

Southwest Monarch Study Trivia Quiz – Answers

(Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Deserts of California)

1. When was the first SWMS tagged monarch from the Southwest found in Mexico? Where was it tagged?
October 8, 2004 at Desert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix, Arizona.
2. What is the longest distance a SWMS tagged monarch migrated? Where was it tagged and recovered?
Longest flight to date is 1,247 mile flight tagged in Camp Verde, Arizona, and recovered at El Rosario, Michoacan, Mexico.
3. Was the same SWMS tagged monarch ever seen more than once after it was tagged? Yes – twice! Where?
A monarch tagged on 9/25/17 in Sparks, Nevada was seen at Camino Real Park in Ventura, California on 11/21/17, 11/22/17, and 11/23/17 and 1/2/18. Another monarch was tagged on 9/16/16 in Willcox, AZ was seen at Pismo Beach on 12/3/16 and later mating on 2/14/17 at the same general location.
4. What was the longest flight for a migrating SWMS tagged monarch from Nevada? A monarch tagged on 9/25/17 in Sparks, NV flew 360 miles to Camino Real Park in Ventura, CA.
5. What was the shortest flight for a SWMS tagged monarch showing directional flight? 59 miles clear SW directional flight over the Sierra Nevada Mountains and spotted in Volcano, CA. When and where was it tagged? This was an interesting and unusual monarch tagged in Gardnerville, NV on July 28, 2017!
6. Do all migrating SWMS tagged monarchs spend the winter at known CA or Mexico overwintering sites?
No! Some monarchs spend the winter in the lower deserts. A Monarch tagged in Tucson, AZ on 11/4/16 was found nectaring in Palm Desert, CA. A monarch tagged on 10/16/16 in Prescott Valley, AZ was seen in Nipoma, CA. Another monarch tagged the next day on 10/17/16 in Prescott Valley was seen in La Quinta, CA.
7. What was the longest flight for a SWMS tagged migrating monarch from Utah? Where was it tagged and recovered? Utah is unique with three tagged monarchs migrating in different directions! The longest flight so far was a monarch tagged on 10/6/18 in Clearfield, UT that was seen just north of Phoenix, AZ at Rio Verde, AZ. A flight of 510 miles due South.
8. What was the longest flight for a SWMS tagged migrating monarch from Arizona to CA? 757 miles. Where was it tagged and recovered? This monarch was tagged at Canelo, AZ and migrated to Pacific Grove, CA.
9. How long can the life-cycle of an egg laid in November take to eclose as a new butterfly in the deserts? When nights are cold and dry in the desert, the monarch life-cycle is prolonged. Eggs laid in November often do not eclose until mid to late January.
10. What is the shortest time from when a SWMS tagged monarch was tagged until recovered at least 100 miles away? A monarch tagged on 9/20/16 in Willcox, AZ was seen at Joshua Tree National Park in CA on 10/9/16, a flight of 369 miles in 19 days.