

# LYNX

## LYNX LYNX

### **DISTINGUISHING MARKS:**

Hearing is the best sense of lynx, but also the sight is important when preying. It uses sense of smell also in the tracking. Long footed lynx is only feline in our country. Shoulder height 50-75 cm, length of the body 70-140 cm, weight: male 19-30 kg and female 10-20 kg. Bobtail and ears with tassels. Colours: cat lynx: throughout black speckles (Tiina-lynx). Fox lynx: dark dots on the limbs (cubs). Wolf lynx: mild speckles (Väinö-lynx).

### **PREVALENCE:**

Nearly in the whole country with exception of of Åland Islands and northernmost Finland.

### **HABITAT:**

In changeable terrain. Lives in all kinds of forests, favours especially hilly and rocky regions. Lynx' restingplace is usually the highest spot of the terrain.

### **LIFE STYLES:**

Lynx moves principally in the dawn or at the dusk., it rests the darkest moments of the day. Lives all alone in the territory, whose size all depends on the amount of the haul animals. Living circles of the females can overlap.

### **NOURISHMENT:**

Lynx is a typical feline that eats merely meat. Most important haul animals are rabbits, roe-deers, foxes, many little mammals, but eats also the fawns of the reindeer. Lynx covers up its haul remainings often. Its teeth don't have effect on frozen meat. This forest feline hunts itself 90% of its food.

### **BREEDING:**

In the mating time, from February to March it whines very loudly. Female breeds 2-3 cubs after 70-80 days; kits are born usually in the end of May. Cubs follow their mother to the early spring. The nest is often in a boulder soil or in the cover of the tree root-stock.

### **HUNTING:**

At 1982 lynx was prescribed as a chase animal. Nowadays lynx can be hunted when the population is strong enough; annually National Board of Forestry allows certain amount of kills during the midwinter. Usually hunting is traditional chase hunting with dog. Lynx escapes generally to a tree, from there it can be shot easily.

### **PROTECTION:**

The hunting liscence will be given only when population allows it. Lynx is the symbol animal of Häme province.

