



Record: Longest tongue for a land mammal

Range:

Animal name: Giant anteater



Scientific Name: *Myrmecophaga tridactyla*

Type of animal: Mammal

Habitat: Central and South American swamps, forests, and grasslands

Size: 40 inch (1 m) long body, 35 inch (90 cm) long tail, up to 85 pounds (~38 kg)

Status: Vulnerable

Facts: The giant anteater gets its name from being the largest anteater. It holds the record for the longest tongue among all land mammals, but it's not just the length that makes their tongue amazing. After using their long, sharp claws to open insect colonies, giant anteaters use their sticky tongue to quickly catch as many insects as possible. A giant anteater can eat several thousand insects in just minutes!