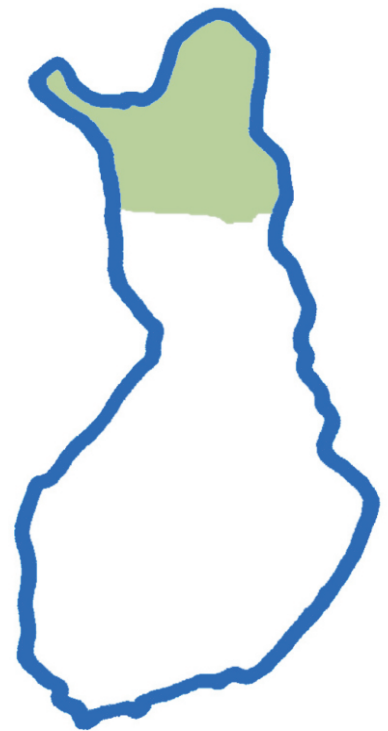


NORWEGIAN

LEMMING

LEMMUS LEMMUS



DISTINGUISHING MARKS:

Norwegian lemming is a varied rodent; its fur is coloured with brown, black and light yellow. From back goes black stripe down to tail. Stomach is light. Length of the body 70-150 mm, tail 10-18 mm, weight 15-120 g.

PREVALENCE:

Prevalence area during the normal year only in the northernmost Lapland. Because of ample breeding wanders to more south from time to time.

HABITAT:

Top slopes of the large mountains where there is snow to far spring. Changes habitat two times a year and can wander also in forested regions.

LIFE STYLES:

Moving in the obscure and dark, but also in the daytime. Lemming digs a corridor network on its the residences, which cruises among vegetation. When their population levels become too high, about every 3rd to 5th year, lemmings undertake mass migrations to find new feeding grounds.

NOURISHMENT:

Moss as the main nourishment, grass and sedge.

BREEDING:

The lemming can produce a litter 3-9 young every month, year round even in the wintertime if the conditions are good. Females can become pregnant at 4-5 weeks of age.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE POPULATION:

Resulting from the efficient breeding, population changes are large. Lemmings' typical enemies are arctic buzzards and long-tailed skuas, in the more south owls and foxes and weasel animals.