

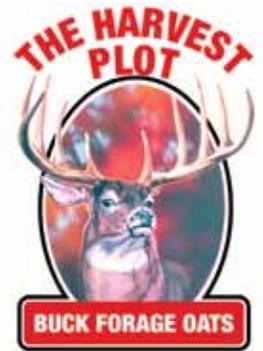
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT *News*

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**CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU
SUSQUEHANNA BRANCH Q.D.M.A.
FOR 10 YEARS OF
WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT EDUCATION
AND HABITAT ENHANCEMENT**

2012 SUSQUEHANNA BRANCH BANQUET

The date is March 31, 2012, and as you read this you may be enjoying the evening at the Susquehanna Branch of the Quality Deer Management Association's (QDMA) annual REACH banquet. Let me take you on a journey that started nearly a decade ago. August 19, 2002, was my first day on the job for QDMA. On that day the Susquehanna Branch was one of only five QDMA Branches in Pennsylvania, but it was already a recognized leader both within and outside of the Commonwealth. Following numerous telephone calls and emails, I met with the Branch leadership for the first time on September 15th. This was the beginning of a long-term friendship that I am proud to say continues today. My first Susquehanna Branch banquet was on March 1, 2003, and though I was the Regional Director in charge, it was abundantly clear who the student was. I learned much about banquets that night; I learned how to successfully raise funds for the organization, but more importantly I learned how to make it fun for the attendees and how to show proper respect and appreciation so they would want to attend future events. Many reading this have likely attended numerous Branch fundraising and educational events since the Susquehanna Branch was chartered over a decade ago. A history of successful banquets has enabled the Branch to host, conduct and/or fund an amazingly comprehensive list of items. A complete listing would require pages,

so here is an example of a few items. Branch members have gone far above and beyond the call of duty with their educational outreach efforts including:

- Numerous seminars featuring local and national natural resource professionals (including Charles Alsheimer, Craig and Neil Dougherty and Dr. James Kroll)
- Many years of adult and youth field days (usually in the rain)
- Numerous landowner consulting trips (usually for free)
- Antler round ups (free scoring clinics), PGC jawbone aging workshops, and more.

They have been equally as giving with their habitat improvement projects and food plots on public lands. The Branch has literally spent hundreds of man-hours, using their own equipment, and dedicated thousands of dollars on these projects to benefit wildlife species and all wildlife enthusiasts on these public lands; a fact not often recognized by the non-hunting public or QDM critics. The Branch has helped other QDMA Branches become established and host miscellaneous events. Many Branch members have served on the State Chapter and other natural resource boards and councils. The Branch has donated to PGC deer research projects and provided local support in the form of labor, public relations, supplies and land access. The Branch has partnered with several other non-governmental



Kip Adams, Director of Education and Outreach

organizations and state and federal agencies to promote wise stewardship in the surrounding area. Several Branch members have traveled to attend Deer Steward courses, National Conventions, antler scoring classes, Land Certification Program inspector training, and more in an effort to obtain additional training and knowledge to bring back and share with the Branch and local sportsmen and women. Finally, the Branch has been very generous with youth scholarships. There is no better way to ensure the future of our natural resources than to properly expose our youth to the outdoors and train them to be tomorrow's managers. Though the Branch has had an annual banquet for more than 10 years, a look at just the last three is incredibly impressive. In these, the Branch has netted over \$30,000 (much of which has stayed right here in the local area), and over 500 people have attended those banquets resulting in nearly 350 QDMA memberships. It would be nearly impossible to put a dollar value on what the Susquehanna Branch has done for wildlife, habitat and the future of hunting in northeastern Pennsylvania, but two things are for sure: 1) I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute I've spent working with the Branch, and 2) the QDMA and this area of the Commonwealth are

Continued on page 2

extremely fortunate to have the Susquehanna Branch and its group of dedicated sportsmen and women. I can't thank them enough, and I wish I was there with you tonight. Have a great evening.

Respectfully,

Kip Adams

Director of Education and Outreach (and former Susquehanna Branch RD)

STATE OF THE BRANCH ADDRESS

Greetings,

As we enter into our 11th year of existence as a branch of the Quality Deer Management Association, I can't help but be somewhat awe-struck of our success as I reflect over the past ten years. The tough economic times that have gripped us all so tight – inflation, unstable stock market, and job loss – all would have a negative impact on a conservation organization, one would think. Fortunately for us, we have managed to stay afloat, showed slight growth in membership, and have made profits at our fundraisers that the branch uses to fund multiple activities and projects in which we are actively involved.

I believe this success is due to the quality of people we surround ourselves with, those supporters who attended the last ten banquets or those who may have attended for the first time last year, and our local businesses who open their checkbooks and offer monetary donations or products for our annual banquet or gun raffle. We would not be

the branch we are without their generosity, so please, if given the opportunity, try to support those businesses who have given so freely their money and products when asked. That type of a "thank you" goes a long way with them, I'm sure. I must add that it doesn't hurt to have the best board of directors of any branch I known guiding this branch into the future. The timeless dedication and efforts put in by these volunteers are second to none and I am proud to be associated with all of them.

Times are changing fast here in this part of Susquehanna County and surrounding areas with the influx of the Marcellus Gas industry. Whether one is for or against it, it does not seem to be going away any time soon. We as a branch have recently benefited financially from this. This added income will be put to very good use as we are a branch that does not believe in stockpiling cash in the checking account but rather a branch that will invest the money back into habitat work on state game lands, youth education and outreach, educational field days, educating our directors to keep them on the cutting edge of whitetail deer biology and ecology, being able to bring this science-based information back for all our members to tap into and use on their properties. Also, we support local charities and their events when called on to do so. Rest assured this added income will be spent wisely by the board to ensure each and every dollar will be used in a way that will have a lasting

impact. To our supporters, it is you who have brought us to this point. This added income from the gas industry is a much needed and welcome gift but it is you – and always will be you – who are the "backbone" of this branch. The added income is the "calcium" if you will; it just makes the backbone stronger. So in closing, thank you to all our past, present, and future supporters and donors who have kept us moving forward now for almost eleven years. We hope to represent you all in a positive way in the years to come. We are always looking for "new blood" on our board, so if anyone would like to bring fresh ideas or lend a much needed hand, join the board... please feel free to do so. For the entire board of the Susquehanna Branch of the Q.D.M.A.

