

Summary of 2007-08 Ohio Deer Seasons



**Waterloo Wildlife Research Station
Publication 304 (R508)**

Our Management Strategy

The goal of Ohio's deer management program is to provide a deer population that maximizes recreational opportunity including viewing, photographing, and hunting deer while minimizing conflicts with agriculture, motor travel, and other areas of human endeavor. This has been the goal of our deer program for over 40 years. Farmer attitude surveys are used to establish and update population goals for most counties. We believe these goals represent a reasonable compromise between interests with opposing opinions on appropriate deer population levels. Furthermore, although these goals are based on social values, the resulting populations have never exceeded the biological carrying capacity of the habitat. Deer herd condition data collected annually and through periodic studies confirm this. Our deer management goal ensures that Ohio's deer herd is maintained at a level that is acceptable to most, and biologically sound. Maintaining the deer population at or near goal is accomplished through harvest management.



Seasons, Permits, and Bag Limits

A valid hunting license (resident = \$19, nonresident = \$125) and Special Deer Permit (\$24) are required (landowners are exempt) to hunt deer in Ohio. Hunters could harvest up to 3 deer using Special Deer Permits (\$24) provided that they did not exceed the bag limit in any Deer Zone (Fig. 1). Hunters were allowed only 1 antlered deer.

Hunters had the opportunity to harvest deer during any of Ohio's 5 seasons including: archery Sep. 29, 2007-Feb. 3, 2008, early muzzleloader Oct. 22-27, gun Nov. 26-Dec. 2, bonus gun Dec. 15-16, and muzzleloader Dec. 27-30. Young (17 and under) hunters once again had the opportunity to participate in the statewide youth season Nov.17-18. With the exception of the early muzzleloader hunt, all seasons were statewide and either-sex. The early muzzleloader hunt was restricted to Shawnee State Forest, Wolf Creek Wildlife Area/Wildcat Hollow, and Salt Fork Wildlife Area and by permit only. The hunt was antlerless-only with a limited number of either-sex permits available.

During the spring of 2005 and summer of 2006, researchers from The Ohio State University conducted a deer hunter survey for the Division of Wildlife (DOW). The overall goal of the project was to identify

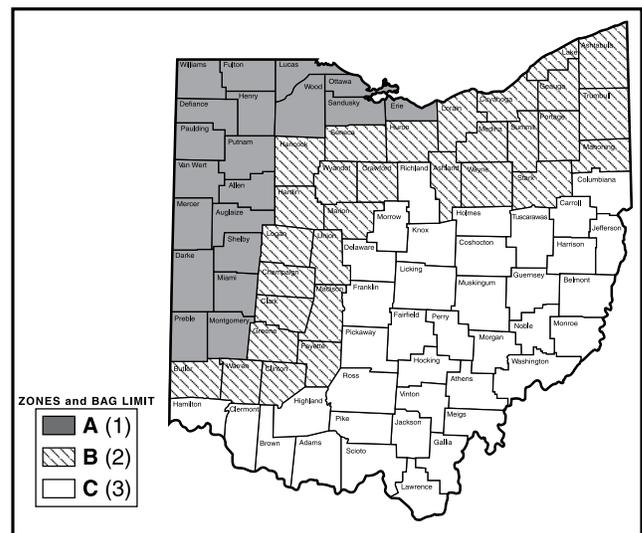


Figure 1. Ohio's 2007-08 deer zones.

primary barriers to participation. We were interested in knowing what it would take to get hunters in the woods more often. We received a number of responses including more deer, increased likelihood of success, and more public hunting areas closer to home. Aside from a longer deer gun season, more weekend days to hunt with a firearm received the greatest amount of support. Nearly 46% of the respondents indicated that they would likely participate more if there were more weekend opportunities to hunt deer with a gun. As a result of this survey, we added the 2-day firearms season in mid-December in 2006-07. Judging from the harvest, the hunt has been popular with many hunters. In 2007, we went back to the survey results to identify other significant barriers to participation and found that nearly a third of the hunters surveyed, listed high license and permit fees as a reason for not hunting more. Therefore, in an effort to increase hunter participation - and equally as important - increase the harvest of antlerless deer - we offered archers an opportunity to use a new reduced-cost (\$15 vs. \$24) antlerless-only deer permit during the first half of the archery season.

The Urban Deer Permit (\$15) was replaced this year with the Antlerless Deer Permit (\$15). In addition to being valid in any of the 5 Urban Deer units during the entire 2007-08 deer season and during many DOW special and controlled hunts, the new Antlerless Permit (\$15) was valid statewide during the first 8 weeks of the archery season. Hunters were limited to harvesting 1, 2, and 3 additional antlerless deer in Deer Zones A, B, and C, respectively. The new Antlerless Permit (\$15) essentially doubled the deer zone bag limit from the archery opener to the Sunday before the regular gun season. After this time, hunters were once again limited to using the Antlerless Permit (\$15) in the Urban Deer units and/or during controlled hunts. A maximum of 4 deer could be harvested using Antlerless Deer Permits. Hunt-

ers were required to purchase at least one Special Deer Permit (\$24) before purchasing an Antlerless Permit (\$15).

Harvest

A total of 232,854 deer was harvested this year, a 2% decrease from last season (Table 1). Once again, Coshocton County led the state in total harvest. A complete harvest summary by county and season and top 5 counties is presented in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

Hunters harvested 103,134 deer during the traditional statewide gun season, 8.1% less than last year. Weather undoubtedly influenced this year's gun harvest. Heavy rains led to a record 51% drop in the opening day harvest. The 2-day bonus gun season in mid-December may have contributed some to the decline as well by shifting hunting pressure. Coshocton, Tuscarawas, Guernsey, Muskingum, and Knox counties led the state in total gun harvest. Archers reported harvesting 78,639 deer this year, 15.8% more than last season (Table 1). This year's vertical bow harvest of 36,347 deer represents a

Table 1. Ohio's 2007-08 deer harvest by season and percent change from previous year.

Season/hunt	Antlered	Antlerless	Total	% Change
Early Gun ¹	37,590	65,544	103,134	-8.1
Bonus Gun	5,252	12,797	18,049	-27.8
Gun	42,842	78,341	121,183	-11.7
Crossbow	18,847	23,445	42,292	9.9
Vertical Bow	14,332	22,015	36,347	23.5
Archery	33,179	45,460	78,639	15.8
Salt Fork ²	16	122	138	-21.1
Wildcat Hollow ²	20	78	98	-22.8
Shawnee ²	11	27	38	11.8
Statewide Muzzleloader ³	5,942	16,113	22,055	-3.6
Muzzleloader	5,989	16,340	22,329	-3.8
Statewide Youth	5,433	4,628	10,061	21.0
NASA/Plumbrook	70	161	231	-50.1
Ravenna Hunt	135	276	411	132.2
Season Total	87,648	145,206	232,854	-1.9

¹Traditional gun season for deer of either sex, Nov. 26 - Dec. 2, 2007.

²Special early muzzleloader season Oct. 22-27, 2007.

³Statewide either-sex muzzleloader season Dec. 27-30, 2007.

24% increase over last season. For the 8th consecutive year vertical bow hunters have set harvest records and the annual increases have been enough to push the total archery harvest to record-status each year as well. Licking County archers once again led the state with 1,499 deer harvested. Coshocton, Knox, Tuscarawas, and Muskingum counties completed the list of top 5 harvest counties for vertical bow. Crossbow hunters also set a record this year by harvesting 42,292 deer, nearly 10% more than last year. Licking County led the state with 1,667 deer. Coshocton, Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Guernsey rounded out the top 5 harvest counties for crossbow. There were 22,055 deer harvested during the 4-day statewide muzzleloader season, December 27-30 (Table 1). This year's harvest was off by just under 4% from last year. However, this is the second year in a row that the harvest has dropped, in spite of average hunting conditions both years. Some hunters may be opting for the 2-day mid-December firearms season, during which muzzleloaders would be legal as well. Coshocton County had the highest muzzleloader harvest followed by Licking, Guernsey, Tuscarawas, and Harrison counties (Table 3). Young hunters harvested a record 10,061 deer, 21% more than last season. Top spots for youth hunters were Tuscarawas, Coshocton, Knox, Guernsey, and Holmes counties. Statewide and county summaries by season are presented in Tables 1 and 2. The Division of Wildlife issued 578,366 deer permits in license year 2007-08 (Table 4), nearly 6.5% more than last year.



