs, the smallest wild pig species, its largest home in Assam forests.

### Pygmy Hog

- **Smallest wild pig species.**
- Rediscovered in 1971 at **Barnadi Wildlife Sanctuary**, Assam.
- **Habitat:** Tall, dense grasslands with shrubs and trees.
- **Behavior:** Builds nests with roofs, stays hidden in grass, rarely ventures into the open.
- **Distribution:** Exclusively in **Manas and Barnadi Wildlife Sanctuaries**, Assam.
- **Size:** Males are slightly larger than females.
- **Significance:** **Indicator species** – reflects specific environmental conditions.
- **Diet:** Omnivorous.
- **Threats:** Habitat loss, degradation, and illegal hunting.



### Conservation Status:

- **IUCN:** Endangered.
- **CITES:** Appendix I.
- **Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule I.

**Source :** <https://www.deccanherald.com/india/assam/conservation-efforts-in-assam-help-tiny-shy-pygmy-hogs-make-comeback-in-the-wild-3215745>