Spreadsheet import instructions

Draft instructions for importing data and formulas for the Predator-Prey spreadsheet from a CSV (comma-separated values) data file. These instructions include notes about specific details relevant to different spreadsheet software (Google Sheets, Apple Numbers, and LibreOffice) when those details vary from one piece of software to another. We should probably include details for Microsoft Excel as well (Randy does NOT have Excel, however).

LibreOffice is the successor to OpenOffice, the open source alternative to Microsoft Office and Google's G-suite.

1. Start up your spreadsheet software
2. Open the CSV file
    a. Microsoft Excel
        i. File > Open…
    b. Google Sheets
        i. File > Import
        ii. In the "Import file" window, select the Upload option, then select the CSV file
        iii. Make sure the "Convert text to numbers, dates, and formulas" box is checked, then click the "Import data" button
    c. Apple Numbers
        i. File > Open…
    d. LibreOffice:
        i. File > Open…
        ii. In the import window, set Separator Options to "Separated by Comma"
        iii. In the import window, check "Evaluate formulas" in the "Other Options" section
3. Check to make sure formulas are working
    a. Change the value for one of the constants near the top of the spreadsheet. For example, change the value for the constant k1 (in cell B1) from 0.02 to 0.03, then hit enter or return. Most of the values for the number of hares and the number of lynx should change.

4. Graph the Hare and Lynx Populations over Time
    a. Microsoft Excel
        i. Select the following data in the spreadsheet (columns B and C, rows 5 through 606)
        ii. Click on the Insert tab and under Recommended Charts, select Insert Line or Area Chart > 2D Line
    b. Google Sheets
        i. Insert > Chart
        ii. Set the “Chart Type” to “Line chart” if Sheets doesn’t select that option automatically
    c. Apple Numbers
        i. Insert > Chart > 2D Line
    d. LibreOffice:
        i. Select all of the population data for the Hares and Lynx (columns B and C, rows 5 through 606, in the spreadsheet)
        ii. Insert > Chart…
        iii. Choose “XY (Scatter)” for the Chart Type