

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



European Wildcat

Felis silvestris

Felis silvestris is not a feral tabby, and it is not the ancestor of the housecat — that role belongs to the African wildcat, a separate species domesticated in the Near East. The European wildcat is...

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal**Family:** Felidae**Habitat:** Temperate forests**Diet:** Carnivore**Conservation status:** Least Concern**Lifespan:** 10-15 years**Weight:** 3-8 kg**Scientific name:** *Felis silvestris*

Did you know?

- The European Wildcat is one of the ancestors of the modern domestic cat, but it remains genetically distinct and does not readily interbreed in the w...
- The hybridisation problem is so severe that identifying a "pure" wildcat requires a genetic test rather than a look at the animal, and pelage scoring...

What I learned
