

Wildlife

1. The wildlife event will consist of three parts: Identification of bird and mammal species (50%), aging and sexing of selected birds and animal species (25%) and identification of food plants (25%). Scientific names for wildlife food plants must be correctly spelled, capitalized, and underlined.
2. Each competing member club shall enter two (2) contestants.
3. Each team will have two (2) minutes to jointly identify each specimen or give other requested information such as sex or age.
4. All specimens used in the contest will come from the enclosed lists. Mammal specimens may consist of skulls, study skins, or entire specimens. Plant specimens may consist of fresh material, herbarium sheets, Riker mounts, or high quality photographs.
5. Common names only will be required for mammal and bird specimens, while common and scientific names will be required for plant specimens. Common names found in the book used as the standard for the event shall be used.
6. Contestants may be required to sex white-tailed deer by pelvic girdle and assign age at exact 6- month age classes (1, 1.5, 2, 2.5 years) up to and including age 2.5 and at whole year intervals (3.5, 4.5, etc. years) thereafter by jaw examination. Amended March 21, 1996. Contestants may be required to sex bird species in the list designated by descriptive wording, also from wing examination. In the case of the mourning dove, only age will be required.
7. Contestants may also be required to give the wildlife species primarily utilizing the food plants as designated in appended list.
8. In case of a tie, the contest will continue between tying teams until one is eliminated.
9. All mammals, with the exception of the domesticated cat, are described in *The Mammals of North America*, 1981, 2nd edition, by E. Raymond Hall. *The A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds*, 6th edition, American Ornithologists Union of the 1982 Supplement to the A.U.K. *Techniques* is the official sources for the names of birds. *Techniques for aging and sexing* may be found in: *Wildlife Management Techniques*, 1980, 4th edition, edited by S.D. Schemnitz. The official source for the plant names shall be: *Manual of the Vascular Flora of the Carolinas*, 1983, 9th edition, by A.E. Radford, H.E. Ahles, and C.R. Bell.
10. Each contestant will be allowed to use a 10X hand lens in the wildlife exam and nothing else.
11. The stations must be at least five (5') feet apart.
12. If a species name shows up on the dendrology, wildlife, or wood identification lists, they will all have the same common name.
13. The Species List for the Wildlife Event is located in the Appendix.

Suggestions for Judge's Committee Wildlife

1. Prior to the contest gather all contestants at least 30 minutes before the event is scheduled to start; record the contestants' names at this time (Please print clearly).
2. Read the rules to the contestants. Settle any questions or problems now if at all possible.
3. Ask all contestants if they have any objections to the wildlife list.
4. Run the contest in the fashion that best suits you. Try to complete it as quickly as possible.
5. Grading of test sheets will not be done while contestants are present. Therefore, to avoid having to locate tied contestants, provide the contestants with 3 to 5 additional test questions/specimens. Check for ties in first, second, and third places. Only these three places must be resolved by runoff. Use the first question/specimen to separate the tie. If a tie still exists after the first tie-breaker question/specimen, use the second one; hopefully 3 to 5 tie-breaker questions/specimens will suffice.
6. Be careful in checking the spelling of each name given on the answer sheets. Spelling errors on scientific names count 1/2 off of the credit for that portion of the answer.
7. Be sure to have the head judge sign the score sheet and indicate the time that the event ended.
8. Be sure to turn in the completed score sheet to the head scorekeeper.

DO NOT ANNOUNCE NAMES OF WINNERS TO ANYONE!!!

