

Notes on the THALAMUS AND HYPOTHALAMUS

- The THALAMUS is an important gathering point for sensory input before information is distributed to the upper regions of the cortex. Information from the various senses is thought to be combined here before being parceled out.
- The HYPOTHALAMUS plays an important role in the regulation of eating, drinking, body temperature, and sexual behavior. Different regions of the hypothalamus control a variety of behaviors. For example, when certain areas in animals (rats) are stimulated it produces sexual responses while other areas, when damaged, can produce dramatic changes in eating behavior. This region also plays a role in regulating hormone release via the pituitary gland.

A jpg image of the location of these areas may be viewed [here](#).