

Anas platyrhynchos

SYSTEM

Freshwater; Terrestrial

COMMON NAMES

English: Mallard

DESCRIPTION

Anas platyrhynchos is a medium to large dabbling duck ranging from about 50-60 cm in length and 1-1.3 kg. It is strongly sexually dimorphic. Breeding males bear a distinctive green head, narrow white neck-ring, brown breast, brownish-gray dorsal feathers, pale gray sides and belly, black rump and under tail coverts, white outer tail, and strongly recurved black central tail feathers. Their wings are a pale gray with a distinct iridescent blue upperside and secondaries bordered with white leading and trailing edges, white under-wing coverts, and pale gray undersides. Bills are yellow to olive and legs and feet are orange to red. Females have a broken streaky pattern of buff, white, gray, to black on brown. They have white outer tail feathers and under tail coverts, a white belly, and a prominent dark eyeline. Females have similar wings to males including the distinct blue markings. Their bills are gray-black to orange and legs and feet orange to red. Non-breeding male and juvenile plumpages similar to female with males bearing a dark green head and both being darker (Drilling et al., 2002; Sibley, 2003).

NATIVE RANGE

ASEAN: Malaysia; Myanmar; Philippines; Viet Nam

WORLD: Afghanistan; Albania; Algeria; Andorra; Armenia; Aruba; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahamas; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Bermuda; Bhutan; Bosnia And Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Canada; China; Colombia; Costa Rica; Croatia; Cuba; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Egypt; Eritrea; Estonia; Ethiopia; Falkland Islands (Malvinas); Faroe Islands; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Greenland; Guam; Guatemala; Haiti; Honduras; Hong Kong; Hungary; Iceland; India; Iran, Islamic Republic Of; Iraq; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Korea, Democratic People's Republic Of; Korea, Republic Of; Kuwait; Kyrgyzstan; Latvia; Lebanon; Libyan; Arab Jamahiriya; Liechtenstein; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic Of; Malta; Mauritania; Mexico; Moldova, Republic Of; Mongolia; Montenegro; Morocco; Nepal; Netherlands; Netherlands Antilles; Nicaragua; Northern Mariana Islands; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Panama; Poland; Portugal; Puerto Rico; Qatar; Romania; Russian Federation; Saint Pierre And Miquelon; San Marino; Saudi Arabia; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Somalia; South Georgia And The South Sandwich Islands; Spain; Sudan; Sweden; Switzerland; Syrian Arab Republic; Taiwan; Tajikistan; Trinidad And Tobago; Tunisia; Turkey; Turkmenistan; Turks And Caicos Islands; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States; Uzbekistan; Yemen

KNOWN INTRODUCED RANGE

ASEAN: Brunei Darussalam; Thailand

WORLD: Antigua And Barbuda; Australia; Cayman Islands; Cook Islands; Djibouti; Falkland Islands (Malvinas); Gambia; Gibraltar; Guadeloupe; Jamaica; Kiribati; Mali; Marshall; Islands; Martinique; Micronesia, Federated States Of; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niger; Nigeria; Saint Vincent And The Grenadines; Senegal; Seychelles; South Africa; Svalbard And Jan Mayen; United States; Vanuatu; Virgin Islands, U.S.; Zambia

PATHWAY

Escape - Farmed animals; Ornamental purpose

Release - Hunting in the wild

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Farming: Mallard domestic breeds or barnyard ducks are used worldwide for meat (Huang et al., 2007). Escapes to the wild are frequent. *Anas platyrhynchos* is an extremely popular game bird and has been introduced to new locations for that reason (Uyehara et al., 2007). *Anas platyrhynchos* has been introduced to new locations to stock ponds (Uyehara et al, 2007).

IMPACTS

Introductions and range expansions of *A. platyrhynchos* for game purposes pose a threat of competition and hybridization to native waterfowl. Also, recent studies hold the mallard as a likely vector for the highly pathogenic avian influenza virus (HPAIV) (H5N1).

Global Invasive Species Database (2020) Species profile: *Anas platyrhynchos*.

Downloaded from <http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/speciesname/Anas+platyrhynchos> on 07-04-2020.



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