2025 Wildlife Species List

BIRD SPECIES

Order: Gaviiformes

Family: Gaviidae

Gavia immer, common loon

Order: Podicipediformes

Family: Podicipedidae

Podilymbus podiceps, pied-billed grebe

Order: Pelecaniformes

Family: Pelecanidae

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos, American white pelican

Pelecanus occidentalis, brown pelican

Family: Phalacrocoracidae

Phalacrocorax auratus, double-crested cormorant

Order: Ciconiiformes

Family: Ardeidae

Ardea herodias, great blue heron

Ardea alba, great egret

Egretta thula, snowy egret

Egretta caerulea, little blue heron

Bubulcus ibis, cattle egret

Butorides virescens, green heron

Nycticorax nycticorax, black-crowned night-heron

Nyctanassa violacea, yellow-crowned night-heron

Family: Cathartidae

Coragyps atratus, black vulture

Cathartes aura, turkey vulture

Family: Ciconiidae

Mycteria americana, wood stork

Family: Threskiornithidae

Eudocimus albus, white ibis

Plegadis falcinellus, glossy ibis

Plegadis chihi, white-faced ibis

Order: Anseriformes

Family: Anatidae

Subfamily: Dendrocygninae

Dendrocygna autumnalis, black-bellied whistling-duck

Dendrocygna bicolor, fulvous whistling-duck

Subfamily: Anserinae

Anser albifrons, greater white-fronted goose

Chen caerulescens, snow goose

Branta canadensis, Canada goose

Cygnus buccinator, trumpeter swan

Cygnus columbianus, tundra swan

Subfamily: Anatinae

Aix sponsa, wood duck

Anas acuta, Northern pintail

Anas americana, American wigeon

Anas clypeata, Northern shoveler

Anas crecca, green-winged teal

Anas discors, blue-winged teal

Anas fulvigula, mottled duck

Anas platyrhynchos, mallard

Anas rubripes, American black duck
Anas strepera, gadwall
Aythya americana, redhead
Aythya affinis, lesser scaup
Aythya collaris, ring-necked duck
Aythya marila, greater scaup
Aythya valisineria, canvasback
Bucephala albeola, bufflehead
Bucephala clangula, common goldeneye
Lophodytes cucullatus, hooded merganser
Mergus merganser, common merganser
Mergus serrator, red-breasted merganser
Oxyura jamaicensis, ruddy duck

Order: Charadriiformes

Family: Charadriidae

Charadrius vociferus, killdeer
Charadrius melodus, piping plover

Family: Laridae

Larus argentatus, herring gull
Larus atricilla, laughing gull
Larus delawarensis, ring-billed gull
Rynchops niger, black skimmer
Sterna antillarum, least tern
Sterna hirundo, common tern
Sterna sandvicensis, sandwich tern

Family: Scolopacidae

Gallinago gallinago, Wilson's snipe
Scolopax minor, American woodcock

Order: Columbiformes

Family: Columbidae

Zenaida macroura, mourning dove
Columbina passerina, common ground-dove
Streptopelia decaocto, Eurasian collared-dove

Order: Cuculiformes

Family: Cuculidae

Coccyzus americanus, yellow-billed cuckoo

Order: Falconiformes

Family: Accipitridae

Pandion haliaetus, osprey
Accipiter striatus, sharp-shinned hawk
Accipiter cooperii, Cooper's hawk
Aquila chrysaetos, golden eagle
Buteo jamaicensis, red-tailed hawk
Buteo lineatus, red-shouldered hawk
Buteo platypterus, broad-winged hawk
Circus cyaneus, northern harrier
Elanoides forficatus, swallow-tailed kite
Ictinia mississippiensis, Mississippi kite
Haliaeetus leucocephalus, bald eagle

Family: Falconidae

Caracara cheriway, crested caracara
Falco columbarius, merlin
Falco peregrinus, peregrine falcon
Falco sparverius, American kestrel

Order: Galliformes

Family: Cracidae

Ortalis vetula, plain chachalaca
 Family: Phasianidae
Bonasa umbellus, ruffed grouse
Tympanuchus cupido, greater prairie-chicken
Tympanuchus pallidicinctus, lesser prairie-chicken
Meleagris gallopavo, wild turkey
 Family: Odontophoridae
Colinus virginianus, Northern bobwhite
 Order: Gruiformes
 Family: Rallidae
Coturnicops noveboracensis, yellow rail
Laterallus jamaicensis, black rail
Rallus longirostris, clapper rail
Rallus limicola, Virginia rail
Porzana carolina, sora
Gallinula chloropus, common moorhen
Porphyrio martinica, purple gallinule
 Family: Gruidae
Grus americana, whooping crane
Grus canadensis, sandhill crane
 Order: Strigiformes
 Family: Tytonidae
Tyto alba, barn owl
 Family: Strigidae
Megascops asio, Eastern screech-owl
Strix varia, barred owl
Bubo virginianus, great-horned owl
Aegolius acadicus, Northern saw-whet owl
 Order: Caprimulgiformes
 Family: Caprimulgidae
Chordeiles minor, common nighthawk
Caprimulgus carolinensis, chuck-will's-widow
Caprimulgus vociferus, whip-poor-will
 Order: Apodiformes
 Family: Apodidae
Chaetura pelagica, chimney swift
 Family: Trochilidae
Archilochus colubris, ruby-throated hummingbird

