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《基因组学与应用生物学》

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麝鼠

Ondatra zibethicus



■ 图: 封暖暖 / 文: 韩春雨
Pictures: Feng Nuannuan / Text: Han Xiangyu

麝鼠 (*Ondatra zibethicus*), 是仓鼠科 (Circetidae) 麝鼠属 (*Ondatra*) 的唯一物种, 原产于美洲, 作为毛皮动物引入我国。雄性麝鼠的下腹部有一对特殊的腺体, 能够分泌具有特殊气味的油脂状液体, 被称为麝鼠香。麝鼠的泌香行为具有周期性, 在 3-10 月, 香腺生长膨大可达 45 mm, 并持续分泌麝鼠香, 在 11 月至次年 2 月, 香腺萎缩至黄豆大小, 不再产香。如何延长泌香期以增加泌香量, 是麝鼠泌香生理学研究中的重要课题。

Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*), the only species of *Ondatra* in Circetidae, is native to America and introduced into China as a fur animal. Male muskrats have a pair of special glands in their lower abdomen that secrete an oily liquid with a particular smell, called muskrat musk. The musk-secreting behavior of muskrat is periodic. From March to October, the scented gland expands to 45 mm and continues to secrete muskrat musk. From November to February, the scented gland shrinks to the size of soybean and no longer produces musk. How to prolong the secreted period to increase the amount of musk is an important topic in the physiological research of muskrat musk-secreting.

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