

Persian Squirrel

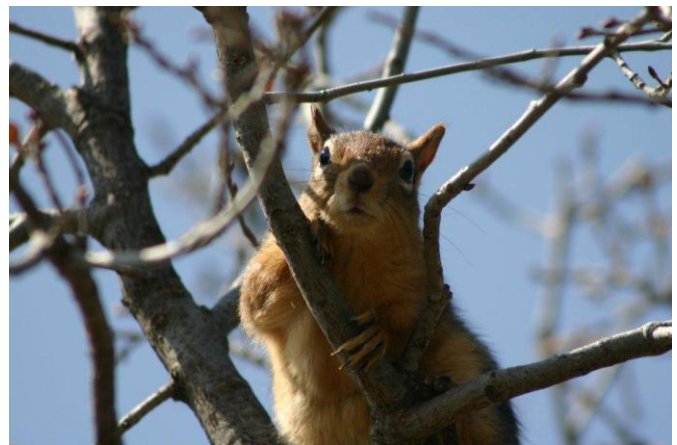
- **Scientific Name:** *Sciurus anomalus*
- **Common name:** Persian Squirrel
- **Arabian Name:** السنجاب الفارسي
- **Scientific classification:**
 - Kingdom: Animalia
 - Phylum: Chordata
 - Class: Mammalia
 - Order: Rodentia
 - Family: Sciuridae
 - Genus: *Sciurus*
 - Species: *Sciurus anomalus*

- **Distribution:**

Greece, Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine.

- **Localities:**

Kufranja , Burma , Ajlune Nature Reserve , Dibbin Nature Reserve , Raimoon , between Sakeb and Anjara , Ajlune . New records . Tabakat Fahal.



- **Diagnosis:**

Tail thick, bushy and flattened in appearance. Ears with very short tufts. Muzzle short and blunt. Eyes surrounded by yellowish hair. Fur is coarse with soft underwool, colour on back brownish grey; ventral brownish yellow. Thumbs of forefeet vestigial. Hind feet with 5 digits. Dorsal side of tail is light red-brownish.



- **Status:**

(Least Concern) that depends on the IUCN Red List.

- **Habitat:**

It is associated with thick pine and oak forests in northern Jordan.

- **Feeding:**

Persian squirrel feeding on the pine cones.

- **Human interaction:**

Threats identified include habitat fragmentation within reserve and forest. This is evident in areas cultivated with olive and other crops of economic importance which located within the reserve and its boundaries. Fires and habitat disturbance may have an effect on the current population. Wood cutting and deforestation are the major threats facing the current population in the reserve.