

LOUISIANA MAMMALS



MUSKRAT

(Ondatra zibethicus)



APPEARANCE: brown coat; rat-like appearance but with a rounded head and slender, flattened tail; partially webbed hind feet; adults weigh 1-4 pounds

HABITAT: coastal marshes, bayous, lakes

FOOD: primarily live vegetation, some fish, mussels, insects and snails

The name refers to musky odor secreted from its abdominal glands.

RANGE: common throughout south Louisiana and most of North America, except the Southwest and Florida

