

## FLYING SQUIRRELS

Common Name: flying squirrel

Other Names: southern flying squirrel

Scientific Name: Glaucomys volans

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

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