

Biodiversity and threatened animal species – The European mink

Search online for information about the European mink. Note the following core questions.

1. What is the scientific classification of the European mink?

2. What does the European mink look like?

3. How does the European mink feed and what is its prey?

4. How long are the mating season and the gestation period?

5. Where does the European mink live?

6. How many animals are left today?

7. What is the name of a distant relative of the European mink which can be seen more often in Germany?

8. Why is the European Mink threatened and what are the threats it faces today?

9. What is being done to protect the animal?

10. Have you found any further information?

Possible helpful websites:

European Centre for Nature Conservation (n.y.): European mink – *Mustela lutreola*. – Tilburg (<http://www.lhnet.org/european-mink/>; access on 12.01.2014).

Fournier, C. & Moutou, F. (2005): European mink (*Mustela lutreola*). – n.p. (<http://www.arkive.org/european-mink/mustela-lutreola/>; access on 12.01.2014).

IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (2013): *Mustela lutreola*. – n.p. (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/14018/0>; access on 07.01.2014).

Shalu, T. (2001): *Mustela lutreola*. – Michigan (http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/accounts/Mustela_lutreola/; access on 12.01.2014).

Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia (2013): European Mink. – n.p. (http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=European_mink&oldid=585331740; access on 12.01.2014).