

Fowler's Toad

Fowler's Toad (*Bufo woodhousii fowleri*) - Pl.30

Identification: 2" - 4". The ground color is earth-toned, ranging from gray to olive to brown (rarely reddish), with patterns of warts, spots and blotches. A light line runs down the center of the back. There is either one spot or no spots on the chest. The number of warts in the large blotches allows this toad to be differentiated from the American Toad: the Fowler's Toad typically has three to seven warts in each of its large dark blotches. In addition, the parotoid glands contact the ridges behind the eyes.

Where to find them: The species occurs mainly in sandy habitats throughout the state. It breeds in vernal pools, ditches, and the shallow edges of lakes and ponds.

When to find them: Active March through late September. Breeds from late spring to mid-August, about the same time as the American Toad.

Voice: A short (1-4 seconds), harsh nasal *b-w-a-a-h*.

Range: Common throughout the Southern Region, but relatively rare in Northern Region where American Toads are distributed.

Note: The Fowler's Toad and American Toad may hybridize; hybrids may appear to be intermediate or show mixtures of traits of both parents.

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Key Features

- Three or more warts usually present in each large spot.
- Parotoid gland touches ridge behind each eye (compare with American toad - Pl. 29).
- Chest and belly often unspotted.

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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>