

MOKELE MBEMBE



By Allison Barker

Why it can not exist?

The Mokele Mbembe cannot exist because it is so large that it would likely consume many Malombo plants, leaving little of the plant for other organisms in the water and messing up the ecosystem.

Where is it in the food chain?

The Mokele Mbembe would be a primary consumer because it is an herbivore and feeds primarily on the Malombo plant. However, due to its extremely large size (16-36 feet long), the Mokele Mbembe likely would not be prey for any other marine animals.

What is its niche?

---What would it eat?

The Mokele Mbembe would consume mainly the Malombo plant, which encompasses two plants: the *Landolphia mannii* and the *Landolphia owariensis*. The Mokele Mbembe is a herbivore, so it would not eat other creatures of the water.

---Where would it live?

The Mokele Mbembe would live in the swamps and pools next to the rivers in the Likouala swamp region in the People's Republic of Congo on the continent of Africa.

---Would it live alone?

The Mokele Mbembe would live alone, but it would reside in close proximity to the pygmies that are indigenous to that region and so far are the main reporters of the beast.

---Where/How would it mate?

The Mokele Mbembe would mate using cloacas, or one opening that deals with the intestinal, reproductive, and urinary tracts. When they mated, which would be in the swamps, the male's reproductive organ would come out of his cloaca and he would insert it into the female's cloaca.