



EUROPEAN WILDCAT  
CZECH REPUBLIC  
MARCH 2017  
MECHISLAV KLIMOVICH



GOLD AWARD



## *Felis silvestris*

**DESCRIPTION** (male) Shoulder height 10-14 inches (25-35 cm) Weight average 11 pounds (5 Kg). Females are approx. 20 % smaller. The smaller of the two wild cats roaming in Europe (the other being the Lynx). Very thick hair, coloured yellowish-gray, whitish throat-patch, bellycream-coloured. Black stripes on forehead and neck become a clearly visible black stripe over the back, from which clearly visible black stripes develop that run into the body, there are also clearly visible black striped on the legs. Main differentiation from domestic cats is the bushy tail, with clearly visible black rings, ending in a bushy black tassel.



**BEHAVIOR** Nocturnal, can be hunted at dusk and dawn.

**HABITAT** large forest areas.

**DISTRIBUTION** all over Europe.