Jim Dovin,
Branch President

DEER MANAGEMENT CRUSADERS

During the winter of 2009, a crew of young biologists and I were given the task of capturing deer for a study investigating how a split season regulation would affect deer population dynamics. Deer capture efforts are very labor intensive, and successful efforts require the cooperation and support of many local community members and volunteers. Luckily, a small and very dedicated group of sportsmen was willing to assist us. They helped us capture deer, bait and maintain trapping sites, construct and deconstruct trap set-ups, and find new trapping properties. Addi-

tionally, they donated 500 dollars worth of equipment to assist us in our efforts. The group I speak of is very well networked with deer management professionals, biologists, foresters, and other local sportsmen's groups. Most importantly, they are highly dedicated to promoting deer herd health and quality. Each year they donated a lot of time, money, and resources to assist PGC Food and cover crews with planting and maintaining food plots and performing habitat improvements on state game lands. Throughout the year they host several educational seminars, and teach other hunters how to improve deer habitats on their own properties. On occasion, they host guest lectures by some of the top deer experts in the country, including Dr. James Kroll, Neil Dougherty, and Charles Alsheimer. So who is the group of deer management crusaders? They are the Susquehanna Branch of the QDMA. So if you or your hunting club is thinking about planting a food plot, starting a mineral program, creating cover, or just doing something to help your hunting property attract or support more deer, the Susquehanna branch's network of highly knowledgeable and experienced individuals can help you achieve your goals. If you really enjoy deer hunting, then you should get acquainted with the Susquehanna Branch and even sign up for a membership. Aside from their expertise in the deer world, they're a great, fun-loving group of people!

by Jim Stickle

WHY I'M PART OF QDMA

When I first became interested in deer hunting, I had no mentors. There was nobody in my family that hunted deer. We grew up hunting small game, so I had to learn by trial and error!! I started reading everything I could on the subject and absorbed it a bit at a time. Eventually I became successful, but felt I needed more. Then I was at Andre's and ran into Jim Holbert. We had a long discussion about "QDM" and he invited me to the banquet. This was six years ago. The best thing about being involved in our organization is that everyone brings different skills and knowledge to the table. One guy may be a tree expert, another specializes in soils, another in native grasses and shrubs, another in wildlife biology. The list goes on and on. There is so much to learn that will improve not only your hunting skills, but it will make you a better land manager for all species of game and non-game animals and you learn to be better stewards of our forests and fields. That will put a smile on your face every time you step out into God's great canvas of the outdoors!!

Mike of the Mountain



FIRST TIME HUNTER



Dalton Andrews, age 11, from Montrose, PA, shot his first deer on opening season day. He shot it with a 243 rifle on the Tyler's property, spike, one shot to the lung, first time hunter. Congratulations, Dalton!

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BLACK MARKET FOR PORCUPINE MEAT SPURS HUNTING ISSUE IN PA.

January 28, 2012|By Amy Worden, Inquirer Harrisburg Bureau

Limit reinstated to stem black market. (Pennsylvania Game Commission)

HARRISBURG – After lifting a ban on porcupine hunting, the Pennsylvania Game Commission ran into a thorny problem: reports of a new black market for the rodents' meat in Southeast Asia. Intelligence reports indicated that people were seeking Pennsylvania porcupines to sell illegally for human consumption in Vietnam, commission officials said. The eight-member commission responded this week by reversing course and ending a nine-month-old policy of virtually unlimited porcupine hunting during most of the year. Instead, it voted to impose a limit of 10 porcupines per hunter per year. The original limit had been six per day. Commission spokesman Jerry Feaser said that he could not comment on specifics of any investigation resulting in

the change, but that no known porcupine trading was taking place. The new limit, Feaser said, makes clear that the goal of a porcupine season was not to open the door to mass hunting, but to expand a homeowner's right to shoot nuisance porcupines. Porcupines, the second-largest rodents after the beaver, are shy, nocturnal creatures attracted to wood, rubber, and metal, making house siding and automobile engine belts attractive to them. Personal experience figured in the commission's decision in April to create the season. One commissioner said his brother's telephone wires had to be replaced twice after gnawing by porcupines. Another said half the screen door on his hunting cabin had been destroyed. No studies on population, geographical range, or damage preceded the decision, which allowed hunting of porcupines between September and April 1, allowing the creatures to raise their young in spring and summer. No figures are available for the number of porcupines bagged since September. Pennsylvania law has long let homeowners kill porcupines that destroy property. Instituting a season, officials said,

was meant to "eliminate the gray area" and give owners more leeway to kill troublesome porcupines not on their land. It is illegal to sell meat of any wild game killed in Pennsylvania, but legal to sell nonedible animal parts such as porcupine quills – used in American Indian art. Commissioners said that when they voted last spring to create the season, they did not envision opening the door to a black market on porcupines.



Fable of the Porcupine

It was the coldest winter ever. Many animals died because of the cold.

The porcupines, realizing the situation, decided to group together.

They were covered and protected, but the quills of each wounded the closest companion.

After a while, they decided to distance themselves, and they began to die, alone and frozen.

So they had to make a choice: either accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the Earth.

Wisely, they decided to go back to being together.

They learned to live with the little wounds that were caused by their close relationships because the most important part was the heat that came from the others.

They were able to survive.



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At our field day at Dr. Kroll's research center, one area of discussion was the benefits of planting Buck Forage Oats for an early Spring nutrition forage. Oats can be planted much earlier than many other crops and offer early green up when deer are subject to a very stressful time of year. This early food source especially benefits does who are carrying fawns and need a boost to their diet. If you take advantage of an early planting of Buck Forage Oats, it is suggested that

you let them reach maturity and go to seed. These oats at maturity offer cover to many animals and in going to seed are a good source of food for turkeys as well. In late summer, mow the mature oats in preparation for replanting them for the fall hunting season. The benefit of mowing and disking the oats into the soil is that the organic material and nitrogen will greatly enhance your soil.

Make sure to catch Dr. Kroll's complete field day on Buck Forage TV.



RESEARCH CENTER IN NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS

As guests of the Butler family and Buck Forage Products, Tom Wheeler, from Cooperative Feed Distributors, and I had the great opportunity to attend Dr. James Kroll's field day at his research center in Nacogdoches, Texas. We were part of a group that had the chance to be a part of a televised controlled burn and to see what the guys are currently doing in the oat breeding program. Dr. Kroll gave us a personal tour of some of the "behind the scenes" activities at his center as well. This was a truly appreciated treat for Tom and me as we had the chance to see some of the new technology and products that are being developed and tested. We also met some great guys who are leaders of Whitetail management programs from around the country. One rising star of Dr. Kroll's research this year is a product called "Nutra Deer" developed by Jeff Williams, founder/president. Nutra Deer was tested against the most popular deer feeds and mineral supplements in today's market. Results of these tests are on Dr. Deer's website, but I can tell you that Jeff's product blew the competition out of the water! It might be a while before you see this product in the north, but if you want dealer or product information, call Jeff Williams at 1-866-466-5738.





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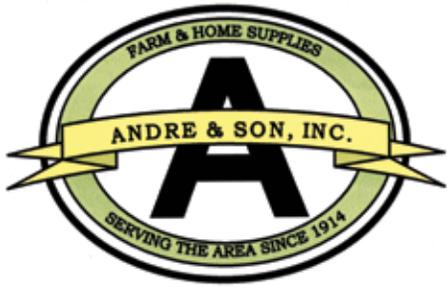


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SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

Is Whitetail deer relocation a feasible solution to overpopulated suburban areas?

