

LOUISIANA MAMMALS



VIRGINIA OPOSSUM

(Didelphis virginiana)



APPEARANCE: gray fur, white face and hairless tail; marsupial with a fur-lined abdominal pouch; size of a domestic cat; adults weigh 6-14 pounds

HABITAT: wooded and agricultural areas, marshes and residential neighborhoods

FOOD: opportunistic eaters; fruits, insects, berries, small mammals

Opossum fossils have been dated back to 70 million years.

RANGE: throughout Louisiana and most of the eastern United States

