



ILLINOIS STATUS

common endangered threatened
 native exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: southern 1/3

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.

Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.

southern short-tailed shrew

Blarina carolinensis

Kingdom: Animalia
Division/Phylum: Chordata
Class: Mammalia
Order: Insectivora
Family: Soricidae

FEATURES

A southern short-tailed shrew is four to five inches in length, including the tail. It has a large, gray-black body with a brown belly. The tail is short. There are no external ears, and the eyes are tiny and black.

BEHAVIORS

The southern short-tailed shrew may be found in the southern one-third of Illinois. It lives in wooded areas, grassy fields and thickets. This mammal feeds on invertebrates including earthworms, snails, slugs and insect larvae. The southern short-tailed shrew is active during the day and night throughout the year. Little is known of its reproduction, but it is believed that young are born in the spring and fall. Females born in the spring may bear a litter in the fall.

HABITATS

bottomland forests
 coniferous forest
 southern Illinois lowlands
 upland deciduous forest