



bird-voiced treefrog

Hyla avivoca

Kingdom: Animalia
Division/Phylum: Chordata - vertebrates
Class: Amphibia
Order: Anura
Family: Hylidae

FEATURES

The bird-voiced treefrog averages about one to one and three-fourths inches in length. It has a light spot under each eye. The concealed portions of the hind legs have a pale yellowish-green to greenish- or yellowish-white coloring. The body color is gray, brown or green. An adhesive pad is present on the tip of each toe. The long legs and slim waist are also characteristic. The tadpole is dark brown with three to seven red saddles and thin bronze stripes on the head.

BEHAVIORS

The bird-voiced treefrog lives in cypress swamps, sloughs and marshes. It is often found in trees or shrubs. It breeds from mid-May into August. The male's call is a prolonged, quavering, birdlike note. Eggs are deposited in submerged packets in the water. Eggs hatch in three to four days. Metamorphosis (change to the land-based form) occurs in about one month. The bird-voiced treefrog eats insects and other invertebrates.

HABITATS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> bottomland forests | <input type="checkbox"/> rivers & streams |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> lakes, ponds & reservoirs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> swamps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Michigan | <input type="checkbox"/> temp water supplies |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> marshes | <input type="checkbox"/> wet prairies & fens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> peatlands | |

ILLINOIS STATUS

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> common | <input type="checkbox"/> endangered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> threatened |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> native | <input type="checkbox"/> exotic | |

The bird-voiced treefrog's threatened status is due to habitat loss.

ILLINOIS RANGE

southern tip

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume I: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.