

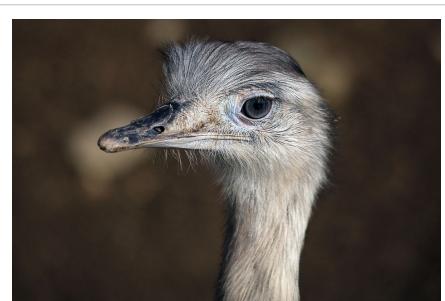
Nandu

Nandu	
	
Nandu (<i>Rhea americana</i>)	
Systematik	
<i>Klasse:</i> Vögel (Aves) <i>Unterklasse:</i> Urkiefervögel (Palaeognathae) <i>Ordnung:</i> Laufvögel (Struthioniformes) <i>Familie:</i> Nandus (Rheidae) <i>Gattung:</i> Nandus (<i>Rhea</i>) <i>Art:</i> Nandu	
Wissenschaftlicher Name	
<i>Rhea americana</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	

Der **Nandu** (*Rhea americana*) ist ein flugunfähiger Vogel aus Südamerika. Er gehört zur Ordnung der Laufvögel (Struthioniformes). Zusammen mit dem Darwin-Nandu (*Pterocnemia pennata*) bildet er die Familie der Nandus (Rheidae). Die Art ist in Deutschland als Neozoon etabliert.

Merkmale

Mit einer Scheitelhöhe von 1,25 bis 1,40 Metern (Rückenheight etwa 1 Meter) und einem Gewicht von 20 bis 25 Kilogramm ist der Nandu der größte Vogel der Neuen Welt. Dies betrifft vor allem die Männchen, denn wie beim Strauß sind auch beim Nandu die Hähne im



Kopf eines Nandu

Durchschnitt etwas größer als die Hennen. Nandus haben ein lockeres, zerfleddert aussehendes Federkleid und besitzen die größten Flügel aller Laufvögel. Die Beine sind lang und kräftig, während die Füße im Gegensatz zu Straußenvögeln drei Zehen besitzen. Auf der Flucht erreicht er Geschwindigkeiten von bis zu 60 km/h.

Das Gefieder ist grau oder braun, zwischen den Individuen variiert die Farbgebung stark. In der Regel sind Männchen etwas dunkler und größer als Weibchen, was aber kein zuverlässiges Unterscheidungsmerkmal ist. Albinos tauchen auffällig häufig auf. Die einzelnen Unterarten werden vor allem durch die Anteile schwarzer Federn an der Halsbefiederung unterschieden.

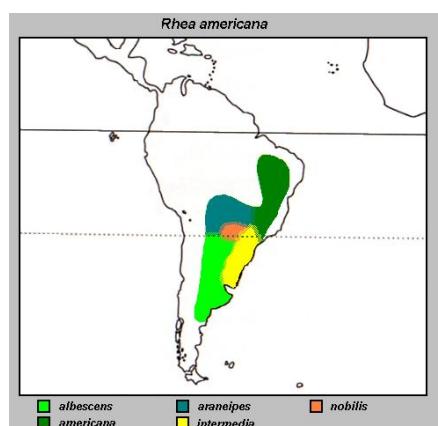


Nandukücken

Verbreitung und Lebensraum

Das Verbreitungsgebiet erstreckt sich von der Pampa, dem Grasland im zentralen Argentinien und Uruguay, über den Gran Chaco bis in den Nordosten von Brasilien, die Art ist außerdem in Deutschland als Neozoon etabliert.

Nandus bewohnen Savannenhabitatem, fehlen also in Wäldern. Im Gegensatz zum Darwin-Nandu ist der Nandu ein Bewohner des Flachlands, der große Höhen meidet. Ebenso meidet der Nandu kalte Klimazonen und kommt südlich des 40. Breitengrads nicht mehr vor. Der Nandu ist laut IUCN „gering gefährdet“.



Ursprüngliches Verbreitungsgebiet der R. a. albescens (Arríbálgaga & Holmberg, 1878) R. americana americana (Linnaeus, 1758) R. a. araneipes (Brodkorb, 1938) R. a. intermedia (Rotschild & Chubb, 1914) R. a. nobilis (Brodkorb, 1939)

Unterarten

Fünf Unterarten werden anerkannt. Sie sind nur schwer auseinanderzuhalten; vor allem die Schwarzfärbung des Halses, die bei allen unterschiedlich ausgeprägt ist, gilt als Identifikationsmerkmal.

