



## 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.

## abdominal worm

*Setaria spp.*

Kingdom:            Animalia  
Division/Phylum: Nematoda  
Class:  
Order:  
Family:

## FEATURES

This roundworm is an abdominal parasite of white-tailed deer. Its long, unsegmented, cylindrical, white body is tapered at the ends. The adult may attain a length of one and one-half to three and one-half inches.

## BEHAVIORS

Adults of this roundworm live in the abdominal cavity of white-tailed deer and produce larvae that enter the blood and circulate through the host. The larvae must be ingested by blood-eating arthropods, like mosquitoes or biting flies, so they can develop to the infective stage. Larvae are passed back to deer when the arthropod bites them. Deer one year old or less are the most susceptible to infection from this worm.

## HABITATS

bottomland forests  
 coniferous forest  
 southern Illinois lowlands  
 upland deciduous forest