A real dilemma is taking place in areas that contain heavy deer populations and yet are in or near cities with heavy human population. This problem stretches from the edges of Philadelphia to the fringes of Binghamton, NY. College campus areas, state parks, and national parks have all been invaded by the Whitetail deer and they have no real motivation to leave. We even see routine road kills in our little village of Montrose, PA. This fall, right on the main drag, a good size deer was seen laying on the edge of Grow Ave., but you couldn't tell if it was a buck or doe, because its head was cut off! Suburban deer are a huge threat to motorists and they create thousands of dollars in damage to properties by destroying the landscape. Allowing hunting to take place is a partial solution to the problem in some urban areas. I don't think that it's as effective as a trapping and relocation program could possibly be. Trapping techniques have already been developed, tested, and proven by teams of PGC biologists. When PA's Wildlife Management Unit, 3C, was used in a 3-year research program, live deer trapping became common place. Jim Stickles and his crew became experts in safely capturing deer, gathering info, tagging, and releasing these animals. My point is this: if we already have the expertise to capture these animals, why can't they be relocated to areas where deer numbers are low? We have relocation programs for bear and at one time relocated rabbits as well. I know the arguments that develop over this possibility, but I also know that with the knowledge and sources of Whitetail expertise management that we have to tap into how the logistics could be handled. Deer would be tested for disease before they were to be relocated. Deer would be relocated only to areas where the habitat could sustain them and predation would be minimal. A random sample of the deer population to be relocated would be tested for chronic wasting disease. It may be possible for these tests to be done by spinal tapping, but more than likely, some deer would be humanely put down and autopsies performed on them. Cost effectiveness is also a great argument. But these animals are still part of a natural resource that needs to be respected. The only alternative to relocation that I can see is to exterminate these deer by whatever means would be feasible for the area: shooting or poisoning. A story that comes to my mind is the one heard in a lot of churches where a young boy is walking along the beach where thousands of starfish are washed ashore after a storm. The young man is throwing the starfish back in the water when he is approached by a man who says: "Hey kid! You're wasting your time! Can't you see there are thousands of starfish laying on the beach and the sun is already starting to bake them? What difference does it make anyway? The seagulls will get them." Without even looking up at the grown-up, the kid tossed another starfish in the sea and said, "It makes a difference to this one."

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Hunts for Healing – One Girl's Experience

Stepping out of the truck I can see the looks on their faces. It was the same look I get every time. It is the look that says, "What is a girl going to show me about hunting?" I introduce myself to the eager hunters. These hunters are not your typical hunters; they are United States soldiers that have been injured in the line of duty. They are participating in a program called "Hunts for Healing" (<http://www.huntsforhealing.org/>). The soldiers arrived to the area yesterday and have gone through a safety lesson, and have practiced shooting with the black powder guns. After brief introductions are made, the team sets off for the winter woods. These are the same woods I have hunted as a teenager; they are the woods of my grandfather and good friend that I continue to hunt with today. The soldiers are briefed on the lay of the land and are escorted by the mentors to the "sweet" spots in the woods. It is a beautiful clear crisp day. The temperature is right around freezing and the sun is starting to rise over the mountains. Its rays sparkle through the trees, burning off a thin layer of frost. The plan is to walk through the woods towards the awaiting soldiers and "drive" the deer into them. Setting off down a well-beaten path with another mentor, our plan is to circle around a small stretch of thick woods and casually walk back through the center of the woods. This would tend to push the game into the sights of the waiting soldiers. As I made my way through the woods, I hear the distinct sound of branches snapping and snorting of a deer, most likely a large doe. They are on the move. My heart skips a beat or two and I picture the anticipation of the American soldiers just over the hill. Several break out across the field in the opposite direction of the soldiers. I wonder if I should drop back a bit and try to catch any other deer from breaking out into the open field. Then I hear what everyone wants to hear on a deer drive – the distinct sound of black powder being discharged.

A loud sharp crack of a single shot, it was a good sound! The distinct sound did not continue through the air – it made contact. As I clear the heavy woods I see the bright orange of the two soldiers' vests. They were now in the middle of the field, heads bent towards the frozen earth, scanning the ground for signs of the hit. There was no snow on the ground. Signs of a hit would be a bit difficult to find if we were not careful. The other mentors met the soldiers the same time as I did. The six of us worked as a team until the shout out came, "I got blood." Knowing which direction the deer headed after it was hit, my friend and fellow mentor set off to try to cut off the deer before it tried heading to a low laying swamp. This mentor knew the woods like the back of his hand and he knew the movements of the deer even better. We followed the faint trail through the field across a small road. Looking up from the edge of the road, the soldier that shot the deer spotted the deer at the woods edge. Excitement streamed across his face, "There," he whispered. "It's at the edge of the woods." It did not go far and it was heading where the other mentor was going to cut off its path. It was too far to try to shoot. We would have to wait. The deer disappeared into the dark of the woods. The mentor returned to the group; he did not see the deer. We as a group continued to follow the blood trail. Time had passed and the deer would try to bed down at this point. It was not a good trail, it was sparse. The group now decided it might have not been a good hit after all, speculating a possible leg wound. We lost the trail just over the ridge just into the edge of the woods. It was getting late. The group decided to split into three smaller groups with a mentor and soldier in each. My soldier and I stayed with the last of the known blood trail and kept searching. One team headed towards the swamp and the other team searched the area above us, just in case the deer tried to double back. No sign of the deer. Hearts heavy, it was decided to head in for lunch. The soldier I

was with had an injury where going back the way we came would mean a difficult uphill climb. We decided to continue heading downhill and would meet the remaining hunters at the log cabin. My heart was defeated. I hated leaving an injured animal. I felt bad for the soldier. He felt discouraged – you could read his worn face. As we cautiously walked, we spoke of the beauty of the woods and the enjoyment of being in the fresh air. We talked of keeping our eyes open for any sign of the deer. We were maneuvering down a well-worn deer trail. I stepped into a cross path and there it was – a red glistening reflection against the noon-day sun. It was blood. I let out a shout, "I got blood!" We back-slapped each other and gave out a good hoot of joy. It was a good trail. We both could clearly see the direction the deer was heading. The team from down below met up with us. The team above had already left for lunch. We planned our assault. The deer was heading for low land – the swamp. We would stay on the trail and the other team would go ahead and once again try to cut off the deer. About ten minutes later the sound of black powder once again pierced the silent woods. It was a clear miss. The sound of the sharp crack carried across the moun-

tain. Excitement had gotten the best of our soldier. The hunt was truly on. Every step taken, the soldier's smile grew. This is what the program was all about – new friendships, experiencing the pleasure of the open woods while being productive by putting meat on the family table, learning new skills and simply enjoying life and healing from within. The deer finally came to a stream, the low spot in the woods. It crossed and we lost the trail for a few moments. Looking up, there she was. She saw us the same time we saw her. She was not moving fast due her injury and loss of blood. It was just a matter of time – the soldier would get his shot. She crossed the dirt road, another small stream and she was starting up the other side of the hill. The hunt was over – the distinct sound of black powder met our ears. She was a nice size doe, almost as big as the soldier's smile. The experience of mentoring is only matched by the new friendships made and the joy of sharing exceptional hunting experiences. Honoring the soldiers, following the practices of responsible hunting, and enjoying each other as we heal from a difficult period of time for our country is why I mentor with "Hunts for Healing." Thank you for allowing this girl to be a small part of your lives.



Photo: Sherrie Bazin, Ken Bach and Mark Moody (US Army)

About the author: Sherrie Bazin is a Susquehanna resident and a registered nurse serving as the medical assistant and mentor for "Hunts for Healing."