Table 2. Ohio's 2007-08 antlered and antlerless deer harvest by county and season.

County/season	Antlered		Antlerless		
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
Adams	Bonus Gun	131	85	285	136
	Gun	770	666	1175	1125
	Crossbow	297	250	318	318
	Vertical Bow	329	311	381	472
	Muzzleloader	113	142	257	266
	Youth	77	117	63	79
	Total	1717	1572	2482	2399
Allen	Bonus Gun	33	16	66	41
	Gun	144	148	188	180
	Crossbow	63	84	40	98
	Vertical Bow	72	67	37	108
	Muzzleloader	23	23	44	46
	Youth	15	26	15	18
	Total	350	364	390	491
Ashland	Bonus Gun	134	77	283	242
	Gun	572	497	877	930
	Crossbow	303	317	261	397
	Vertical Bow	163	185	168	277
	Muzzleloader	80	71	235	211
	Youth	70	76	78	74
	Total	1322	1223	1902	2131
Ashtabula	Bonus Gun	142	136	383	371
	Gun	923	758	1545	1552
	Crossbow	434	457	486	649
	Vertical Bow	288	250	303	507
	Muzzleloader	121	94	338	297
	Youth	59	65	74	87
	Total	1967	1760	3129	3463
Athens	Bonus Gun	116	109	298	257
	Gun	1133	876	1621	1516
	Crossbow	328	278	244	279
	Vertical Bow	314	371	355	444
	Muzzleloader	142	138	415	402
	Youth	105	102	53	86
	Total	2138	1874	2986	2984
Auglaize	Bonus Gun	33	17	64	41
	Gun	135	158	162	180
	Crossbow	74	60	39	86
	Vertical Bow	51	69	24	79
	Muzzleloader	17	13	33	43
	Youth	17	36	28	24
	Total	327	353	350	453
Belmont	Bonus Gun	204	160	424	339
	Gun	1240	1038	1539	1434
	Crossbow	407	315	280	293
	Vertical Bow	222	188	158	285
	Muzzleloader	184	189	524	497
	Youth	118	141	71	76
	Total	2375	2031	2996	2924
Brown	Bonus Gun	100	64	263	182
	Gun	599	536	969	881
	Crossbow	199	214	191	259
	Vertical Bow	236	263	287	440
	Muzzleloader	93	126	274	268
	Youth	74	103	44	73
	Total	1301	1306	2028	2103
Butler	Bonus Gun	26	44	95	59
	Gun	200	185	269	266
	Crossbow	206	171	216	221
	Vertical Bow	168	162	171	229
	Muzzleloader	45	56	130	118
	Youth	35	47	27	17
	Total	680	665	908	910
Carroll	Bonus Gun	139	147	481	386
	Gun	903	785	1607	1564
	Crossbow	394	362	376	476
	Vertical Bow	186	196	237	334
	Muzzleloader	128	138	394	338
	Youth	81	111	82	80
	Total	1831	1739	3177	3178

Summary of 2007-08 Ohio Deer Seasons

Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Champaign	Bonus Gun	65	36	139	87
	Gun	277	268	475	496
	Crossbow	120	115	130	181
	Vertical Bow	125	134	139	223
	Muzzleloader	39	39	79	103
	Youth	30	63	37	38
	Total	656	655	999	1128
Clark	Bonus Gun	22	18	53	45
	Gun	135	128	168	160
	Crossbow	135	113	108	126
	Vertical Bow	93	87	98	127
	Muzzleloader	25	33	47	45
	Youth	18	21	11	17
	Total	428	400	485	520
Clermont	Bonus Gun	89	57	172	135
	Gun	426	404	600	650
	Crossbow	329	356	424	479
	Vertical Bow	321	345	442	560
	Muzzleloader	50	75	212	230
	Youth	49	63	40	49
	Total	1264	1300	1890	2103
Clinton	Bonus Gun	32	21	81	45
	Gun	183	175	219	242
	Crossbow	94	88	81	108
	Vertical Bow	81	85	90	108
	Muzzleloader	26	29	66	76
	Youth	31	31	26	25
	Total	447	429	563	604
Columbiana	Bonus Gun	151	133	353	370
	Gun	874	722	1359	1173
	Crossbow	401	397	396	430
	Vertical Bow	183	192	210	267
	Muzzleloader	109	101	329	308
	Youth	87	95	67	105
	Total	1805	1640	2714	2653
Coshocton	Bonus Gun	263	179	661	496
	Gun	1594	1316	2755	2588
	Crossbow	595	583	682	829
	Vertical Bow	419	451	552	798
	Muzzleloader	243	203	644	648
	Youth	116	177	132	149
	Total	3230	2909	5426	5508
Crawford	Bonus Gun	37	22	100	77
	Gun	272	227	342	365
	Crossbow	104	69	74	112
	Vertical Bow	53	50	44	96
	Muzzleloader	21	19	68	56
	Youth	17	38	20	30
	Total	504	425	648	736
Cuyahoga	Bonus Gun	1	2	5	2
	Gun	6	9	10	17
	Crossbow	102	129	203	298
	Vertical Bow	51	42	127	134
	Muzzleloader	2	7	6	11
	Youth	2	1	2	1
	Total	164	190	353	463
Darke	Bonus Gun	23	27	54	39
	Gun	150	133	163	172
	Crossbow	53	83	34	73
	Vertical Bow	49	59	26	82
	Muzzleloader	13	14	44	54
	Youth	17	18	27	33
	Total	305	334	348	453
Defiance	Bonus Gun	37	10	83	10
	Gun	318	311	330	309
	Crossbow	98	80	43	83
	Vertical Bow	86	104	22	127
	Muzzleloader	28	37	67	73
	Youth	21	28	23	28
	Total	588	570	568	630

Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Delaware	Bonus Gun	48	37	123	127
	Gun	262	274	401	450
	Crossbow	170	214	211	285
	Vertical Bow	142	178	225	279
	Muzzleloader	43	49	125	141
	Youth	31	40	12	35
	Total	696	792	1097	1317
Erie	Bonus Gun	28	19	48	18
	Gun	67	73	114	106
	Crossbow	135	139	174	130
	Vertical Bow	77	61	96	64
	Muzzleloader	10	25	35	26
	Youth	18	10	40	9
	Total	335	327	507	353
Fairfield	Bonus Gun	100	71	243	180
	Gun	507	469	852	886
	Crossbow	233	253	243	311
	Vertical Bow	210	221	232	321
	Muzzleloader	70	71	221	211
	Youth	63	71	51	65
	Total	1183	1156	1842	1974
Fayette	Bonus Gun	15	8	23	14
	Gun	97	88	111	101
	Crossbow	31	34	26	25
	Vertical Bow	25	30	23	23
	Muzzleloader	9	12	14	17
	Youth	11	27	5	9
	Total	188	199	202	189
Franklin	Bonus Gun	18	12	41	35
	Gun	80	83	138	169
	Crossbow	124	106	185	173
	Vertical Bow	107	105	159	164
	Muzzleloader	11	12	34	40
	Youth	6	7	9	6
	Total	346	325	566	587
Fulton	Bonus Gun	38	26	42	24
	Gun	181	204	173	142
	Crossbow	71	62	23	62
	Vertical Bow	65	56	20	77
	Muzzleloader	16	14	22	24
	Youth	19	18	16	22
	Total	390	380	296	351
Gallia	Bonus Gun	116	78	312	152
	Gun	994	813	1501	1414
	Crossbow	177	180	182	233
	Vertical Bow	181	183	188	277
	Muzzleloader	143	110	342	334
	Youth	78	100	59	89
	Total	1689	1464	2584	2499
Geauga	Bonus Gun	56	41	125	127
	Gun	274	247	440	483
	Crossbow	320	327	478	486
	Vertical Bow	185	185	353	410
	Muzzleloader	36	38	115	137
	Youth	24	26	28	26
	Total	895	864	1539	1669
Greene	Bonus Gun	22	14	61	49
	Gun	139	158	222	218
	Crossbow	122	143	110	137
	Vertical Bow	118	125	139	182
	Muzzleloader	23	32	67	66
	Youth	16	19	8	10
	Total	440	491	607	662
Guernsey	Bonus Gun	209	162	578	479
	Gun	1487	1176	2426	2283
	Crossbow	527	521	458	603
	Vertical Bow	294	354	400	489
	Muzzleloader	183	183	516	523
	Youth	135	150	123	152
	Total	2858	2561	4653	4651

Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Hamilton	Bonus Gun	27	19	58	55
	Gun	105	98	217	177
	Crossbow	228	192	391	363
	Vertical Bow	214	227	482	527
	Muzzleloader	33	37	115	96
	Youth	21	16	6	12
	Total	628	589	1269	1230
Hancock	Bonus Gun	64	37	121	74
	Gun	318	298	451	473
	Crossbow	124	133	98	126
	Vertical Bow	122	104	130	153
	Muzzleloader	35	26	93	84
	Youth	28	45	38	45
	Total	691	643	931	955
Hardin	Bonus Gun	56	33	118	63
	Gun	285	257	442	510
	Crossbow	67	74	72	102
	Vertical Bow	75	63	85	125
	Muzzleloader	36	36	99	75
	Youth	41	44	30	56
	Total	560	507	846	931
Harrison	Bonus Gun	233	201	508	404
	Gun	1291	1080	1823	1948
	Crossbow	468	464	445	580
	Vertical Bow	216	259	287	454
	Muzzleloader	169	179	557	526
	Youth	101	144	71	95
	Total	2478	2327	3691	4007
Henry	Bonus Gun	21	12	31	22
	Gun	162	160	160	152
	Crossbow	50	45	13	36
	Vertical Bow	44	51	9	51
	Muzzleloader	13	10	27	28
	Youth	22	24	17	9
	Total	312	302	257	298
Highland	Bonus Gun	108	70	225	157
	Gun	554	472	895	910
	Crossbow	203	189	233	233
	Vertical Bow	179	220	202	292
	Muzzleloader	69	90	230	248
	Youth	71	101	56	65
	Total	1184	1142	1841	1905
Hocking	Bonus Gun	139	98	321	270
	Gun	997	722	1452	1414
	Crossbow	351	366	322	410
	Vertical Bow	295	329	302	396
	Muzzleloader	127	133	339	356
	Youth	91	102	67	90
	Total	2000	1750	2803	2936
Holmes	Bonus Gun	168	108	440	315
	Gun	953	778	1581	1654
	Crossbow	449	465	598	693
	Vertical Bow	279	295	510	666
	Muzzleloader	111	120	398	422
	Youth	116	136	129	150
	Total	2076	1902	3656	3900
Huron	Bonus Gun	88	52	225	146
	Gun	435	395	749	687
	Crossbow	218	164	175	225
	Vertical Bow	107	98	117	155
	Muzzleloader	35	58	144	134
	Youth	49	44	44	59
	Total	932	811	1454	1406
Jackson	Bonus Gun	131	70	273	139
	Gun	808	593	1404	1172
	Crossbow	307	248	255	291
	Vertical Bow	263	236	226	351
	Muzzleloader	101	96	268	277
	Youth	89	87	71	94
	Total	1699	1330	2497	2324

Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Jefferson	Bonus Gun	228	173	479	416
	Gun	1319	1119	1636	1532
	Crossbow	382	354	297	378
	Vertical Bow	249	296	232	321
	Muzzleloader	185	188	495	472
	Youth	148	127	93	85
	Total	2511	2257	3232	3204
Knox	Bonus Gun	187	157	634	428
	Gun	1120	1011	2024	2041
	Crossbow	411	405	511	627
	Vertical Bow	353	353	539	743
	Muzzleloader	163	151	536	465
	Youth	129	144	116	161
	Total	2363	2221	4360	4465
Lake	Bonus Gun	8	8	28	39
	Gun	71	72	138	130
	Crossbow	171	159	207	206
	Vertical Bow	65	65	130	124
	Muzzleloader	14	6	38	36
	Youth	5	10	5	7
	Total	334	320	546	542
Lawrence	Bonus Gun	115	63	177	115
	Gun	743	665	894	864
	Crossbow	187	164	118	180
	Vertical Bow	219	238	162	242
	Muzzleloader	84	98	222	175
	Youth	53	97	38	68
	Total	1401	1325	1611	1644
Licking	Bonus Gun	218	193	505	367
	Gun	1169	971	1671	1812
	Crossbow	690	702	669	965
	Vertical Bow	535	541	586	958
	Muzzleloader	182	202	502	533
	Youth	129	149	109	130
	Total	2923	2758	4042	4765
Logan	Bonus Gun	74	37	204	109
	Gun	348	360	651	700
	Crossbow	134	103	170	190
	Vertical Bow	151	132	180	266
	Muzzleloader	62	55	146	178
	Youth	39	63	50	44
	Total	808	750	1401	1487
Lorain	Bonus Gun	65	43	212	141
	Gun	300	266	551	528
	Crossbow	326	336	468	484
	Vertical Bow	117	121	181	210
	Muzzleloader	40	50	165	127
	Youth	31	51	27	37
	Total	879	867	1604	1527
Lucas	Bonus Gun	10	13	47	37
	Gun	70	58	130	142
	Crossbow	118	84	173	147
	Vertical Bow	68	63	169	118
	Muzzleloader	16	6	36	28
	Youth	8	6	6	12
	Total	290	230	561	484
Madison	Bonus Gun	26	16	33	23
	Gun	124	109	127	104
	Crossbow	57	52	42	31
	Vertical Bow	47	39	58	48
	Muzzleloader	19	20	35	33
	Youth	17	24	7	11
	Total	290	260	302	250
Mahoning	Bonus Gun	48	32	116	94
	Gun	243	192	404	400
	Crossbow	220	250	241	277
	Vertical Bow	106	118	122	151
	Muzzleloader	40	41	98	124
	Youth	18	31	25	31
	Total	675	664	1006	1077

