



## House Sparrows - Quick Reference Sheet<sup>1</sup>

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Table 1.

<b>Common Name:</b>	house sparrow
<b>Other Names:</b>	English sparrow
<b>Scientific Name:</b>	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
<b>Appearance:</b>	<b>Size:</b> 5 to 6 inches (12.5 to 16.5 centimeters)
	<b>Color:</b> male, gray crown and rump, black bib and bill, white cheeks and chestnut nape
	female, dull brown streaks above, dingy white below, bold buffy eyelines
<b>Range:</b>	statewide
<b>Habitat:</b>	cities, suburbs and agricultural areas
<b>Diet:</b>	insects, grains, other plant materials (fruits, garden plants)
<b>Reproduction:</b>	two to three broods a season
	nests in man-made cavities, such as eaves
<b>Behavior:</b>	well adapted to urban life
	multiplies rapidly in settled areas
	aggressive, social
	song is long series of monotonous musical chirps
<b>Problems:</b>	competes with native species for food and nest sites
	may cause considerable crop damage

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	consumes and pollutes feed for livestock
	fouls buildings and city parks
	disseminates diseases
<b>Solutions:</b>	placement of screening or wire mesh over any openings larger than 2 inch (2 centimeters) in buildings
	design or alter buildings to eliminate roosting sites
	repellents, lights, ultrasonic devices generally ineffective
	more intensive control measures (such as toxicants or fumigants) generally only justified around high-value crops or nuisance roosts
<b>Legal Aspects:</b>	not protected by state or federal laws
	use of poisons must be permitted by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
<b>Fact Sheet Available:</b>	no