Hunting with Hawks

Since starting in the sport of falconry last year, I've had quite a few people ask me all kinds of questions. Falconry is a sport that has been around for thousands of years. It is said to be the "sport of kings." It is not for someone who is not willing to commit the time and money it takes to provide for your raptor. But the rewards of your dedication to the sport and your bird will show in the amount of quality time you spend in the field and amount of game in your bag. Every state has different regulations regarding falconry, so I can only speak for the process necessary for obtaining your license in New York. Let me start off by saying that in order to get your falconry license, there are many things that must happen. There is a two year apprenticeship you must go through. You must first have a General Falconer that is willing to sponsor you throughout the whole two year process. This is your tutor for any questions you may have while going through your apprenticeship. For New York, the first step is to pass a written exam on falconry administered by the DEC. With a passing grade, you must present them with a letter from your sponsor stating their willingness to take you on as an apprentice. You must then have facilities to house your raptor and all the equipment needed for falconry inspected by the DEC. If you pass that inspection, you are granted an apprentice permit. Then you must apply with the Federal Wildlife Service for a federal permit. After all this paperwork is complete, you are granted a capture authorization form for capturing a wild raptor. I say raptor because the term covers all the birds that can be used in falconry. While you are an apprentice – you are only allowed to train either an American Kestrel or a Redtail Hawk. These are the easiest birds to train and hunt with while going through your apprenticeship. You are only allowed to capture passage birds for training (passage birds are immature birds – ones that were born that spring). The reason for this is that the mortality rate for first year birds in the wild is close to 70 percent. Mature birds that have already made it through their first winter are skilled hunters already and are breeding stock. So any haggard (mature) birds you catch must be released. Having falconers take in and care for a passage bird through its first winter is a win/win situation for both bird and falconer. The bird will be fed whether it catches anything or not. The whole winter can be spent honing its hunting skills with its human partner. So it is pretty much guaranteed to make it through its first winter. There are a few different ways to go about trapping a hawk for training, but I won't get into that. Your sponsor will guide you through all the ways of doing this. Once you have your passage bird trapped, the training process begins. The process of taming the bird and getting them accustomed to you is called manning. I'll spend a couple hours every day just holding the bird on my gloved fist. It usually takes two to three days before they start eating off your glove. Once they start eating off your glove, you place them on a perch in front of you and use tidbits of meat to make the bird reach for the food. Just keep moving your glove back and eventually the bird will jump to your fist. Once they start jumping, move back a little more and they will start flying to the glove. At this time it's time to take the training outside and work with the bird on a creance line. I usually fly them on the creance line for two weeks so that they know my whistle commands and I make sure they are wed to the lure. My lure is a little leather pouch that is tied to the end of a six foot long string. I always garnish this lure with some type of food and they hit it with a passion. Once they are wed to the lure and responding instantly to your commands, it's time for free flight. The whole training process is pretty much weight related. The best way I can think to put it is that they are like a prized

fighter. If you get them too heavy, they are lazy and will just sit there and not respond to you. If you get them too light, they are weak and respond pretty much the same way. The trick is to find that happy medium, their hunting weight. This is the weight where they respond very well to you and are also very fit. This hunting weight window can be as little as 20 to 50 grams with a Redtail. This is why it's important to weigh your bird daily. Once all the training is complete and you're free flying your bird – this is where the fun really starts. Hunting rabbits and squirrels with a raptor is like no other thing I can explain. It is amazing to be able to trap a hawk from the wild and have it hunting with you in four weeks. It takes a little time for the hawk to understand that you're beating the brush under them trying to move game for them. Once they associate you and beating the brush with flushing game – it's game on! They follow you just like a puppy dog. My hawk last year actually learned to hunt with a beagle. When the beagle would start barking on game she would actually get up front and wait for the flush. As with most hunting at the end of the day it's not the amount of game in the bag but the quality of time spent in the field. The birds do miss more game than they get but they have the most amazing flights after rabbits and squirrels. That is half the fun, watching these flights up close and personal. The sheer speed and determination of these hawks is just amazing. If you ever get a chance to go hunting with a falconer and his bird – please take the opportunity; you will be in for a treat like no other. Come sprint, when things start greening up is when I usually release my bird back to the wild. There is plenty of game available to them and they have honed their hunting skills over the winter. As you can see there is quite a bit involved in getting into falconry. For many falconers it's not a hobby but a way of life. It's not something you do once a week, you must care for and spend time with these birds every day of the week. Having this apprenticeship and permit system in place helps weed out the ones that would not take the time to dedicate to the sport

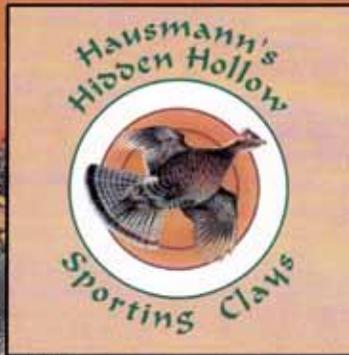
You can visit my website and view some of my falconry photos at: www.pbase.com/yellowdogdave
While you are there, feel free to view all of my wildlife photos.



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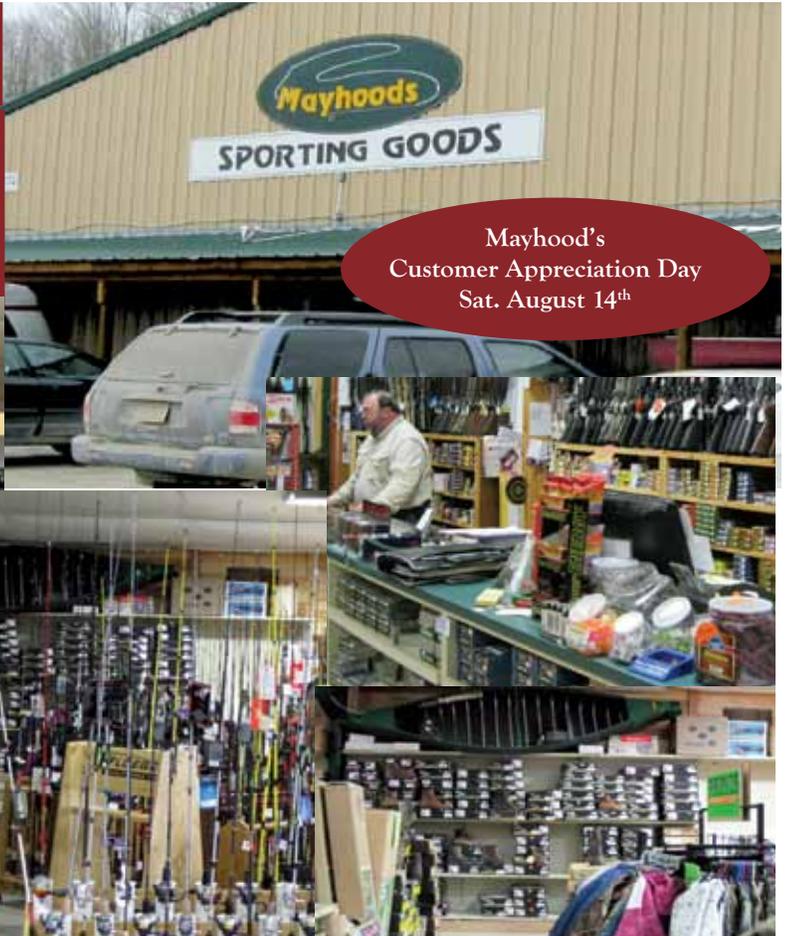
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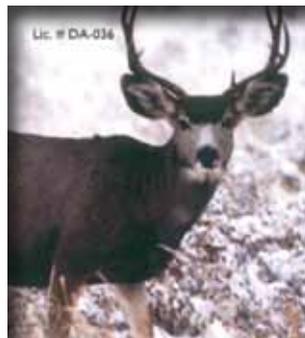
Face your cameras north for quality photos free of light glare. Remove, cut, or trim any impeding vegetation for higher quality photos and larger flash range. Place your camera waist high to trip the shutter when the deer is "heads up." Maintain the site every two to three days.

