

# Scat Dichotomy Key: Michigan

<b>1. General shape/description of Scat</b>	
a. Is the scat solid and/or dimensional?.....	2
b. Is the scat in a dried spray or fluid form (often light in color).....	B
<b>2. Nitrogenous (white) tip or color</b>	
a. The scat does have a nitrogenous tip/color.....	3
b. The scat does <u>not</u> have a nitrogenous tip/color.....	4
<b>3. Size of nitrogenous scat</b>	
a. Scat is <1/2" long.....	E
b. Scat is >1/2" long.....	D
<b>4. Location of scat:</b>	
a. Was the scat found on land?.....	5
b. Was the scat found in water?.....	C
<b>5. General size of Scat</b>	
a. Is the scat <1/2" and seed-like (pencil lead form)?.....	A
b. Is the scat >1/2".....	6
<b>6. Specific shape of scat</b>	
a. Is the scat in pellet form?.....	7
b. Is the scat tubular?.....	8
c. Is the scat in cord form with nipple present?.....	G
<b>7. Pellet-form, nipple presence</b>	
a. Does the scat have nipples?.....	8
b. Is the scat smooth and round with no nipples?.....	H
<b>8. Length of scat</b>	
a. Is the tubular scat <1" long?.....	10
b. Is the tubular scat >1" long?.....	11
c. Is the pellet scat <1" long?.....	F
d. Is the pellet scat >1" long?.....	9
<b>9. Specific shape of pellet scat &gt;1" long</b>	
a. Is the pellet more rounded?.....	U
b. Is the pellet more elongated?.....	T
<b>10. Description of tubular scat &lt;1" long</b>	
a. Is the scat rounded on both ends, semi smooth and appear dull?.....	12
b. Is the scat <u>not</u> rounded on both ends? Irregular rough texture?.....	13
<b>11. Description of tubular scat &gt;1" long</b>	
a. Does the scat have flattened threads?.....	I
b. Is the scat round-ish and not flat?.....	14
c. Does the scat look like large thick cords with blunt ends?.....	V
<b>12. Composition of rounded tubular scat &lt;1" long</b>	
a. The scat contains woody or nutshell fibers.....	J
b. The scat does <u>not</u> contain woody fibers.....	K
<b>13. Composition of non-rounded tubular scat &lt;1" long</b>	
a. Does the scat contain little to no insect parts?.....	L
b. Does the scat sparkle with insect exoskeletons?.....	M
<b>14. End shape of tubular scat &gt;1" long</b>	
a. Is the scat tubular and rounded on both ends?.....	15
b. Is the scat tubular, tapered and pointed at one end?.....	N
c. Is the scat tubular and tapered at both ends?.....	O
<b>15. Composition of scat &gt;1" long</b>	
a. Hair, solitary piles, usually not covered, semi smooth, constrictions possible?.....	P
b. Usually covered, grouped, granular, even diameter, may have nuts, berries, corn?.....	Q
c. Not smooth, covered, insect parts possible, little or no plant parts, usually dark?.....	R
d. Non-distinctive, varies with food, usually smooth, Insect parts possible?.....	S

- A. Mouse
- B. Songbird
- C. Turtle
- D. Snake
- E. Salamander/Skink
- F. White-tailed Deer
- G. Frog/Toad
- H. Rabbit
- I. Weasel Family
- J. Ground Squirrel
- K. Tree Squirrel
- L. Rats
- M. Bats
- N. Feline Family
- O. Fox
- P. Canine Family
- Q. Raccoon
- R. Skunk
- S. Opossum
- T. Moose
- U. Elk
- V. Black Bear