**Basic Information: Genet (*Genetta genetta & Genetta tigrina*)**

**Names: Small-spotted genet, common genet, large-spotted genet,**

**Identification pointers:** body long and slender; legs relatively short; tail thick and striped; coat a dull grey, well spotted; face mongoose-like with black and white mask; **Small-spotted genet:** white-tipped tail, small black spots; **Large-spotted genet:** black-tipped tail, large russet coloured spots.

**Can be confused with:** Each other and the African civet.

**Activity period:** Nocturnal

**Length:** 80-110cm **Height:** 25-35cm **Weight:**  1.5-3.2kg

**Gestation period:** ±70 days

**Lifespan:** ±12-14 years

**Diet:** mostly insectivorous, but will also take small mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. They will also eat eggs, wild berries and fruits.

**Predators:** some larger predators such as leopards and caracal but largely arboreal lifestyle keeps them relatively safe.

**Preferred habitat:**  Both species spend time in the trees so they don’t stray too far from well-wooded areas. The small spotted genet has a wider habitat tolerance, occurring along rivers in semi-deserts. The Large-spotted genet prefers more moist areas.

**Red List status:** Least concern

**Population:** Stable

**Threats:** No major threats, sometimes killed by poultry farmers. Occasionally eaten as bush meat, and used for traditional medicine. Their fur is used for decorative purposes.