



northern long-eared bat

Myotis septentrionalis

Kingdom: Animalia
Division/Phylum: Chordata
Class: Mammalia
Order: Chiroptera
Family: Vespertilionidae

FEATURES

The northern long-eared bat is a small- to medium-sized bat with a small forearm. Its brown fur is black at the base. The northern long-eared bat has a lengthy, pointed tragus in its long ear. Each wing is attached to the side of the foot.

BEHAVIORS

The northern long-eared bat may be found statewide in Illinois. It hibernates in Illinois in caves, mines and buildings. The largest concentration of wintering northern long-eared bats in Illinois is in LaSalle County, but other hibernacula are located throughout the state. The bats tend to hang singly or in very small groups. Summer roosting locations include caves, mines, buildings and under tree bark. The northern long-eared bat eats insects. Mating occurs in fall and spring. Those females mating in the fall store the sperm in the uterus until spring, when it is used to fertilize the eggs. Females form small maternity colonies after leaving the winter hibernating site. Young are born in June and July. This bat has been known to live for more than 18 years.

HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest

ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: statewide

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.