

Rabbit Coinín

Oryctolagus Cuniculus, Linnaeus

Indentification

The Rabbit was introduced to Ireland in the Twelfth Century by the Norman Settlement. Sometimes people confuse them with the Hare. The Rabbit is smaller than the Hare. The male rabbit is heavier than the female. The most common coat colour is greyish brown, though slate grey, fawn and partially to totally black individuals can be seen.

Diet

The Rabbit is a very important Prey Species because in Ireland the rabbit forms a very important part in the diets of Foxes, Stoats, and Badgers. They feed mainly on grasses and particularly like short, soft species. Rabbits also eat a variety of plants and the composition of the diet depends to some extent on habitat.

Habitat

In Ireland you will find the rabbit all over the country, they are creatures of short grass habitats from sea level up to the treeline. Rabbits live in burrow systems called warrens. At low density, rabbits may live in pairs.

Sainathint

Ba iad na Normanaigh a thug an Coinín go hÉirinn nuair a d'áitrih siad an tír sa Dara hAois Déag. Uaireanta ceapann daoine gur Giorra é an Coinín. Tá an Coinín níos lú ná an Giorra. Tá an coinín fireann níos troime ná an coinín bainneann. Is é an dath liathdhonn an dath is coitianta a bhíonn ar chóta an choinín de ghnáth ach feictear coiníní aonair leis an dath slindhonn nó osbhuí ar a gcótaí nó le cótaí dubha nó le cótaí nach bhfuil go hiomlán dubh.

Cothú

Is Speiceas Creiche fíor-thábhachtach é an Coinín toisc go bhfuil sé ina chuid an-thábhachtach d'aiste bia na Sionnach, na n-Easóg agus na mBroc in Éirinn. Cothaíonn sé é féin le féar den chuid is mó agus is breá leis speicis ghearra, bhoga. Itheann an coinín saghasanna éagsúla plandaí agus braitheann comhábhair an chothaithe pas beag ar chineál na gnáthóige atá aige.

Gnáthóg

In Éirinn aimseoidh tú an coinín ar fud na tíre. Is créatúr é a chuireann faoi i ngnáthóg d'fhéar gearr a d'fheadfadh a bheith ag leibhéal na farráige nó ag an gcrann-teorainn. Cónaíonn an coinín i gcórais uachaisí ar a thugtar rapacha. Uaireanta nuair a bhíonn dlús na gcoiníní íseal cónaíonn siad i ndiseanna.

An tSeirbhís Páirceanna Náisiúnta & Fiadhúlra National Parks & Wildlife Service



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