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Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Marion	Bonus Gun	45	19	69	35
	Gun	172	177	233	258
	Crossbow	73	76	44	80
	Vertical Bow	44	58	52	67
	Muzzleloader	22	15	59	53
	Youth	10	23	18	20
	Total	366	368	475	513
Medina	Bonus Gun	54	45	119	98
	Gun	224	233	379	400
	Crossbow	321	315	309	311
	Vertical Bow	115	109	119	161
	Muzzleloader	34	37	110	100
	Youth	22	27	24	28
	Total	770	766	1060	1098
Meigs	Bonus Gun	149	77	337	213
	Gun	1028	771	1504	1560
	Crossbow	291	232	218	287
	Vertical Bow	234	246	192	293
	Muzzleloader	148	150	420	433
	Youth	90	126	65	94
	Total	1940	1602	2736	2880
Mercer	Bonus Gun	11	16	51	27
	Gun	118	130	190	182
	Crossbow	50	44	22	60
	Vertical Bow	40	49	26	84
	Muzzleloader	11	11	44	25
	Youth	19	28	25	31
	Total	249	278	358	409
Miami	Bonus Gun	30	15	43	34
	Gun	103	104	124	110
	Crossbow	76	97	41	95
	Vertical Bow	74	77	38	102
	Muzzleloader	15	15	33	39
	Youth	9	11	10	8
	Total	307	319	289	388
Monroe	Bonus Gun	120	90	312	241
	Gun	1086	827	1641	1479
	Crossbow	259	236	295	261
	Vertical Bow	142	130	150	213
	Muzzleloader	165	155	504	358
	Youth	124	109	82	79
	Total	1896	1547	2984	2631
Montgomery	Bonus Gun	9	8	23	17
	Gun	49	46	74	73
	Crossbow	77	86	64	95
	Vertical Bow	40	75	73	96
	Muzzleloader	12	19	30	20
	Youth	10	9	2	7
	Total	197	243	266	308
Morgan	Bonus Gun	132	80	339	218
	Gun	936	700	1483	1419
	Crossbow	164	163	159	203
	Vertical Bow	189	196	173	300
	Muzzleloader	111	112	352	265
	Youth	78	65	63	63
	Total	1625	1327	2647	2526
Morrow	Bonus Gun	57	41	185	122
	Gun	416	356	580	585
	Crossbow	168	204	173	199
	Vertical Bow	140	111	137	184
	Muzzleloader	42	56	103	144
	Youth	40	49	33	47
	Total	863	817	1211	1281
Muskingum	Bonus Gun	207	157	537	410
	Gun	1542	1147	2380	2294
	Crossbow	492	419	387	493
	Vertical Bow	449	431	364	558
	Muzzleloader	182	155	577	509
	Youth	157	150	112	133
	Total	3029	2460	4357	4397

Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Noble	Bonus Gun	145	86	310	270
	Gun	1091	797	1463	1505
	Crossbow	275	231	239	299
	Vertical Bow	160	173	174	247
	Muzzleloader	129	100	358	332
	Youth	78	80	71	72
	Total	1878	1467	2615	2725
Ottawa	Bonus Gun	11	14	26	21
	Gun	61	59	77	89
	Crossbow	53	62	36	50
	Vertical Bow	31	25	13	38
	Muzzleloader	11	10	23	33
	Youth	9	13	4	13
	Total	176	183	179	244
Paulding	Bonus Gun	50	19	71	43
	Gun	186	163	199	211
	Crossbow	54	50	33	54
	Vertical Bow	45	47	12	85
	Muzzleloader	14	16	46	30
	Youth	27	26	20	25
	Total	376	321	381	448
Perry	Bonus Gun	146	124	373	309
	Gun	927	728	1608	1484
	Crossbow	267	227	274	304
	Vertical Bow	195	210	244	299
	Muzzleloader	112	106	380	318
	Youth	96	119	82	87
	Total	1749	1523	2989	2821
Pickaway	Bonus Gun	40	21	84	68
	Gun	260	259	340	360
	Crossbow	111	112	79	103
	Vertical Bow	77	74	90	78
	Muzzleloader	24	19	66	80
	Youth	24	43	22	21
	Total	536	528	681	710
Pike	Bonus Gun	93	49	182	73
	Gun	533	425	810	665
	Crossbow	163	144	152	180
	Vertical Bow	145	162	132	176
	Muzzleloader	66	89	200	155
	Youth	49	71	33	49
	Total	1049	940	1509	1298
Portage	Bonus Gun	59	57	143	123
	Gun	289	264	466	462
	Crossbow	346	375	454	497
	Vertical Bow	161	142	251	257
	Muzzleloader	54	42	114	134
	Youth	37	31	33	31
	Total	946	911	1461	1504
Preble	Bonus Gun	33	12	53	27
	Gun	125	136	137	118
	Crossbow	69	88	40	101
	Vertical Bow	85	85	26	104
	Muzzleloader	22	33	60	42
	Youth	17	24	28	14
	Total	351	378	344	406
Putnam	Bonus Gun	33	18	57	35
	Gun	155	145	161	154
	Crossbow	63	59	28	82
	Vertical Bow	68	54	23	77
	Muzzleloader	16	12	39	32
	Youth	32	29	16	25
	Total	367	317	324	405
Richland	Bonus Gun	114	75	343	210
	Gun	622	554	1157	1109
	Crossbow	406	410	439	595
	Vertical Bow	223	250	307	421
	Muzzleloader	80	69	299	269
	Youth	80	80	59	87
	Total	1525	1438	2604	2691

Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Ross	Bonus Gun	148	97	311	193
	Gun	941	710	1169	1025
	Crossbow	309	313	250	253
	Vertical Bow	258	265	255	305
	Muzzleloader	125	107	328	297
	Youth	94	132	78	88
	Total	1875	1624	2391	2161
Sandusky	Bonus Gun	31	19	81	39
	Gun	121	110	153	159
	Crossbow	73	97	60	94
	Vertical Bow	61	57	27	66
	Muzzleloader	22	8	46	32
	Youth	18	15	9	17
	Total	326	306	376	407
Scioto	Bonus Gun	120	66	196	133
	Gun	610	464	851	871
	Crossbow	216	206	177	215
	Vertical Bow	215	217	188	292
	Muzzleloader	87	76	223	232
	Youth	56	77	42	66
	Total	1307	1116	1705	1833
Seneca	Bonus Gun	71	37	173	120
	Gun	380	359	620	622
	Crossbow	172	180	156	167
	Vertical Bow	101	86	96	150
	Muzzleloader	32	44	114	119
	Youth	26	47	33	54
	Total	782	753	1192	1232
Shelby	Bonus Gun	30	22	76	40
	Gun	184	189	246	219
	Crossbow	78	89	41	115
	Vertical Bow	57	72	33	112
	Muzzleloader	26	18	53	56
	Youth	21	30	30	42
	Total	396	420	479	584
Stark	Bonus Gun	51	51	142	137
	Gun	297	287	440	499
	Crossbow	241	281	258	278
	Vertical Bow	104	134	137	165
	Muzzleloader	47	48	131	127
	Youth	24	41	28	41
	Total	764	842	1136	1247
Summit	Bonus Gun	10	18	42	37
	Gun	66	63	95	141
	Crossbow	365	320	451	383
	Vertical Bow	120	112	215	176
	Muzzleloader	15	16	59	46
	Youth	9	7	4	4
	Total	585	536	866	787
Trumbull	Bonus Gun	90	79	279	217
	Gun	488	449	912	876
	Crossbow	374	425	504	594
	Vertical Bow	171	203	302	391
	Muzzleloader	48	62	181	177
	Youth	44	49	54	63
	Total	1215	1267	2232	2318
Tuscarawas	Bonus Gun	257	210	624	501
	Gun	1411	1136	2301	2373
	Crossbow	514	525	614	798
	Vertical Bow	322	363	452	702
	Muzzleloader	187	182	520	524
	Youth	149	169	127	168
	Total	2840	2585	4638	5066
Union	Bonus Gun	35	26	66	38
	Gun	205	173	257	238
	Crossbow	91	97	68	69
	Vertical Bow	55	61	76	80
	Muzzleloader	27	29	41	52
	Youth	17	20	18	18
	Total	430	406	526	495

