

# EGGS IN THE WETLANDS

Without eggs there would be no amphibians, no reptiles, no birds, no invertebrates and no fish

**Southern Leopard Frog**  
*Lithobates sphenoccephalus*



Source: C. Dodd, Jr. on [ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu](http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu)



Source: Jim Merli on [allposters.com](http://allposters.com)

Source: [Pinterest.com](http://Pinterest.com)

Eggs (up to 4,000) are laid just below the water's surface in a firm cluster attached to vegetation, containing several hundred eggs. Once the eggs are laid, they are left to survive on their own.

Source: [AnimalDiversity.org](http://AnimalDiversity.org)

**Dwarf Salamander**  
*Eurycea quadridigitata*



Source: L.E. Kyle on Flickr



Source: Daniel D Dye II on Flickr

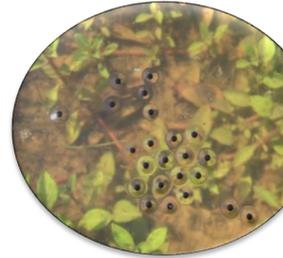
Females attach their eggs singly to vegetation associated with flowing water, in shallow depressions along wetland margins or in dry depressions that fill with spring rains. Clutches have been found containing 20-60 eggs at a time.

Source: [Amphibiaweb.org](http://Amphibiaweb.org)

**Eastern Narrow-Mouthed Toad**  
*Gastrophryne carolinensis*



Source: [ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu](http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu)



Source: [ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu](http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu)



Source: Brad Glorioso on [armi.usgs.gov](http://armi.usgs.gov)

Black and white eggs are laid in a surface film, sometimes on vegetation that floats on the surface of a pond or shallow pool. Females can lay 10 to 150 eggs in masses

Source: [WildRepublic.com](http://WildRepublic.com)

**American Alligator**  
*Alligator mississippiensis*



Source: Denise Valentin, photographer



Source: Matthew Ratajczak, photographer

Designated as the state reptile of Florida. The female builds a mound nest of soil, vegetation, or debris. She lays 20-50 white, goose-egg sized eggs, which she covers with vegetation that heats the eggs as it decays.

Source: [MyFWC.com](http://MyFWC.com)

**Red-Bellied Turtle**  
*Pseudemys rubriventris bangsi*



Source: Denise Valentin, photographer



Source: [theturtlesource.com](http://theturtlesource.com)

These turtles are noted for sometimes laying their eggs (10 to 20) in the nest mounds of alligators. Twenty percent of them are infested with fire ants that kill the hatchlings during pipping or shortly after hatching takes place.

Source: [Eol.com](http://Eol.com)

**Green Anole Lizard**  
*Anolis carolinensis*



Source: J. Losos on [anoleannals.org](http://anoleannals.org)



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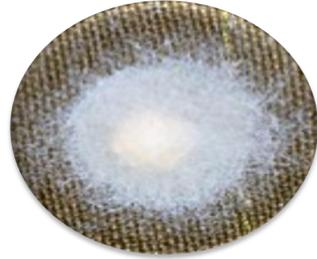
Females lay a series of single-egg clutches into moist soil averaging 15-18 oval, soft-shelled eggs, approximately 1/2 inch in size during a breeding season. Females can store sperm for up to eight months after mating.

Source: [Eol.com](http://Eol.com)

**Brown Recluse Spider**  
*Loxosceles reclusa*



Source: Zagorskid, iStock / Getty Images



Source: [diomedia.com](http://diomedia.com)

Female needs to mate only once to produce eggs throughout her life. She lays up to 50 eggs at a time, can be up to five times per year, encasing them in a silken sac.

Source: [Insects.about.com](http://Insects.about.com); [Livescience.com](http://Livescience.com)

**Apple Snail**  
*Pomacea pauldosa*



Source: [applesnail.net](http://applesnail.net)



Source: [images2.pics4learning.com/](http://images2.pics4learning.com/)

Females lay 10-80 large white eggs from March through October. they emerge from the water, usually at night to lay the egg masses on table substrates such as tree trunks, pilings, sea walls, or plant stems.

Source: [Entnemdept.ufl.edu](http://Entnemdept.ufl.edu)

**Zebra Longwing Butterfly**  
*Heliconius charithonia*



Source: Charles Sharp, photographer



Source: Anne Toal on [commons.wikimedia.org](http://commons.wikimedia.org)



Source: CyclicalCore Photography

Designated as the state butterfly of Florida. Females lay 5-15 small yellow eggs singly or in small clusters on host plants -- commonly passionflowers. They can produce multiple generations each year.

Source: [Entnemdept.ufl.edu](http://Entnemdept.ufl.edu)

**Great Egret**  
*Ardea alba*



Source: Denise Valentin, photographer

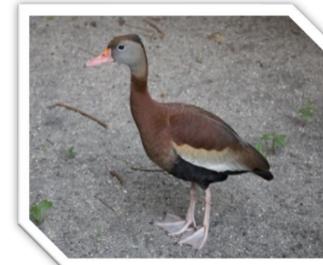


Source: Winnebago Conservation Photography

Male builds a nest platform before pairing with a female, then both may finish it by lining it with pliable plant materials that dries to for a cup structure. Female lays 1-6 eggs in a clutch that are smooth and pale blue-green, 2-6 cm long, and 2-4 cm wide.

Source: [AllAboutBirds.com](http://AllAboutBirds.com); [Audubon.org](http://Audubon.org)

**Black-Bellied Whistling Duck**  
*Dendrocygna autumnalis*



Source: Denise Valentin, photographer



Source: Cole Fredericks on Flickr

Females may lay 12-16 eggs, 12-16 in a clutch. They often lay eggs in each others' nests, called "dump nests". One of these "dump nests" can hold 50-60 eggs at a time.

Source: [Audubon.org](http://Audubon.org)

**Anhinga**  
*Anhinga anhinga*



Source: Denise Valentin, photographer



Source: Joan Chasen on [pbase.com](http://pbase.com)

Females lay 2-5 white to pale blue eggs in a loose nest made of sticks and lined with grass and leaves in trees in mixed colonies with herons, ibises, and cormorants.

Source: [Identify.whatbird.com](http://Identify.whatbird.com); [audubon.org](http://audubon.org)