

# Northern Dusky Salamander

## Northern Dusky Salamander - Pl.24

*(Desmognathus fuscus fuscus)*

**Identification:** 2 1/2" - 5 1/2". The tail of the Northern Dusky Salamander is slightly shorter than the rest of its body, triangular in cross-section, and keeled. There is a light line from the eye to the corner of the jaw. Coloring and pattern vary among individuals and ages. Ground color is tan to brown to gray. Young animals have two rows of yellowish spots on back, bordered by a dark wavy line on the sides. Older animals may be darker, with a broad dorsal stripe, bordered by a dark, straight or wavy line; what's left of the dots may appear as mottling, spots, or streaks. The underside is lighter than the back, and mottled.

**Where to find them:** Usually found near small sources of flowing water, hiding under stones or other stream-edge debris.

**When to find them:** Active April through September.

**Range:** All of Northern Region. Southern Region: western Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties.

## Northern Dusky Salamander

*(Desmognathus fuscus fuscus)* - text pg. 33



### Key Features

- Brown to gray in color.
- Keeled tail, which comprises roughly half of the overall length.
- 5 to 8 pairs of yellowish spots on body bordered by a wavy band.



New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife ~ 2002



Excerpt from: "Field Guide to Reptiles and Amphibians of New Jersey"  
Order the complete guide at - <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/products.htm>