Table 2. Continued

County/season		Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
VanWert	Bonus Gun	33	10	39	24
	Gun	130	120	110	108
	Crossbow	40	46	19	60
	Vertical Bow	17	28	10	43
	Muzzleloader	19	14	40	31
	Youth	27	33	23	19
	Total	266	251	241	285
Vinton	Bonus Gun	92	60	230	131
	Gun	844	565	1113	958
	Crossbow	189	217	182	179
	Vertical Bow	181	244	159	220
	Muzzleloader	92	106	230	213
	Youth	61	73	47	59
	Total	1459	1265	1961	1760
Warren	Bonus Gun	47	23	98	68
	Gun	221	193	270	262
	Crossbow	208	188	191	207
	Vertical Bow	169	171	167	236
	Muzzleloader	33	35	85	96
	Youth	35	28	20	21
	Total	713	638	831	890
Washington	Bonus Gun	177	93	356	238
	Gun	1368	952	1969	1604
	Crossbow	276	222	207	267
	Vertical Bow	220	206	199	270
	Muzzleloader	168	131	484	395
	Youth	116	146	105	126
	Total	2325	1750	3320	2900
Wayne	Bonus Gun	70	60	150	134
	Gun	400	319	550	528
	Crossbow	202	224	180	233
	Vertical Bow	120	135	139	182
	Muzzleloader	42	37	123	103
	Youth	51	55	48	44
	Total	885	830	1190	1224
Williams	Bonus Gun	58	49	121	53
	Gun	420	369	388	368
	Crossbow	132	133	54	175
	Vertical Bow	160	146	69	181
	Muzzleloader	29	46	54	61
	Youth	29	55	23	33
	Total	828	798	709	871
Wood	Bonus Gun	39	21	52	28
	Gun	158	175	167	161
	Crossbow	71	96	46	77
	Vertical Bow	81	89	41	113
	Muzzleloader	20	32	49	42
	Youth	16	28	16	18
	Total	385	441	371	439
Wyandot	Bonus Gun	70	25	186	93
	Gun	348	335	620	613
	Crossbow	103	109	92	148
	Vertical Bow	71	82	109	157
	Muzzleloader	42	35	142	113
	Youth	41	43	44	40
	Total	675	629	1193	1164





Age, Sex, and Condition Data

Each year during the gun season, DOW personnel age approximately 5-7% of the harvest. Typically, this amounts to 6,000-8,000 deer. A total of 5,181 deer was aged in 21 counties this year (Fig. 2). These data are used to generate an estimate of adult buck mortality, adult sex ratio, and fawns per adult doe in the harvest, a relative composite measure of reproduction and survival (Table



Table 3. Ohio's 2007-08 antlered and antlerless deer harvest by season for the top 5 total harvest counties.

Season	County	Antlered		Antlerless	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
Bonus Gun	Tuscarawas	257	210	624	501
	Coshocton	263	179	661	496
	Guernsey	209	162	578	479
	Harrison	233	201	508	404
	Jefferson	228	173	479	416
Gun	Coshocton	1,594	1,316	2,755	2,588
	Tuscarawas	1,411	1,136	2,301	2,373
	Guernsey	1,487	1,176	2,426	2,283
	Muskingum	1,542	1,147	2,380	2,294
	Knox	1,120	1,011	2,024	2,041
Crossbow	Licking	690	702	669	965
	Coshocton	595	583	682	829
	Tuscarawas	514	525	614	798
	Holmes	449	465	598	693
	Guernsey	527	521	458	603
Vertical Bow	Licking	535	541	586	958
	Coshocton	419	451	552	798
	Knox	353	353	539	743
	Tuscarawas	322	363	452	702
	Muskingum	449	431	364	558
Muzzleloader	Coshocton	243	203	644	648
	Licking	182	202	502	533
	Guernsey	183	183	516	523
	Tuscarawas	187	182	520	524
	Harrison	169	179	557	526
Youth	Tuscarawas	149	169	127	168
	Coshocton	116	177	132	149
	Knox	129	144	116	161
	Guernsey	135	150	123	152
	Holmes	116	136	129	150
Total	Coshocton	3,230	2,909	5,426	5,508
	Tuscarawas	2,840	2,585	4,638	5,066
	Licking	2,923	2,758	4,042	4,765
	Guernsey	2,835	2,546	4,501	4,529
	Muskingum	3,029	2,459	4,357	4,397

5). In turn, these data are used to generate population estimates for the upcoming season. The average age of this year's harvest sample, the last 5 years, and 1977 is presented in Figure 3.

In addition to the age data, biologists also collect antler measurements from yearling (1.5 years old) bucks. These data provide a snapshot of the relative condition of the deer herd. When yearling bucks are faced with dietary deficiencies, antler development will be compromised and declines in beam diameter and number of points can be expected. By monitoring yearling antler development and herd size, we are better able to understand the relationship between deer abundance and herd condition. Average yearling antler beam for the 1977-78 and 2007-08 seasons is presented in Figure 4.



Figure 2. Distribution of the deer aging stations for the 2007-08 deer season.

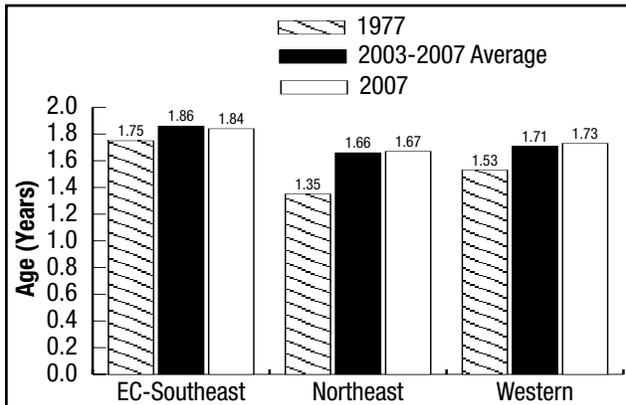


Figure 3. Average age of deer harvested in the 1977-78 and 2007-08 gun seasons.

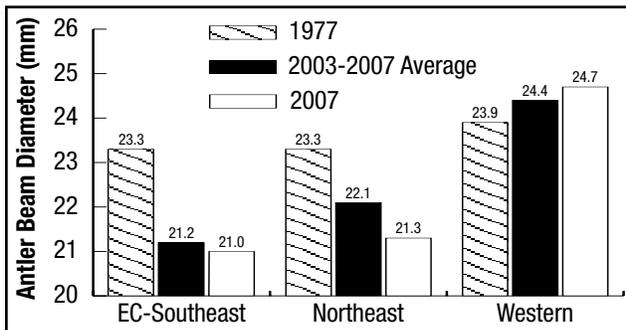


Figure 4. Average yearling antler beam diameter from gun season harvest samples for the 1977-78 and 2007-08 gun seasons.

Deer-vehicle Accidents

Because they represent a significant cost to the public, the DOW has monitored deer-vehicle accident trends since the 1940s. Deer-vehicle accident trends should track changes in the deer populations, provided that adjustments are made for changes in traffic volume and reporting rates. Statewide, there was a total of 26,304 reported deer-vehicle accidents in 2007, down 6.8% from the previous year (Table 6).

Deer Damage Complaints

Because population goals for most of Ohio's rural counties are based on farmer tolerances, the likelihood of widespread agricultural problems should be minimal when deer populations are at goal. However, some localized damage is still likely to occur. In situations where deer need to be killed to reduce property damage, landowners/lessees may be issued Deer Damage Control Permits (DDCP) at the time the damage is occurring.

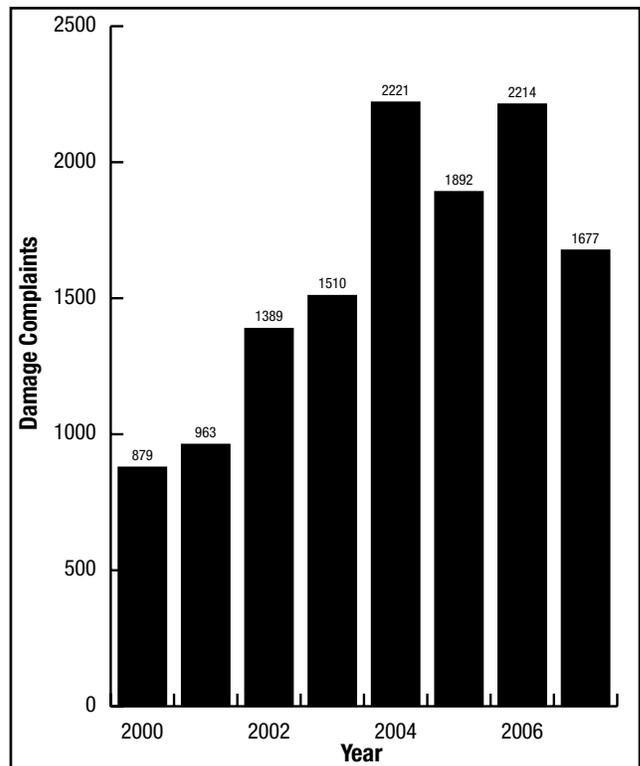


Figure 5. Statewide trends in deer damage complaints, 2000-2007.

