

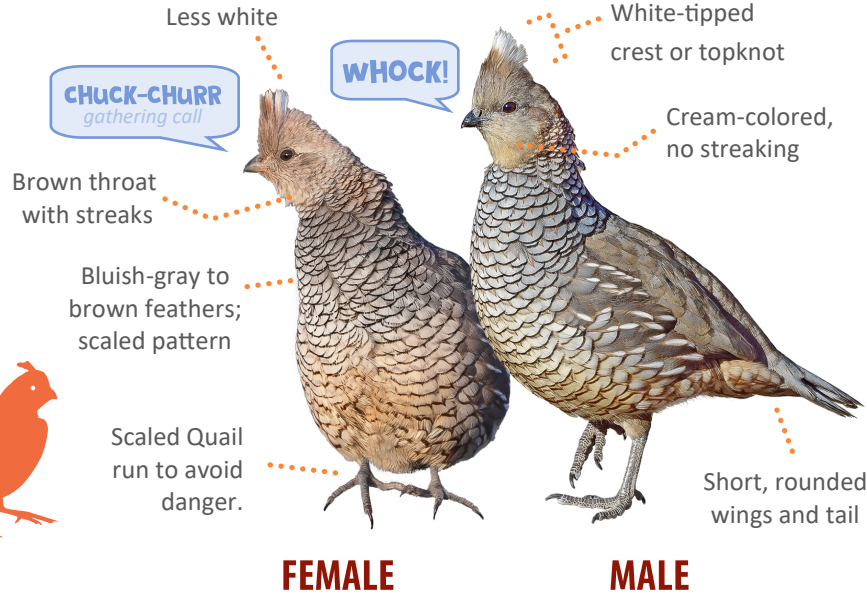
SCALED QUAIL

(Callipepla squamata)

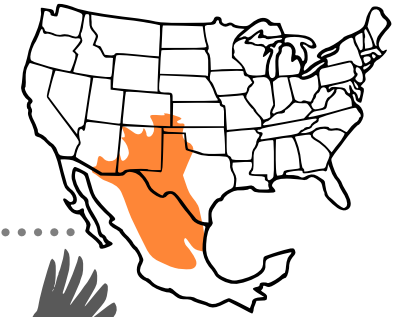


There are four recognized subspecies, including the Chestnut-bellied Scaled Quail. Also known as Blue Quail and Cottontop.

Clutch size: 9-16 eggs
Incubation: 22-23 days
Peak hatch: June-July



A covey is a group of quail. Circular roost formations provide warmth and many watchful eyes for predators.



Scaled Quail distribution

What makes good habitat? Having easy access to food, water, cover, and space to support growth and survival.

QUAIL FOOD IS IN THE WEEDS

Scaled Quail have a diverse diet that includes seeds, insects, fruits, and leafy greens. Insects are packed with protein, water, and minerals, which are essential for egg production and chick development in spring and summer. Seeds and crop grains are mostly consumed during fall and winter. Preferred seeds include croton, ragweed, snakeweed, sunflower, and mesquite.



TOPNOTCH HABITAT FOR COTTONTOPS

Scaled Quail occupy semi-arid grassland and desert communities; however, basic habitat needs are the same across their range: mixed grasses and forbs, bare ground, and low-growing shrubs or spiny plants. Daily food and cover requirements must be within a quail's home range. Sand sagebrush, yucca, prickly pear, sumacs, cholla, and mesquite provide suitable nesting or protective cover. Scaled Quail prefer less dense cover compared to Bobwhite habitat.



57% POPULATION DECLINE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF HABITAT IMPACT QUAIL NUMBERS.

4-16 INCHES TALL SHORT, SPARSE GRASS IS IMPORTANT FOR CONCEALMENT AND MOBILITY.

30 BIRDS AVERAGE WINTER COVEY SIZE; MAY HAVE 100 OR MORE BIRDS.

Pheasants Forever is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public awareness, education and land management policies and programs.

For more information visit quailforever.org

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE



1.) **True / False:** Scaled Quail can be found in my state.

2.) **True / False:** Both the male and female Scaled Quail have a crest.

3.) **True / False:** Quail prefer habitat with tall, sod-forming grasses

4.) **True / False:** There is no such thing as a "good weed."

5.) **True / False:** Scaled Quail are social and live in large groups.

