

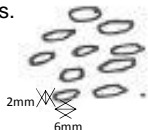






Yellow-necked Mouse	<i>Apodemus flavicollis</i>	 <p>Maria Walker</p>	
Description: Fur is brown on the back and white on the underside. A complete band of yellow fur across the neck area, distinguishing it from the very similar wood mouse. Large ears, protruding eyes and long tail. Head and body length 9-12 cm, tail length 7-12 cm. Adults 14-45g.		Hazel nuts: Yellow necked mice leave teeth marks both on inner rim of the nut (like the edge of a pound coin) and also on the surface, around the edge of the hole.  <p>Peter Newbold</p>	
Field Signs		Droppings: Rounded in section; usually brown-black but vary with diet. Hard when dry (doesn't crumble). Strong smell of ammonia. Less uniform and regular than voles.  <p>2mm 6mm</p>	
Nest: Often underground but occasionally in nest boxes or tree cavities. When fresh, the nests comprise a loose mass of dead brown leaves that becomes reduced to an untidy carpet in the bottom of a nest box or tree hole.  <p>Peter Newbold</p>		Footprints: Forefoot approximately 10mm, hindfoot up to 20mm. 	
Diet: Seeds, buds, green plants, fungi, fruits and invertebrates. Will cache food.		Habitat: Woodland, gardens, hedgerows and scrub.	
Lifespan: Rarely older than 1 year.		 <p>KNOWN RECORDS</p> <p>Oxfordshire:</p> <p>1995-2005 Present = pink</p> <p>2005-2015 Present = red</p> <p>Great Britain and Northern Ireland:</p> <p>1995-2015 Present = yellow</p>  <p>NBN Gateway</p>	
Breeding: Litters of 2-11 young from February to October, although can continue overwinter if suitable food sources. Babies born blind and hairless and weigh about 2.8g.			
UK Conservation Status: Native. Common and widespread in south England and Wales. Oxfordshire: Assumed common and widespread. Legislation: Not currently protected.			
Don't confuse with: <p>Wood mouse. No yellow band around neck (main distinguishing feature), but can have 'yellow tie'. Slightly smaller than the yellow-necked, with proportionately slightly smaller eyes and ears.</p> <p>Harvest mouse Much smaller than yellow-necked. Golden-brown on top with pale grey-white underside.</p> <p>House mouse Grey-brown fur all over, usually no contrast between top and underside and smaller ears.</p> <p>Dormouse Orange-yellow coat on top with yellow underside and white on throat.</p> <p>Voles. Voles have a more rounded muzzle than mice, with smaller eyes and smaller, more subtle ears that are often covered by fur. Mice eyes and ears are large. Voles often have shorter</p>			