

MOOSE

Alces alces



The moose is the largest member of the deer family. It has the largest antlers of any species in the world. Moose spend most of their time eating. It is a crepuscular animal, which means that it is most active at dawn and dusk. Moose are limited to cool regions because of their large bodies, their inability to sweat, and the heat produced by fermentation in their gut. They cannot tolerate temperatures that exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit. In summer, moose seek shade and cool themselves in ponds and streams, where they can often be found submerged up to their necks.



SPECIES QUICK FACTS

SIZE

Adult moose have a body length of eight to 10.5 feet.

WEIGHT

Adult moose weigh between 600 and 1,300 pounds.

FOOD HABITS

Moose are herbivores. They eat aquatic vegetation during the summer months. In the winter, they eat the needles of conifers, twigs, and bark.

HABITAT

Moose are found in boreal forest habitats. They are often found in wetlands.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The moose is found throughout the northern regions of North America, including some areas of the northern United States (including Michigan's upper peninsula).

FUN FACT

During the rutting season, male moose may charge other moose, people, or even automobiles.