These are a few of the tips given by QDMA Wildlife Biologist Kip Adams recently. A capacity crowd filled the banquet level of the Montrose Inn to hear how to inventory a deer herd using trail cameras. A survey can be done using one camera per 100 acres as a minimum. Kip's preference is to survey in August as the deer are more tolerant of human presence in the woods then. Whole corn is the preferred bait as it does not mold and the deer like it. Also, the antlers are done growing and the acorn and other mast crops are not yet available, making corn more desirable.

According to research, camera set-up is critical. Since you need a good quality broadside, head-up shot to properly identify and age the deer, the camera should be properly placed. Facing north, aimed at cover and away from feeders and large trees all add to image quality. Deer usually approach bait piles head down, so mounting the camera waist high, triggers a photo that will give you the advantageous "heads-up" while eliminating unwanted photos of squirrels, raccoon, and porcupine. Pre-bait the site for two weeks and maintain it every 2-3 days to keep it refreshed. A five gallon bucket of corn is all that is necessary. Have multiple memory cards on hand to swap out when you maintain the area. Conduct the survey for two weeks. Data analysis, if done correctly, will result in a survey of 90% of bucks on your property. There is a formula to take unique bucks and divide by the total number of buck photos to get a "population factor." This factor can then be multiplied by the number of doe and then fawn photos to get an approximate herd population. While fawn recruitment rate is adversely affected by predation from bear, coyote and other variables, the approximate herd size will be useful in determining what numbers to harvest in the upcoming seasons. It is always wise to advise the local WCO of your plans to inventory deer using bait. This open communication goes a long way toward making relationships that benefit both people and wildlife.

QDMA recently published a book outlining new theories of scouting which is available through your local chapter or on-line. The book aptly titled "Deer Cameras, The Science of Scouting" has added chapters for monitoring other wildlife and surveillance. Those who attended this Kip Adams QDMA seminar went away full of ideas and enthusiasm for their own properties and the inventories and monitoring that can make them better stewards of their local deer populations.

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INERT MATERIAL (SEED COATING)
 It's not all the Same
 By: Jim Holbert

I remember a lot of discussion taking place several years ago about what the heck was the "inert" material that was a part of the ingredients in a bag of plot seed. We knew that a large percentage of material in the bag was something other than seed, but it was really difficult to get a straight answer about what this mysterious ingredient was, so we jokingly speculated whether it was floor sweepings, coffee grounds, or some other cheap filler that made up a large part of the bag. We learned in time that the "inert" material is basically a coating on the seed. Like I said in an earlier article, it's like candy coating on a tootsie roll pop. The real seed is in the

center just like the tootsie roll. The seed's coating, however, is not candy; it's usually not more than a colored clay coating and sometimes a small amount of pH booster is added (lime). The seed coating that is used on both Buck Forage Chicory and Buck Forage Clover has more of a specific purpose to ensure the young plant's survival. Buck Forage Products utilize a specialized coating called "Nutri-Z plus." Nutri-Z has no clay additives in the coating so therefore you are not paying for basically colored dirt. This coating however provides a three-step process. A small amount of fertilizer booster enhances the young plant's chance of survival once germination takes place. It also

contains a moisture retention agent that helps the plant during early germination in case of dryer-than-ideal conditions. Nutri-Z also contains a false germination preventative agent that keeps seed from germinating while under the influence of a heavy dew or light rain when conditions are actually too dry to sustain the young plant. The basic purpose of the specialized Nutri-Z plus coating on Buck Forage Clover and Buck Forage Chicory is to ensure the successful germination, survival, and growth of each seed! You will have much more success with your food plots when you plant seeds that will have every possible chance to survive. Some seed companies

suggest a seeding rate twice that of Buck Forage products, which is because they know that up to half of their seed will not survive to maturity.



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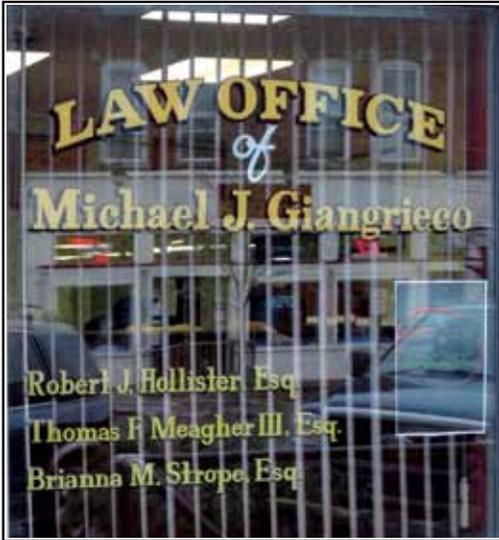
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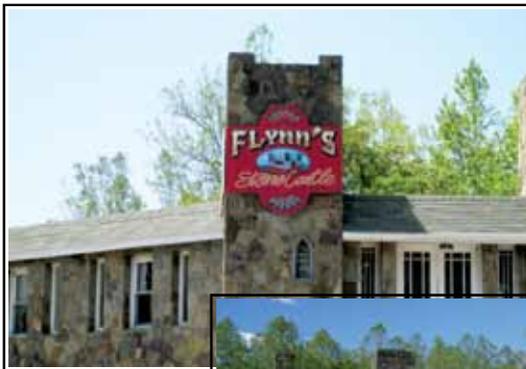
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LET THE GAMES BEGIN

The Susquehanna County Reads Committee is proud to announce the fifth year of the County Reads program. This year, the book we will be reading is *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins. *The Hunger Games* is a *New York Times* bestselling novel; the first in a series of post-apocalyptic novels.

The Hunger Games is a young adult novel, but is very popular in the adult market as well. *The Hunger Games* is set in the future when North America is separated into thirteen districts, each district forced to serve "The Capitol." But the districts revolted, and as a result, the thirteenth district was completely wiped out and the remaining twelve are enslaved to the Capitol. Every year, to remind the districts of their defeat, two teenagers, a boy and a girl from each district, must compete in the Hunger Games: a fight to the death. The last man (or woman) standing wins.

Residents of Susquehanna County can register and get their own copy of the book (registration fee \$3) at any county library. Those who register will be able to participate in several exciting programs and events such as a "Wilderness Survival Day" at Salt Springs on April 28th.

Before contestants in the Hunger Games are allowed in the arena, they must first spend time training and learning necessary techniques for survival. At our "Wilderness Survival Day," spend time visiting three different training sessions: Archery, Basic Survival Skills, and Animal Trapping. Enjoy these demonstrations and learn as much as you can, being thankful you don't have to enter into the arena! Also, pick up a *Hunger Games* trivia quiz at the Registration table and be entered into a drawing!

Those who register for County Reads will also be invited to participate in other events such as a book panel and discussion, and have access to some great discounts from local businesses!

Dates and times for all events will be further publicized.

