The Origin of the Species? A Species Mix and Match Game

Match the photo on the right to its origin in the column on the left.

This plant was introduced by colonial settlers in New England; probably when they discarded soil used as ballast in ships or from mud packed root balls of transported plants.



These animals were brought to the Americas over 10,000 years ago by nomads crossing the Bering Strait.



This animal probably originated in Africa and spread from there to Northern Europe and Asia. In 1622, colonists brought them to North America. Native Americans referred to them as "the white man's fly."



Early European settlers brought this herb over because it is a good source of vitamins A and C. Later it was used in the NE United States as food, medicine, and erosion control.



This was introduced as an ornamental landscape plant in Philadelphia in 1756.



This plant was brought to the United States in ballast in marine vessels and was used as "coffee" during the civil war.



Eight pairs of this animal were released in the spring of 1851 in Brooklyn, New York.



This animal arrived as part of a planned introduction to reduce the use of pesticides in the early 20th century.



Scientific studies show that this plant was used as food at least 7,000 years ago in Mexico.



Spanish explorers and conquistadors originally transported these to the Americas aboard their ships in the 16th century. 100 years later, French fur traders and English colonists moved them to North America.



All members of this species found in North America today are descendents of approximately 100 specimens released in NYC's Central Park in the early 1890s.



Grown by the Aztecs of Central America, this plant was called "xitomatl" (zee-toe-ma-tel) which means plump thing with a navel.



Originally, Polynesians brought these animals to Hawaii. Later, during the 17th century, colonists released them into forests to fend for themselves.