- *Rhea americana americana*, Brasilien
- *Rhea americana intermedia*, Uruguay und angrenzendes Brasilien
- *Rhea americana nobilis*, östliches Paraguay
- *Rhea americana araneipes*, westliches Paraguay, östliches Bolivien, angrenzendes Brasilien
- *Rhea americana albescens*, neu: *Rhea americana var. albinea*, nördliches Argentinien



Sicherndes Männchen

Lebensweise

In vielerlei Hinsicht unterscheidet sich der große Nandu wenig vom Darwin-Nandu. Die Lebensweise beider Arten ist daher ausführlich im Artikel Nandus beschrieben.

Nandus als Neozoen

Im Jahr 2000 entwichen mehrere Nandus aus einer Freilandhaltung in Schleswig-Holstein nahe der Landesgrenze zu Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, die von dort in den Landkreis Nordwestmecklenburg wechselten und dort in der Niederung der Wakenitz, im Raum zwischen Schattin und Herrnburg, sowie weiter südlich bei Utecht beobachtet wurden. Bereits 2001 gab es einen erfolglosen Brutversuch sowie den Nachweis einer erfolgreichen Brut durch die Beobachtung eines Männchens mit 14 Küken, weitere erfolgreiche Bruten wurden 2002 (1), 2003 (mindestens 3) und 2004 (mindestens 5) dokumentiert. Im Jahr 2002 konnten in der Wakenitzniederung bereits 11 Nandus nachgewiesen werden, 2004 waren es im Raum Schattin – Utecht – Duvennest bereits 20.^[1] Bis August 2009 war der Bestand auf etwa 80 Tiere gewachsen^[2], im März 2011 ging man von einem Bestand von über 100 Exemplaren aus.^[3] 2012 wurden schon 129 Tiere gezählt.



Balzendes Männchen

Die Art ist offenbar recht anpassungsfähig, in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern bewohnen Nandus vor allem Stilllegungsflächen mit flächigen Trocken- und Halbtrockenrasen und Kiefernforsten, wurden aber auch auf Grünland, Äckern und in Laubwald beobachtet. Im Winter suchen die Tiere auf Rapsäckern und Stilllegungsflächen nach Nahrung. Gelegefunde erfolgten bisher in Trockenrasen, Staudenfluren, auf Getreide- und Rapsäckern sowie im Laubwald.

Die Bewertung des Nandu als Brutvogel in Deutschland ist selbst in Naturschutzkreisen sehr unterschiedlich. So wird die Auflösung der Bestände, also Tötung aller Nandus, gefordert. Dies wird mit dem Vorsorgeprinzip begründet, da der Nandu sich als invasive Art erweisen könnte. Als invasive Arten werden nach Bundesnaturschutzgesetz (BNatSchG) § 40 solche Arten deklariert, die heimische Ökosysteme, Biotope und Arten gefährden. Dem Nandu wird Invasionspotenzial zugeschrieben, weil eine Gefährdung anderer Bodenbrüter und Bodenfauna nicht auszuschließen sei.^[4] Andere Experten wollen den Nandu auf die *Graue Liste* setzen. Auf die *Graue Liste* sollen potenziell invasive Arten gesetzt werden, um diese durch die Behörden beobachten zu lassen. Bisher geäußerte Befürchtungen von einer möglichen Gefährdung von Bodenbrütern, Reptilien und Insekten haben sich bisher durch Feldforschungen und Magenuntersuchungen nicht bestätigt. Nach § 40 Abs. 2 BNatSchG muss vor Bekämpfungs-Maßnahmen erst geklärt werden, ob eine Art tatsächlich invasiv ist, also heimische Ökosysteme, Biotope und Arten gefährdet.^[5]

Etymologie

„Nandu“ ist abgeleitet von *ñandu guasu*^[6] (*guasu* groß und *ñandu* Spinne in Guaraní), da der Nandu in Balz-Pose einer großen Spinne ähnelt.

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- [6] Antonio Guasch: Diccionario Castellano-Guaraní, Ediciones Loyola, Asunción 1978

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- Josep del Hoyo et al.: *Handbook of the Birds of the World*, Band 1 (*Ostrich to Ducks*). Lynx Edicions, 1992, ISBN 84-87334-10-5

Weblinks

- *Rhea americana* (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/22678073/0>) in der Roten Liste gefährdeter Arten der IUCN
- Videos, Fotos und Tonaufnahmen zu *Rhea americana* (<http://ibc.lynxeds.com/species/greater-rhea-rhea-americana>) in der Internet Bird Collection (<http://ibc.lynxeds.com/>)

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