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TURN IN A POACHER

The Pennsylvania Game Commission has established a "Turn-In-a-Poacher" program to strengthen the Commonwealth's efforts to apprehend people who are suspected of killing threatened or endangered species or big game animals, and a witness report was instrumental in securing a successful conviction. You can get involved by either calling a toll-free telephone number – 1-888-PGC-8001, or filling out a "TIP" Reporting Form.



The TIP program was authorized by the General Assembly as part of a legislative package to deter crimes against wildlife. The act authorizes the Game Commission to increase by \$500, fines against individuals convicted of killing threatened or endangered species or unlawfully taking big game animals. That money is then placed in a special fund from which \$250 will be used to pay the individual providing the "tip," as long as the district justice imposes the additional \$500 fine. The additional fine money will be used to maintain the TIP Hotline. Calls to the TIP telephone number are always answered by a secure recording device. Tips submitted using the new on-line reporting system will be delivered electronically to a special email account in the agency's Bureau of Wildlife Protection. Access to the recording device and e-mail account is limited to ensure confidentiality and program integrity. Both methods of reporting are available to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. People who provide "tips" can choose to remain completely anonymous, particularly if you're not interested in a reward for your efforts to help wildlife and fight criminal activity against it. But if you would like to claim a reward you're entitled to, you'll have to provide a way for the agency to let you know that your information led to the successful prosecution of the accused individual and that the reward is yours. Information about other crimes against wildlife – the illegal harvest of a single deer, bear or elk, crimes on state game lands, etc. – is still of great interest to the Game Commission, but should be reported to the appropriate agency Region Office serving the county in which the violation(s) occurred. Remember, every time another individual gets involved with reporting crimes against wildlife and wild places, Pennsylvania's great outdoors improves.



Dave Morrisson of Susquehanna had to release this Fisher.

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HUNTING INDUSTRY CELEBS TO VISIT TROOPS

I've been watching the industry web sites and publications for mention of the upcoming "Outdoor Legends Tour" of Southwest Asia. The tour was announced at the SHOT Show a couple weeks back but much to my chagrin I have only seen one or two mentions in print. Guess the hunting and shooting press crowd is more interested in "The 10 Best Products of SHOT" and "New Guns They Can't Miss" than filling us in on some very big news. A special press conference was held by Armed Forces Entertainment and The Outdoor Recreation Heritage Foundation of the Paralyzed Veterans of America to announce that a group of hunting industry celebs would be participating in the first ever "Outdoor Legends Tour." A group of the industry's most notable hunting celebrities will be heading to some very dangerous parts of the world to spend some up-close-and-personal time swapping hunting (and maybe a few fishing) stories with our troops. Tagging along behind Aaron Tippin or Craig Morgan or maybe the Marshall Tucker Band? Not a chance, our guys are touring under their own horsepower because the U.S. Department of Defense, recognizing the importance of hunting in the lives of our brave men and women in uniform, wants them there. If this is not an honor to every man and woman owning a hunting license in this great country of ours, what is? The exact location of the group's visit could not be identified for security reasons but the dates are Feb. 27-March 7. This is no ordinary tour with press agents and security details and such. According to Marine Lt. Col. Lew Deal who put the tour together, "They'll be out there on the tip of the spear. There won't be any lights or stages where they're going." Guess they figured our "guys" could handle the pressure. And I do mean "our" because these eight outdoorsmen (and one woman) will be representing not only the United States of America but the entire outdoor community as well. The group is comprised of some pretty familiar faces. Faces that our troops, at least those who hunt and fish, (and I'll bet that's most of them) have only dreamed of meeting. Imagine Mossy Oak's "Cuz" Strickland "roosting" a gobbler for a tent full of soldiers or "owling" at 4 a.m. when everyone else is asleep. He's the kind of guy who will sit up all night to do just that because God knows it's been way too long since our turkey hunting troops have heard any turkey talk. Or Jim Shockey, telling about the moose that didn't get away or how his Dad did this or did that back in the bush. Jim's one rough, tough bush-hardened Canadian who can really tell a story. Can you see Michael Waddell yucking it up with a truckload of brave young men and women 'til tears stream down their cheeks (tears of joy that is)? A laugh a minute

is how this character rolls. Bass Pro's Jerry Martin can talk killing deer or calling turkeys and he'll have plenty of pictures to prove it. I know, I've seen them all (or it seems like it). He can also share what it was like being in the service during the Vietnam Era and wondering when (or if) he will roost another gobbler. Brenda Valentine (the First Lady of Hunting and NWTF Spokesperson) will be there to lay some "ya'll calls" on the troops and tell them as only a good ole gal from Tennessee can, that they are loved and appreciated and before long they will be back home in a treestand. Did I mention Bill Miller the voice and face of the North American Hunting Club with their 800,000 members (think more than a few of those troops are members)? Boy, will these troops be surprised to learn what a regular down-to-earth all-around nice guy Bill is. He knows how to make friends and by the end of the tour he will have made a few hundred (or thousand) more. Outdoor legend and iconic writer Jim Zumbo will be there too. Chances are most of the troops that come out for the tour will have grown up reading his stuff. The real kick will come when the soldiers call home and tell their folks about Zumbo, as they probably grew up on his stories as well. Former major leaguer and hunting TV personality Ryan Klesko will be talking baseball and hunting; a double treat for our brave heroes. Who knows, maybe they can even get a pickup game going? And George Thorton, who heads up the NWTF, will be along to keep the celebs in line and everything running smoothly. George is known not only as a great businessman, but as one of the nicest guys in the outdoor industry. And if there is one thing these soldiers need, it's a little nice; and maybe a complimentary NWTF membership, huh George? That's our all-star cast, the hunting industry celebs, who will be "out there" on the point of the spear, bringing a little bit of "back home" to those fighting and yes, dying for our freedom; freedom that includes the right to pursue happiness (hunting, fishing and the like) not to mention our 2nd Amendment rights. The touring industry celebs are quick to point out that it is not about them – it's about the troops. To a man (and woman) they stated that when the call came they were not only honored but humbled as well. "Imagine, me being asked to visit our troops. This is the honor of a lifetime! Something to tell my grandkids," stated Bill Miller as the others nodded in agreement. Col. Deal was quick to add, "When these folks got the call, there was absolutely no hesitation, no, 'Let me check my schedule.' All I heard was 'When do you need me' and 'Where do I show up.'" Jim Shockey put it this way, "I may be a Canadian, but I couldn't say "yes" quickly enough. These brave young men and