Table 4. Deer harvest and permit data, 1900-2007.^a

Year	Number of Open Counties in Gun Season	Number of Permits Sold	Number of Deer Harvested ^c
1900	88	?	?
1901-42	Season closed		
1943	3	8,500	168
1944	3	9,200	117
1945	3	7,700	62
1946	Season closed		
1947	8	9,669	1,000
1948	13	23,044	1,600
1949	Season closed		
1950	19	22,728	3,500
1951	Season closed		
1952	27	14,081	450
1953	40	30,033	4,000
1954	Season closed		
1955	42	36,419	4,200
1956	88	48,263	3,911
1957	88	46,466	4,784
1958	88	42,777	4,415
1959	88	38,414	2,960
1960	88	27,430	2,584
1961	Season closed		
1962	88	23,049	2,114
1963	88	33,298	2,074
1964	88	32,400	1,326
1965	36	12,808	406
1966	48	24,079	1,073
1967	50	28,892	1,437
1968	50	35,322	1,396
1969	56	45,078	2,105
1970	51	54,807	2,387
1971	63	74,758	3,831
1972	63	88,919	5,074
1973	59	107,933	7,594
1974	65	106,867	10,747
1975	68	125,807	14,972
1976	68	138,946	23,431
1977	73	155,445	22,319
1978	74	175,314	22,967
1979	88	193,764	34,874
1980	88	216,055	40,499
1981	88	231,948	47,634
1982	88	257,504	52,885
1983	88	264,493	59,812
1984	88	273,205	66,860
1985	88	277,714	64,263
1986	88	290,293	67,626
1987	88	297,205	79,355
1988	88	373,435	100,674
1989	88	284,909	91,236
1990	88	295,127	98,468
1991	88	338,186	119,215
1992	88	359,250	126,113
1993	88	385,068	138,752
1994	88	425,797	170,527
1995	88	496,890	179,543
1996	88	475,288	158,000
1997	88	439,814	153,159
1998	88	365,875	118,270
1999	88	361,125	126,770
2000	88	438,744	150,432
2001	88	469,055	165,124
2002	88	507,723	204,652
2003	88	515,928	197,790
2004	88	520,458	216,443
2005	88	515,181	209,513
2006	88	543,614	237,316
2007	88	578,366	232,854

^a Season length, bag limit, type of season (e.g., buck-only versus either-sex) and weather have varied among years and have affected total harvest, hunter success rates, and the number of hunters in the field in a given year.

^b Harvest estimates based on hunter questionnaires 1946-61 and mandatory check thereafter.

^c License-exempt hunters generally account for 25-30% of the total harvest.

Table 5. Estimated annual mortality rate of antlered deer, preseason adult (1.5 years old and older) sex ratio, and fawns per adult doe in the gun season harvest sample. Estimates are based on 5,181 deer sampled during the 2007 gun season.

Variable	Region		
	EC-Southeast	Northeast	Western
Adult buck mortality rate¹			
2003-2007 average	0.51	0.52	0.60
2007	0.45	0.48	0.57
Adult sex ratio			
2003-2007 average	1.57	1.48	1.52
2007	1.31 ²	1.23	1.58
Fawn/adult doe			
2003-2007 average	0.89	1.12	1.00
2007	0.99	1.10	1.04

¹The proportion of antlered deer that die each year from all causes.

²For example, for every 100 adult bucks alive at the start of the fall hunting season, there will be approximately 130 adult does.

These permits allow landowners/lessees and their agents to kill deer during the dates and under the conditions specified on the permit. For most agricultural problems, these permits shall only be valid for the period of January 1 until the start of the archery season. Under limited crop damage circumstances permits may be extended until the start of the youth gun season. In specific circumstances permits may be valid year-round to control damage at orchards, nurseries, inside municipalities, and for safety purposes at airports. Regardless of the situation, DDCPs shall expire no later than December 31 of the year in which the permit is issued. Except in the case of rub damage to trees, permit holders are strongly encouraged to kill antlerless deer. Permit holders must surrender all antlers to the Division of Wildlife. In 2007, a total of 1,677 crop damage complaints was received by the DOW, a decrease of 24% from last year (Table 7). However, a total of 8,723 deer was killed on damage permits this year, an increase of 44% over last year. To a large

Table 6. Deer-vehicle accident trends as compiled by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, 2003-2007.

County	Year				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adams	332	287	251	259	233
Allen	405	376	377	431	441
Ashland	488	473	442	443	364
Ashtabula	583	464	376	405	285
Athens	388	280	230	188	181
Auglaize	266	259	238	252	275
Belmont	185	149	126	113	188
Brown	359	351	301	313	254
Butler	498	483	507	504	456
Carroll	279	214	90	88	52
Champaign	56	98	120	149	150
Clark	218	191	185	191	207
Clermont	541	537	442	470	451
Clinton	290	290	283	273	272
Columbiana	447	372	334	405	312
Coshocton	577	455	282	270	258
Crawford	286	268	290	293	282
Cuyahoga	525	485	478	473	400
Darke	272	267	261	280	266
Defiance	354	378	298	399	428
Delaware	577	560	568	515	540
Erie	318	268	302	328	326
Fairfield	505	485	387	328	309
Fayette	223	195	138	156	179
Franklin	511	515	533	505	494
Fulton	190	234	219	304	265
Gallia	261	206	232	193	137
Geauga	443	374	405	406	370
Greene	445	391	366	386	292
Guernsey	435	410	336	340	316
Hamilton	791	714	759	717	705
Hancock	500	460	456	463	397
Hardin	275	262	223	230	256
Harrison	219	191	146	77	69
Henry	186	201	185	211	224
Highland	394	376	311	414	396
Hocking	127	112	94	63	68
Holmes	383	416	374	349	284
Huron	359	302	292	337	276
Jackson	318	305	253	212	297
Jefferson	253	238	237	193	147
Knox	612	576	590	602	619
Lake	341	308	283	273	226
Lawrence	135	101	111	108	137

Table 6. Continued

County	Year				
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Licking	324	364	345	341	306
Logan	449	612	493	443	318
Lorain	517	540	485	505	500
Lucas	266	310	291	414	354
Madison	147	121	114	131	92
Mahoning	516	476	440	500	532
Marion	308	297	277	280	242
Medina	426	400	401	414	352
Meigs	207	220	171	129	75
Mercer	177	182	168	170	196
Miami	390	342	343	323	358
Monroe	36	26	27	31	23
Montgomery	395	325	364	376	295
Morgan	191	204	127	132	95
Morrow	319	308	340	342	313
Muskingum	703	718	559	560	519
Noble	213	186	180	220	149
Ottawa	151	154	182	203	227
Paulding	181	177	139	180	188
Perry	243	218	151	121	102
Pickaway	336	283	285	291	266
Pike	119	162	110	131	149
Portage	500	461	440	407	432
Preble	214	158	172	176	153
Putnam	130	183	147	161	143
Richland	753	670	683	686	571
Ross	555	518	444	489	457
Sandusky	320	299	304	354	326
Scioto	206	238	201	311	273
Seneca	381	399	335	368	305
Shelby	373	393	315	357	340
Stark	591	455	473	454	495
Summit	642	618	624	629	547
Trumbull	482	506	394	429	443
Tuscarawas	591	529	508	506	447
Union	364	333	293	333	307
VanWert	194	158	173	188	152
Vinton	233	155	94	79	71
Warren	482	478	407	426	420
Washington	336	275	286	273	200
Wayne	506	440	340	247	269
Williams	453	472	432	485	517
Wood	337	357	336	427	412
Wyandot	322	277	262	296	289
Statewide	31,729	29,874	27,366	28,227	26,304

Summary of 2007-08 Ohio Deer Seasons

Table 7. Number of deer damage complaints, permits issued, and deer taken, 2002-2007.

