



Flying Squirrels - Quick Reference Sheet¹

2

Table 1.

Common Name:	flying squirrel		
Other Names:	southern flying squirrel		
Scientific Name:	<i>Glaucomys volans</i>		
Appearance:	length	-	about 9 inches, including 3 to 4 inch tail
	weight	-	about 3 ounces, adult
	color	-	sandy brown with white belly; dense soft fur
	other	-	noticeable fold of skin running between fore- and hind-limbs
Range:	statewide		
Habitat:	-	hardwood forests	
	-	tree squirrel, rarely active on ground	
	-	normally den in tree cavities	
Diet:	-	seeds, fruits and nuts	
	-	insects, bird eggs and nestling birds commonly taken	
	-	some vegetation	

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2.

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Reproduction:	-	2 to 4 young per litter
	-	2 litters per year common
Behavior:	-	active after dark
	-	glide from tree to tree in search of food
	-	may be heard landing on roof or side of homes following a glide
	-	makes a high-pitched squeak
Problems:	-	roosting in attics, crawl spaces, etc., in homes
	-	chewing on ornamental and potted plants
	-	damaging screens
Solutions:	-	capture and removal using live traps baited with peanuts, pecans or sunflower seed is recommended in solving problems with individual animals
	-	repellents, scare devices and ultrasonics are not effective, although taste repellents may solve short-term chewing problems to non-edible objects
	-	lethal control, where legal
Legal Aspects:		may be destroyed when damaging property
Fact Sheet Available:		yes