women are there for us, day-in and day-out. This is nothing compared to what they are doing." As Jerry Martin added emotionally, "It was pretty rough for me when I was in; these kids deserve everything we can do for them. I'm proud to be going." As an industry guy and lifetime hunter, I left the room standing two inches taller and walking a whole lot straighter. And every hunter, shooter and outdoorsperson reading this account should feel the same way. No, it's not about the hunting celebs and yes it's about the troops but it is also about the sport that we hold so close to our red, white and blue hearts. We, as hunters, have been chosen by the Department of Defense to honor those who honor us with life and limb. When Col. Deal called Cuz Strickland over a year ago to ask if he thought the hunting community would step up to the plate, there was no hesitation in Cuz's voice when he said, "They're hunters aren't they? They'll be there; just be sure to include me." The good people who put this tour together know how important hunting is to the lives of our bravest men and women. They didn't call PETA or The Humane Society, they called one of our own, fellow hunter and outdoorsman, Cuz Strickland. This is a really big deal and we should all be proud, and we need to tell our friends and families about what our fellow hunters are doing for our troops. We owe that much to the folks going over there. I've shared a campfire with more than half of the guys (and Brenda) going over and know firsthand that they can really tell a story. Oh boy, can they! But sharing a campfire with someone reveals more than just how well they can spin a yarn. You can tell a lot about a man or woman when you share a campfire with them. Campfires have taught me a lot about the character of this group. I know them to be good people of good character who will make a difference in the lives of our troops. I mean it! Not for just one day (like a rock concert or even a Bob Hope show) but for an entire lifetime. Make a friend with one of these guys and you'll make a friend for life. I can see it all now. They'll start by telling a few of their own stories or showing some big deer pictures or maybe even showing some TV footage, but before long, they'll be chewing and spitting and those young people will feel like they are sharing a campfire with a couple of old friends. The kid from Buffalo County will be remembering big bucks and the gal from Stuttgart will remember how her Grandpa never seemed to get the hang of counting out his limit of greenheads. And the talk will shift to familiar times and familiar places. And that night, when these brave young men and women lay down to rest, they'll think good thoughts and maybe smile a bit before they drift off – and they'll be home.

By: Craig Dougherty

THE TRITON HOSE COMPANY

The Triton Hose Company in Tunkhannock, PA, was a busy place this February. The fire station was the “check-in” site of the District 9 PA Trapper Association’s 13th annual coyote hunt on February 3rd, 4th, and 5th. It was also where trappers from our area brought in their furs for auction on February 11th. 53 coyotes were checked in for District 9’s hunt this year. This was considered a very good harvest in that there was no snow cover and temperatures were unseasonably warm. The largest coyote was taken by Bill Corry; it tipped the scales at 51.7 pounds and won the \$2,000.00 grand prize. The fur auction was pretty much a packed house as anxious trappers waited to see if they were going to get good money for their time and labor. This year’s event also featured several trapping supply vendors including Bill Kasten, Russ Carmen, Larry Barrows, and Dave Rodgers. There were also folks who were purchasing different varieties of tree fungus. There is an Asian market for this fungus and prices ranged from \$5.00 to \$10.00 a pound! If you have questions about the use or gathering of this natural plant, call Charles Thomas at 570-204-5549. I know there were mixed feelings on the prices that trappers were offered for their furs. A big surprise was that muskrats were bringing around \$8.50 and beavers averaged \$24.00. The grey fox market was at \$20.00 and red fox were bringing \$26.00. A big disappointment was that coons were at \$9.00 and coyotes only \$8.00. All in all the two events were very well attended and I would like to thank the District 9 Trapper’s Association for their dedication and service.



SCIENTISTS REGENERATE PLANT FROM ANCIENT SEED STASH THE ULTIMATE FROST SEEDING!

This *Silene stenophylla* plant, grown from 30,000-year-old fruit seeds, is the oldest plant tissue by far to have been brought back to life.

Photograph by: Afp, Getty Images, Agence France-Presse

Russian scientists have grown flowering plants using seeds stored by squirrels 30,000 years ago and preserved by the Siberian permafrost, a new study showed, in what may become a key experiment in the race to revive ancient species. The seeds of the herbaceous *Silene stenophylla* are by far the oldest plant tissue to have been brought back to life, according to lead researchers Svetlana Yashina and David Gilchinsky of the Russian Academy of Sciences. The latest findings could be a landmark in research of ancient biological material and the bid to potentially revive other species, including some that are extinct. The scientists highlight the importance of permafrost itself in the “search of an ancient genetic pool, that of pre-existing life, which hypothetically has long since vanished from the earth’s surface.” The previous record for viable regeneration of ancient flora was with 2,000-year-old date palm seeds at the Masada fortress near the Dead Sea in Israel. Researchers said radiocarbon dating has confirmed the tissue used in the latest success to be 31,800 years old, give or take 300 years. The study, which appeared in Tuesday’s issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, described the discovery of 70 squirrel hibernation burrows along the bank of the lower Kolyma River, in Russia’s northeast Siberia, bearing hundreds of thousands of seed samples from various plants. All burrows were found at depths of 20 to 40 meters from the present day surface and located in layers containing bones of large mammals such as mammoth, woolly rhinoceros, bison, horse, deer, and other representatives of fauna from the Late Pleistocene Age. The permafrost essentially acted as a giant freezer, and the squirrelled-away seeds and fruit resided in this closed world – undisturbed and unthawed, at an average of -7°C – for tens of thousands of years. Scientists were able to grow new specimens from such old plant material in large part because the burrows were quickly covered with ice, and then remained “continuously frozen and never thawed,” in effect preventing any permafrost degradation. “The experiment was successful thanks to the discovery of viable particles from the placenta of three fruits

found intact by our colleagues in a squirrel burrow,” said Yashina. “Preserved in eternal ice in a perfect state, the three fruits had not germinated and has therefore kept the placental tissue cells viable,” she added. In their lab near Moscow, the scientists originally sought to grow plants from mature *S. Stenophylla* seeds, but when that failed, they turned to the plant’s placental tissue, the fruit structure to which seeds attach, to successfully grow regenerated whole plants in pots under controlled light and temperature. “This is an amazing breakthrough,” Grant Zazula of the Yukon Paleontology Program in Whitehorse told *The New York Times*. “I have no doubt in my mind that this is a legitimate claim.” Scientists have known for years that certain plant cells can last for millennia under the right conditions. Some earlier claims of regeneration have not held up to scientific scrutiny, but the Yashina/Gilchinsky team was careful to use radiocarbon dating to ensure that the seeds and fruit found in the permafrost were not modern contaminants from *S. Stenophylla*, which still grows on the Siberian tundra. Arctic lupines, wild perennial plants in North America, were grown from seeds in a lemming burrow believed to be 10,000-years-old and found in the mid-20th century by a gold miner in the Yukon. Zazula recently used radiocarbon methodology to determine that those seeds were modern contaminants, according to the *Times*.



© Copyright (c) The Ottawa Citizen **Scientists regenerate plant from ancient seed stash found in squirrel burrow frozen for 30,000 years** Read more: [http://www.ottawacitizen.com/technology/Scientists+regenerate+regene+rate+plant+from+ancient+seed+stash/6188416/story.html#ixzz1ne1o4rTN](http://www.ottawacitizen.com/technology/Scientists+regenerate+plant+from+ancient+seed+stash/6188416/story.html#ixzz1ne1o4rTN) Read more: <http://www.ottawacitizen.com/technology/Scientists+regenerate+plant+from+ancient+seed+stash/6188416/story.html#ixzz1ne1SsIUx>

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Kip's Korner



Antler Abnormalities QDMA Articles By: Kip Adams

In the last Kip's Korner I discussed the basics of antler growth and the factors contributing to antler size. In this article I'll discuss the causes of antler abnormalities and describe the effects each has on antlers. Abnormalities can be caused or influenced by an antler injury, a body injury, genetics or the animal's age.