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Adams						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	29	38	59	74	98	0
Deer Harvested	92	137	321	219	364	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	2	6	4	5	27	24
Deer Killed	0	7	10	10	54	136
Complaints	37	46	65	74	113	24
Allen						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	0	0	3	1	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	2	1	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	2	1	0	0	0	1
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	4
Complaints	5	2	2	3	2	1
Ashland						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	11	20	19	14	7	0
Deer Harvested	23	56	59	37	28	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	7	9	15	25	16	37
Deer Killed	51	57	124	127	86	207
Complaints	17	22	34	29	23	38
Ashtabula						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	12	8	18	20	25	0
Deer Harvested	23	29	27	22	52	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	7	8	17	21	16	28
Deer Killed	51	28	72	56	38	80
Complaints	16	16	35	32	30	28
Athens						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	28	34	44	34	48	0
Deer Harvested	149	200	296	259	302	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	29	28	25	41	17	16
Deer Killed	187	140	157	65	65	72
Complaints	47	53	70	70	61	16
Auglaize						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	2	1	1	0
Deer Harvested	0	2	3	3	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	1	0	0	0
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	1	4	1	1	0
Belmont						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	22	29	32	27	36	0
Deer Harvested	61	82	121	95	108	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	17	20	22	22	25	33
Deer Killed	34	69	110	85	106	121
Complaints	31	37	55	33	45	34
Brown						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	23	23	31	47	58	0
Deer Harvested	77	102	125	133	110	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	5	2	11	33	64	39
Deer Killed	30	6	41	139	178	144
Complaints	27	30	55	69	108	47
Butler						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	11	24	10	11	0
Deer Harvested	2	8	8	8	7	0

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Carroll						
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	9	14	22	21	25	22
Deer Killed	26	5	17	25	17	58
Complaints	10	19	46	27	32	22
Champaign						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	14	16	22	17	35	0
Deer Harvested	42	51	83	80	98	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	10	12	19	16	21	29
Deer Killed	88	72	157	149	88	203
Complaints	20	20	42	18	47	29
Clark						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	5	10	6	8	7	0
Deer Harvested	6	20	22	11	11	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	11	8	5	6	3	3
Deer Killed	8	11	20	28	32	23
Complaints	15	14	13	12	9	3
Clermont						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	5	6	5	6	6	0
Deer Harvested	5	25	14	25	16	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	11	18	18	23	21	25
Deer Killed	46	64	80	123	113	178
Complaints	16	23	24	31	27	25
Clinton						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	19	11	6	11	6	0
Deer Harvested	13	15	19	18	15	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	11	2	1	6	2	5
Deer Killed	3	0	12	11	0	7
Complaints	29	12	8	14	7	5
Columbiana						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	10	9	7	5	15	0
Deer Harvested	11	31	41	25	32	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	9	9	13	13	12	17
Deer Killed	16	32	47	56	64	71
Complaints	15	15	20	14	21	17
Coshington						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	29	59	50	66	54	0
Deer Harvested	149	407	420	501	485	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	26	21	29	45	32	48
Deer Killed	232	228	276	400	415	625
Complaints	46	61	79	22	70	48
Crawford						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	2	7	3	7	8	0
Deer Harvested	0	10	18	18	15	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	2	2	0	1	2	3
Deer Killed	4	2	0	1	2	0
Complaints	2	8	3	8	11	5

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Cuyahoga						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	2	16	7	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	1	9	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	26	1	25	25	18	14
Deer Killed	37	30	85	38	30	24
Complaints	39	25	32	25	23	14
Darke						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	1	1	0	0	1	0
Deer Killed	1	1	0	0	7	0
Complaints	1	1	0	0	1	0
Defiance						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	0	0	4	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	4	0	8	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	1	0	2	2
Deer Killed	0	2	0	0	3	6
Complaints	0	2	1	0	5	2
Delaware						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	6	16	20	14	0
Deer Harvested	0	20	15	31	26	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	10	14	15	19	17	26
Deer Killed	4	31	32	29	30	47
Complaints	14	23	32	24	23	31
Erie						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	3	3	5	4	5	0
Deer Harvested	1	2	15	2	5	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	2	2	5	5	21	10
Deer Killed	5	7	12	11	17	13
Complaints	4	5	10	9	29	10
Fairfield						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	18	20	24	16	31	0
Deer Harvested	49	70	56	33	51	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	37	42	60	57	52	55
Deer Killed	133	173	306	243	199	199
Complaints	43	51	87	62	60	58
Fayette						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	0	0	0	3	0
Franklin						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	3	1	2	2	4	0
Deer Harvested	2	2	0	7	12	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	15	17	20	19	22	19
Deer Killed	27	45	49	63	67	78
Complaints	16	20	20	20	24	19
Fulton						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	2	2	1	1	0
Deer Harvested	1	4	5	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	1	2	2	1	2	0

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Gallia						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	3	3	3	2	0
Deer Harvested	1	15	3	3	7	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	5	1	1	4	3	7
Deer Killed	26	4	4	6	6	6
Complaints	6	5	4	6	4	9
Geauga						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	5	2	2	3	3	0
Deer Harvested	3	5	5	2	8	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	3	14	11	18	17	20
Deer Killed	22	55	44	56	58	62
Complaints	8	17	13	21	21	20
Greene						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	14	11	17	15	12	0
Deer Harvested	31	37	31	21	14	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	9	7	12	11	12	14
Deer Killed	12	16	34	37	18	41
Complaints	23	18	29	26	21	14
Guernsey						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	25	31	43	42	62	0
Deer Harvested	70	90	174	167	229	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	19	15	32	41	36	55
Deer Killed	72	59	137	155	195	196
Complaints	35	34	75	59	68	57
Hamilton						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	1	0	6	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	22	29	24	28	38	30
Deer Killed	61	47	51	78	365	689
Complaints	23	31	25	28	38	30
Hancock						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	9	7	10	8	9	0
Deer Harvested	9	14	45	10	17	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	6	6	4	4	6	4
Deer Killed	8	14	26	31	18	12
Complaints	11	11	17	8	14	6
Hardin						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	2	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	2	4	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	1
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	4
Complaints	0	2	1	0	2	3
Harrison						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	14	9	3	9	11	0
Deer Harvested	26	49	32	14	48	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	13	7	14	19	19	18
Deer Killed	46	68	118	218	166	127
Complaints	22	12	19	23	23	18
Henry						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	2	2	5	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	7	0	4	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	1	0	0	0	2	1
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	1
Complaints	1	0	2	2	7	3

