



s. 2-lined salamander

Eurycea cirrigera

Kingdom: Animalia
Division/Phylum: Chordata - vertebrates
Class: Amphibia
Order: Caudata
Family: Plethodontidae

FEATURES

The southern two-lined salamander averages two and one-half to three and three-fourths inches in length. It has two dark lines that border a broad, light stripe on the back. The body is essentially yellow but may be brownish, greenish, bronze or orange. The broad, light stripe may have many small, black spots in it. The tail makes up 55 to 60 percent of the total body length.

BEHAVIORS

The southern two-lined salamander lives in moist woodlands, creeks and swamps. It may be found in water or among rocks and tree roots along the water's edge. It may travel on the forest floor in wet weather but returns to water as drying occurs. The female lays about 30 eggs in water during the early spring. Eggs are attached to rocks, logs or aquatic plants and hatch in May or June. Transformation to the adult form occurs in one to three years, being completed when the larva reaches about two inches in length. The southern two-lined salamander eats insects and other invertebrates.

HABITATS

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

ILLINOIS STATUS

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

ILLINOIS RANGE

east central + southeast

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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