 Order: Coraciiformes
 Family: Alcedinidae
Ceryle alcyon, belted kingfisher
 Order: Piciformes
 Family: Picidae
Melanerpes erythrocephalus, red-headed woodpecker
Melanerpes carolinus, red-bellied woodpecker
Sphyrapicus varius, yellow-bellied sapsucker
Picoides villosus, hairy woodpecker
Picoides borealis, red-cockaded woodpecker
Colaptes auratus, Northern flicker
Dryocopus pileatus, pileated woodpecker
Campephilus principalis, ivory-billed woodpecker
 Order: Passeriformes
 Family: Tyrannidae
Sayornis phoebe, eastern phoebe

Myiarchus crinitus, great crested flycatcher
Tyrannus tyrannus, eastern kingbird
 Family: Hirundinidae
Progne subis, purple martin
Tachycineta bicolor, tree swallow
Hirundo rustica, barn swallow
 Family: Corvidae
Cyanocitta cristata, blue jay
Corvus brachyrhynchos, American crow
 Family: Paridae
Poecile carolinensis, Carolina chickadee
Baeolophus bicolor, tufted titmouse
 Family: Sittidae
Sitta carolinensis, white-breasted nuthatch
Sitta pusilla, brown-headed nuthatch
 Family: Certhiidae
Certhia americana, brown creeper
 Family: Troglodytidae
Thryothorus ludovicianus, Carolina wren
Troglodytes aedon, house wren
 Family: Turdidae
Sialia sialis, Eastern bluebird
Turdus migratorius, American robin
Hylocichla mustelina, wood thrush
 Family: Regulidae
Regulus calendula, ruby-crowned kinglet
 Family: Sylviidae
Poliophtila caerulea, blue-gray gnatcatcher
 Family: Mimidae
Dumetella carolinensis, gray catbird
Mimus polyglottos, Northern mockingbird
Toxostoma rufum, brown thrasher
 Family: Bombycillidae
Bombycilla cedrorum, cedar waxwing
 Family: Laniidae
Lanius ludovicianus, loggerhead shrike
 Family: Sturnidae
Sturnus vulgaris, European starling
 Family: Vireonidae
Vireo griseus, white-eyed vireo
Vireo flavifrons, yellow-throated vireo
Vireo olivaceus, red-eyed vireo
 Family: Parulidae
Vermivora chrysoptera, golden-winged warbler
Vermivora pinus, blue-winged warbler
Vermivora bachmanii, Bachman's warbler
Parula americana, Northern parula
Dendroica cerulea, cerulean warbler
Dendroica coronate, yellow-rumped warbler
Dendroica dominica, yellow-throated warbler
Dendroica pinus, pine warbler
Mniotilta varia, black-and-white warbler
Setophaga ruticilla, American redstart
Protonotaria citrea, prothonotary warbler
Geothlypis trichas, common yellowthroat
Icteria virens, yellow-breasted chat