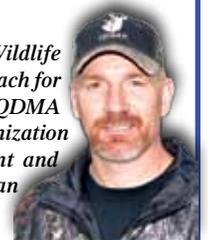
Antler Injuries – Antlers can sustain injuries to the pedicle (base), main beam or tines (points). Pedicle injuries are often the result of a blow to the head and will affect the entire antler. Pedicle injuries cause the base and most or all of the antler to look deformed, while the opposite antler grows normally and shows no sign of an injury. Severe pedicle injuries may even stop antler growth completely. Main beam injuries occur during the growing season (obviously) and the degree of abnormality is determined by the timing and location of the injury. Antlers with normal bases but deformed growth patterns/shapes and tines are caused by injuries during early growth. Injuries occurring later in growth affect less of the antler's "normal" shape unless the injury is low on the main beam. Injuries to main beams and tines are expressed only during the current year. The buck's next set of antlers typically don't show signs of the injury.

Body Injuries – Body injuries caused by disease, vehicles, bullets, arrows, snakebite, and other unfortunate events can cause abnormal antler growth. Injuries to a front limb (foot, leg, shoulder) may affect the antler on the injured side, opposite side or both sides, but the antler on the injured side is typically most affected. Hind limb injuries usually affect the opposite antler. Body injuries can affect antler growth on both sides and may cause the antlers to stop growing entirely. Depending on location and severity of the injury, the abnormality may occur on just the current set of antlers or it may be carried throughout life. For example, a buck that sustains minor injuries to his right rear leg from a vehicle collision may have an abnormal left antler for one season. Another buck that loses his right rear foot to a bullet may have an abnormal left antler for the rest of his life.

Genetics & Age – Genetics and animal age can also be responsible for abnormalities. We have all seen pictures of bucks with palmated antlers and points going in every direction. Within the past year, pictures of Goliath (a captive buck from PA) have been distributed via e-mail to millions of computers around the world. His abnormal antlers are caused by genetics and age, not by an injury. A buck's age plays a large role in the expression of non-injury deformities. Bucks that are not nutritionally limited (and bucks from over-populated herds) should increase the size of their antlers yearly until they reach maturity at about 5-7 years of age. This is why drop tines and sticker points are much more common on older bucks.

Many abnormalities we see in the field are temporary in nature. An abnormal antler(s) should not be an excuse to harvest a young buck, particularly if the abnormality is injury-related. If given the chance to grow another set of antlers, most bucks revert to their pre-injured form and grow a larger set in response to their advanced age. I know of one 3½-year-old buck that injured his antlers early in growth and ended with six points on two deformed antlers. He scored far less than 100 Boone & Crockett points (probably closer to 50 B&C). The next year he was a symmetrical 10-point with a 21-inch inside spread and scored 145 B&C. It's amazing the difference a year can make.

Kip's Korner is written by Kip Adams, a Certified Wildlife Biologist and Northern Director of Education and Outreach for the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA). The QDMA is an international nonprofit wildlife conservation organization dedicated to ethical hunting, sound deer management and preservation of the deer-hunting heritage. The QDMA can be reached at 1-800-209-DEER or www.QDMA.com.



HOW BUCK FORAGE'S OAT BREEDING PROGRAM WORKS

This starts with an exclusive agreement with LSU Agricultural Center. The goal of this program is to develop a new variety of winter oat that is more preferred by white-tail deer, that has the best available cold weather resistance, and will perform with the best varieties as an agricultural oat. While the latter part of that question has nothing to do with a whitetail deer, it is equally important to be able to get the seed produced. The problem, as they say, is that it's very hard to get all the ducks in one pond. The way this is done is by trial and error, repeated thousands of times. Through years of independent research, Dr. James Kroll has been able to identify certain growth characteristics of oats and other plants that would make some varieties more preferred by deer

over other varieties. After years of side-by-side comparisons between hundreds of different varieties, the selection was narrowed down to 30-50 varieties of oats; these oats are called the advance lines, which are exclusive to Buck Forage Products. No other company can license these varieties unless they do not show promise and then are removed from Buck Forage's selection. Most of the varieties are back crosses of the original variety used in Buck Forage Oats. Once the advance lines are established, Dr. Kroll begins intensive side-by-side comparisons at his facility in Nacogdoches, TX, as well as other properties that he manages. A number of years ago we added another step to the process where we send the varieties of oats being tested by Dr. Kroll to Wis. Rapids, WI. The

purpose of this is to test, prove and improve on Buck Forage's superior cold weather resistance. The sole purpose is to see exactly how cold each variety can survive and stay green and lush. This is not a typical part of a winter oat breeding program. The thousands of varieties of oats at LSU are not subject to this testing; only varieties in the Buck Forage's advance program are. The time and cost involved in this process is huge. The cycle continues for years on each variety of oat, even the ones that at first do not appear to be favorable as the results vary from year to year. To get any kind of reliable information, the same test must be done for multiple years to get an average. This is the only way it can be done. "If a program like this produces one superior variety in 10 years, you

are very lucky." There is not another oat product to date that can compete with Buck Forage Oates. If other companies actually started doing this kind of research we have been doing, they would be 15 years behind!



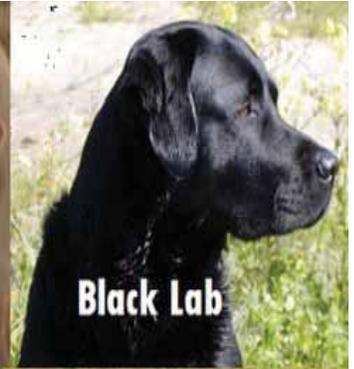
MONTANA BEAR TRAGEDY



This is a very sad story about a bear... Everybody should heed the warnings not to feed wildlife because they become dependent and don't forage for themselves any longer. It is such a tragedy to see what has been done to our country's wildlife. The photo above captures a disturbing trend that is beginning to affect U.S. wildlife. Animals that formerly were self-sufficient are now showing signs of belonging to the Democrat Party. They have apparently learned to just sit and wait for the government to step in and provide for their care and sustenance. This photo is of a black bear in Montana turned Democrat. He's nicknamed Bearack Obearma. It is believed that he has become a campground organizer.



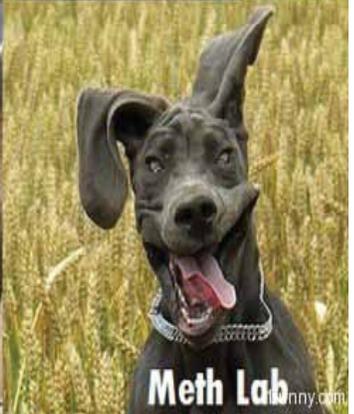
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Wysox 187 & 6
12:00PM

Wysox Creek
Wysox 187 & 6
12:00PM

Monday April 16

Starrucca Creek
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Center
1:30PM

Wednesday April 18

E.B. Wyalusing Creek
Emberz
1:00PM

N.B. Wyalusing Creek
Emberz
1:00PM

Tuesday April 24

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Quaker Lake
1:00PM

Quaker Lake
Quaker Lake
1:00PM

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Quaker Lake
1:00PM

Thursday April 26

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Emberz
1:00PM

Snake Creek
Emberz
1:00PM

Friday April 27

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Wysox 187 & 6
12:00PM

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THANK YOU! ~JIM

A large photograph of a field with green plants and a large set of black antlers in the foreground. The antlers have a circular logo in the center that says 'BUCK FORAGE' with a trademark symbol. To the left is a circular logo with an American flag and the text 'IN GOD WE TRUST' and 'PRAY FOR AMERICA'. To the right is a bag of 'THE NUTRITION PLOT BUCK FORAGE CHICKS'.

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*If you have photos, stories,
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