



Types of Problems: Holes and Burrows in Yards¹

One of the most common nuisance wildlife calls concerns damage to lawns and gardens. Most of time it is the damage, rather than the animal causing the problem, that is observed. By using Table 1, it is possible to provide a caller with a list of "suspects"

based on the types of damage observed. Deep burrows penetrate the surface to a distance greater than three feet, and shallow burrows to a lesser distance. Suggestions for preventing further problems can be found under the entry for each species.

Table 1. Types of damage done in yards by wildlife

SPECIES	Tunnels ≤ 2 " diameter just below surface	Burrow depth/diameter				Dirt pile diameter	
		≥ 3 ft Deep		Shallow (≤ 3 ft)		≤ 6 "	≥ 12 "
		≤ 6 " wide	6-12"	≤ 6 " wide	6-12"		
Armadillo			X	X	X		
Crab, Land		X					
Duck, Muscovy					X		
Fox			X				
Gopher, Pocket							X
Mole	X					X	
Squirrel				X			
Tortoise, Gopher		X	X				X

1. This document is WEC-QRS-071, one of a series of the Wildlife Ecology and Conservation department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville 32611. Publication date: June, 1991. Reviewed: December, 1998. Please visit the EDIS Web site at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>