- Family: Thraupidae
Piranga rubra, summer tanager
Piranga olivacea, scarlet tanager
- Family: Cardinalidae
Cardinalis cardinalis, northern cardinal
Passerina caerulea, blue grosbeak
Passerina cyanea, indigo bunting
Passerina ciris, painted bunting
Spiza americana, dickcissel
- Family: Emberizidae
Pipilo erythrophthalmus, Eastern towhee
Ammodramus henslowii, Henslow's sparrow
Aimophila aestivalis, Bachman's sparrow
Spizella passerina, chipping sparrow
Spizella pusilla, field sparrow
Passerella iliaca, fox sparrow
Melospiza melodia, song sparrow
Zonotrichia albicollis, white-throated sparrow
Zonotrichia leucophrys, white-crowned sparrow
Junco hyemalis, dark-eyed junco
- Family: Icteridae
Dolichonyx oryzivorus, bobolink
Agelaius phoeniceus, red-winged blackbird
Sturnella magna, Eastern meadowlark
Quiscalus quiscula, common grackle
Quiscalus major, boat-tailed grackle
Molothrus ater, brown-headed cowbird
Icterus spurius, orchard oriole
Icterus galbula, Baltimore oriole

MAMMAL SPECIES

- Order: Didelphimorphia
 Family: Didelphidae
Didelphis virginiana, Virginia opossum
- Order: Insectivora
 Family: Soricidae
Blarina brevicauda, northern short-tailed shrew
Cryptotis parva, least shrew
Sorex palustris, water shrew
- Family: Talpidae
Condylura cristata, star-nosed mole
- Order: Chiroptera
 Family: Vespertilionidae
Eptesicus fuscus, big brown bat
Lasiurus borealis, Eastern red bat
Lasiurus cinereus, hoary bat
Myotis grisescens, gray myotis
- Order: Xenarthra
 Family: Dasypodidae
Dasypus novemcinctus, nine-banded armadillo
- Order: Lagomorpha
 Family: Leporidae
Sylvilagus aquaticus, swamp rabbit
Sylvilagus floridanus, Eastern cottontail
Sylvilagus palustris, marsh rabbit
Lepus californicus, black-tailed jackrabbit
Lepus americanus, snowshoe hare

Order: Rodentia

Family: Sciuridae

Glaucomys volans, Southern flying squirrel

Marmota monax, woodchuck

Sciurus carolinensis, Eastern gray squirrel

Sciurus niger, Eastern fox squirrel

Tamias striatus, Eastern chipmunk

Tamiasciurus hudsonicus, red squirrel

Family: Castoridae

Castor canadensis, American beaver

Order: Rodentia

Family: Muridae

Neotoma magister, Allegheny wood rat

Ochrotomys nuttalli, golden mouse

Oryzomys palustris, marsh rice rat

Peromyscus leucopus, white-footed mouse

Peromyscus maniculatus, deer mouse

Sigmodon hispidus, hispid cotton rat

Clethrionomys gapperi, southern red-backed vole

Synaptomys cooperi, southern bog lemming

Microtus pennsylvanicus, meadow vole

Ondatra zibethicus, common muskrat

Mus musculus, house mouse

Rattus norvegicus, Norway rat

Rattus rattus, black rat

Family: Erethizontidae

Erethizon dorsatum, porcupine

Family: Myocastoridae

Myocastor coypus, nutria

Order: Carnivora

Family: Ursidae

Ursus americanus, American black bear

Ursus arctos, brown bear

Ursus maritimus, polar bear

Family: Procyonidae

Procyon lotor, raccoon

Family: Felidae

Felis concolor, mountain lion

Felis catus, house cat

Lynx rufus, bobcat

Family: Canidae

Canis latrans, coyote

Canis familiaris, domestic dog

Canis lupus, gray wolf

Vulpes vulpes, red fox

Urocyon cinereoargenteus, gray fox

Family: Mustelidae

Lutra canadensis, river otter

Mephitis mephitis, striped skunk

Mustela frenata, long-tailed weasel

Mustela vison, mink

Mustela nivalis, least weasel

Martes pennanti, fisher

Taxidea taxus, badger

Gulo gulo, wolverine

Order: Artiodactyla

Family: Cervidae
Odocoileus virginianus, white-tailed deer
Odocoileus hemionus, mule deer
Cervus elaphus, elk
Alces alces, moose
Rangifer tarandus, caribou

