



*For Immediate Release*

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**ZOO ATLANTA WELCOMES NEW FEMALE BLACK RHINOCEROS**  
*Arrival could ignite romance for critically endangered pair*

**ATLANTA – April 22, 2010** – Andazi, a 3-year-old female eastern black rhinoceros from Miami Metrozoo, arrived at Zoo Atlanta on Wednesday, April 21, 2010. The rhino journeyed via trailer to her new quarters at the Zoo, where she will complete a routine 30-day quarantine period before making her debut.

The youthful 3 year old Andazi is expected to meet Members and guests late next month, and she has been recommended by the Rhinoceros Species Survival Plan (SSP) as a potential mate for 23-year-old male Boma. Born in 1986 at the Zoo Dvur Kralove in the Czech Republic, Boma has sired no offspring in his more than 20 years at Zoo Atlanta. (Boma's longtime companion, 19-year-old female Rosie, was sent to the Columbus Zoo in November 2009, also per recommendation of the Rhino SSP.)

Now found only in zoological facilities and on wildlife preserves in Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Ethiopia and South Africa, black rhinos are among Earth's rarest mammals. Hunted for their horns, which are harvested primarily for use in traditional eastern medicine, rhino populations have declined catastrophically as a result of poaching and habitat fragmentation. Of more than 100 rhino species once known to exist, only five – the black rhino and its relative the white rhino, Indian rhino, Javan rhino and Sumatran rhino – remain today, and all are critically endangered. Stay tuned for updates on Andazi's debut to the African Plains.

**About Zoo Atlanta**

An accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), Zoo Atlanta inspires value and preservation of wildlife through a unique mix of education and outdoor family fun. From well-known native wildlife to critically endangered species on the brink of extinction, the Zoo offers memorable close encounters with more than 1,000 animals from around the world. An all-new carnivore complex, featuring the exciting debut of two new sun bears, is scheduled to open in summer 2010. Zoo Atlanta is also the proud home of Xi Lan, the only giant panda cub born in the U.S. in 2008, and the popular Boundless Budgies: A Parakeet Adventure, the largest interactive experience of its kind in the Southeast. Other highlights include the nation's largest collection of great apes and a global center of excellence for the care and reproduction of vanishing amphibians and reptiles. Zoo Atlanta is open daily with the exceptions of Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Keeper talks, interactive wildlife shows, education programs and special events run year-round. For more information, call 404.624.WILD or visit [zooatlanta.org](http://zooatlanta.org).

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