

The duration and intensity of the cow-calf bond during lying out, calving pools and nursery herds has been analysed in a wild population of giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis giraffa*). Field behaviour observations were made on naturally marked and radio-collared giraffe. Radio-tracking was used to follow and observe giraffe of a known age for up to 1½ years. The giraffe calf participates in various calf sub-groups while the cow travels to browse and water. A strong maternal bond exists between the giraffe cow and calf until the cow's next calving.