Family: Antilocapridae
Antilocapra americana, pronghorn

Family: Bovidae
Bison bison, bison
Bos taurus, cow
Capra hircus, domestic goat

Order: Perissodactyla

Family: Equidae
Equus caballus, horse

WILDLIFE FOODS LIST

Deer Food Plants

Common Name/Latin

Alabama supplejack, Berchemia scandens
American beautyberry, Callicarpa americana
blackberry / dewberry, Rubus spp.
blueberry / huckleberry, Vaccinium spp.
dogwood, Cornus spp.
greenbrier, Smilax spp.
hawthorn, Crataegus spp.
Japanese honeysuckle, Lonicera japonica
oak, Quercus spp.
common persimmon, Diospyros spp.
plum, Prunus spp.
possumhaw, Viburnum spp.
water and black tupelo, Nyssa spp.
wild grape, Vitis spp.
yellow-poplar, Liriodendron tulipifera
American strawberry-bush, Euonymus americanus
trumpet-creeper, Campsis radicans
vetch, Vicia spp.
milk pea, Galactia spp.
clover, Trifolium spp.
American beech, Fagus grandifolia
honeylocust, Gleditsia triacanthos

Squirrel Food Plants

Common Name, Latin Name

American beech, Fagus grandifolia
pecan / hickory, Carya spp.
Pine, Pinus spp.
Oak, Quercus spp.
Alabama supplejack, Berchemia scandens
common persimmon, Diospyros spp.
Plum, Prunus spp.
Black cherry, Prunus spp.
Possumhaw, Viburnum spp.
red mulberry, Morus rubra
water and black tupelo, Nyssa spp.
wild grape, Vitis spp.
Dogwood, Cornus spp.
eastern hop-hornbeam, Ostrya spp.

Ironwood, Carpinus spp.
fungi
black walnut, Juglans nigra
yellow poplar, Liriodendron tulipifera
maple, Acer spp.
Corn, Zea spp.

Quail Food Plants

Common Name, Latin

partridge pea, Chamaecrista fasciculata
common ragweed, Ambrosia artemisiifolia
beggar lice, Desmodium spp.
milk-pea, Galactia spp.
butterfly pea, Centrosema spp.
3-seeded mercury, Acalypha gracilens
Lespedezas, Lespedeza spp.
Crotons, Croton spp.
Vetch, Vicia spp.
low panic grass, Dichanthelium spp.
Millets, Echinochloa spp.
grain sorghum, Sorghum spp.
blackberry / dewberry, Rubus spp.
blueberry / huckleberry, Vaccinium spp.
poison-ivy, Toxicodendron spp.
wild grape, Vitis spp.
black cherry, Prunus spp.
Plum, Prunus spp.
American beautyberry, Callicarpa americana
common persimmon, Diospyros spp.
Dogwood, Cornus spp.
black tupelo, Nyssa sylvatica
pine, Pinus spp.
Oak, Quercus spp.

Dove Food Plants

Common Name, Latin

Doveweed, Croton spp.
evening primrose, Oenothera spp.
common pokeweed, Phytolacca americana
common ragweed, Ambrosia artemisiifolia
Carolina geranium, Geranium spp.
Lespedezas, Lespedeza spp.
low panic grass, Dichanthelium spp.
Crabgrass, Digitaria spp.
Foxtail, Setaria spp.
Pine, Pinus spp.

Duck Food Plants

Common Name, Latin

wild millet, Echinochloa spp.
Smartweed, Polygonum spp.
Pondweed, Potamogeton spp.
Bullrush, Scirpus spp.
umbrella sedges, Cyperus spp.
rice cutgrass, Leersia spp.
wild rice, Zizania spp.

Turkey Food Plants

Common Name, Latin

Oak, Quercus spp.

blackberry / dewberry, Rubus spp.
blueberry / huckleberry, Vaccinium spp.
Hollies, Ilex spp.
poison-ivy, Toxicodendron spp.
wild grape, Vitis spp.
black cherry, Prunus spp.
Clover, Trifolium spp.
low panic grass, Dichanthelium spp.
Millets, Echinochloa spp.
Beggartick, Bidens spp.
Plum, Prunus spp.
common persimmon, Diospyros spp.
Dogwood, Cornus spp.
black tupelo, Nyssa sylvatica
American beech, Fagus grandifolia
Chufa, Cyperus spp.

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