Summary of 2007-08 Ohio Deer Seasons

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Highland						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	30	26	38	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	45	56	60	0	7	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	29	20	33	22	25	31
Deer Killed	87	91	124	95	105	175
Complaints	49	31	78	22	30	31
Hocking						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	16	22	30	55	42	0
Deer Harvested	76	82	130	140	118	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	19	16	23	45	30	43
Deer Killed	187	110	248	259	207	466
Complaints	20	25	54	59	47	44
Holmes						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	14	5	21	10	17	0
Deer Harvested	80	147	157	100	95	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	5	17	10	28	18	23
Deer Killed	29	48	73	194	158	155
Complaints	18	20	38	33	32	25
Huron						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	2	3	5	5	0
Deer Harvested	4	7	4	10	15	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	1	6	4	5	4	3
Deer Killed	1	6	2	10	1	1
Complaints	2	8	7	10	9	3
Jackson						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	8	17	12	19	18	0
Deer Harvested	31	90	83	47	71	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	16	19	14	16	15	20
Deer Killed	27	47	41	6	35	30
Complaints	19	25	26	30	25	21
Jefferson						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	42	30	25	25	24	0
Deer Harvested	140	108	118	97	123	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	41	22	26	31	25	25
Deer Killed	143	136	153	166	140	139
Complaints	69	35	52	41	38	25
Knox						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	9	35	60	73	113	0
Deer Harvested	13	147	195	300	380	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	65	59	94	87	97	141
Deer Killed	397	623	811	720	882	1038
Complaints	72	81	132	138	147	141
Lake						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	4	3	1	2	0
Deer Harvested	0	11	6	1	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	20	27	36	24	19	27
Deer Killed	35	70	73	66	42	81
Complaints	22	32	41	25	20	27
Lawrence						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	11	17	12	18	24	0
Deer Harvested	35	36	48	45	43	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	14	11	9	16	19	26
Deer Killed	33	19	32	65	57	100
Complaints	24	19	21	27	31	26

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Licking						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	2	4	2	1	3	0
Deer Harvested	11	11	10	5	19	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	27	32	48	41	34	75
Deer Killed	88	159	36	172	187	438
Complaints	30	36	50	42	37	75
Logan						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	7	6	5	0
Deer Harvested	0	1	10	9	12	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	8	6	8	6	10	17
Deer Killed	33	17	36	41	43	85
Complaints	8	13	12	11	14	17
Lorain						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	2	1	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	1	1	1	0	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	12	7	14	13	14	20
Deer Killed	14	6	20	33	20	45
Complaints	15	11	14	13	14	20
Lucas						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	4	0	0	2	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	1	0	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	4	0	3	2	7	2
Deer Killed	4	9	5	4	23	8
Complaints	4	8	7	2	10	6
Madison						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	1	0	1	0	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	0	1	0	1
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	5
Complaints	0	1	0	1	0	1
Mahoning						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	1	4	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	1	2	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	2	4	7	4	2	5
Deer Killed	2	5	13	9	3	15
Complaints	4	5	10	8	5	7
Marion						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	1	0	0	1	0
Deer Harvested	0	1	2	0	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	1	1	2	1
Deer Killed	0	1	1	1	1	2
Complaints	1	1	1	1	3	1
Medina						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	8	13	13	12	6	0
Deer Harvested	6	7	11	9	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	10	13	11	10	8	8
Deer Killed	26	38	35	26	20	33
Complaints	17	18	29	12	15	12
Meigs						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	19	17	15	20	13	0
Deer Harvested	63	87	74	84	51	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	11	8	11	4	16	15
Deer Killed	38	6	40	12	45	67
Complaints	24	21	27	22	23	20

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Mercer						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	1	0	0	0	0
Miami						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	0	0	1	0	0
Deer Harvested	4	0	0	2	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	1	1	1
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	1	0	0	2	1	2
Monroe						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	8	11	22	34	34	0
Deer Harvested	32	54	112	148	185	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	12	11	13	28	32	48
Deer Killed	35	28	36	70	55	70
Complaints	17	23	37	39	54	50
Montgomery						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	9	10	3	6	8	0
Deer Harvested	4	0	3	8	20	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	6	11	1	9	0	3
Deer Killed	0	0	169	58	0	54
Complaints	19	19	5	13	8	3
Morgan						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	18	25	32	25	5	0
Deer Harvested	70	92	96	111	24	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	7	15	28	27	22	26
Deer Killed	46	68	184	176	188	236
Complaints	20	26	61	30	25	28
Morrow						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	3	4	3	2	0
Deer Harvested	0	8	2	2	2	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	2	1	1	4	1	5
Deer Killed	3	0	1	9	0	7
Complaints	2	5	5	5	2	5
Muskingum						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	13	26	32	37	30	0
Deer Harvested	38	122	202	135	109	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	35	29	43	62	50	65
Deer Killed	148	177	271	347	296	378
Complaints	48	41	78	76	65	67
Noble						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	5	6	9	8	11	0
Deer Harvested	27	12	19	40	36	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	12	5	10	11	8	18
Deer Killed	50	15	24	16	7	91
Complaints	13	10	19	14	14	18
Ottawa						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	2	4	4	7	0
Deer Harvested	0	4	4	6	2	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	1	1	0	1	7	1
Deer Killed	2	4	0	0	0	3
Complaints	1	3	4	5	11	3

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Paulding						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	2	0	1	2	5	0
Deer Harvested	2	0	1	2	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	1	3	4
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	4	7
Complaints	2	0	1	1	9	5
Perry						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	9	6	19	15	27	0
Deer Harvested	31	52	96	79	129	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	8	10	3	10	13	18
Deer Killed	19	29	13	65	55	44
Complaints	16	15	22	24	39	18
Pickaway						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	8	13	8	5	1	0
Deer Harvested	9	7	8	0	1	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	13	5	14	11	9	5
Deer Killed	29	10	24	22	12	5
Complaints	14	15	22	11	9	5
Pike						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	10	13	16	20	15	0
Deer Harvested	30	31	42	51	42	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	4	9	12	10	7	9
Deer Killed	4	26	15	42	14	10
Complaints	12	15	29	20	16	10
Portage						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	6	7	4	1	0	0
Deer Harvested	2	5	11	0	6	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	9	3	8	10	7	18
Deer Killed	13	43	42	24	35	95
Complaints	12	13	12	10	7	18
Preble						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	2	6	5	7	9	0
Deer Harvested	4	4	11	10	14	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	2	2	0	0	4
Deer Killed	0	10	10	0	0	27
Complaints	2	7	7	7	10	4
Putnam						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	1	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	1	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	1	0	0	1	0	0
Richland						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	5	8	12	9	2	0
Deer Harvested	16	12	16	1	6	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	18	21	15	25	22	24
Deer Killed	79	119	77	68	107	132
Complaints	20	24	27	30	26	31
Ross						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	26	21	25	10	33	0
Deer Harvested	115	122	129	89	122	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	19	18	23	21	18	24
Deer Killed	185	127	131	115	128	183
Complaints	34	37	48	23	42	25

Summary of 2007-08 Ohio Deer Seasons

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Sandusky						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	4	9	12	18	0
Deer Harvested	0	19	44	13	22	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	1	2	7	3
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	6
Complaints	1	5	10	13	24	5
Scioto						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	8	12	15	20	29	0
Deer Harvested	49	37	61	52	61	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	10	9	13	18	33	21
Deer Killed	53	49	79	56	88	144
Complaints	12	13	28	30	44	22
Seneca						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	5	14	13	21	25	0
Deer Harvested	22	45	31	56	40	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	2	2	4	7	8	5
Deer Killed	7	2	17	23	16	11
Complaints	7	18	17	22	32	7
Shelby						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	0	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stark						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	4	2	1	3	0
Deer Harvested	0	9	12	2	7	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	6	10	9	9	8	12
Deer Killed	5	14	16	10	34	24
Complaints	7	17	13	10	11	13
Summit						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	4	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Harvested	5	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	17	16	17	19	18	17
Deer Killed	58	68	91	87	96	71
Complaints	20	20	20	19	19	20
Trumbull						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	6	6	8	3	4	0
Deer Harvested	6	9	14	0	5	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	5	6	11	12	9	14
Deer Killed	13	17	35	46	25	37
Complaints	10	10	19	12	10	14
Tuscarawas						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	19	25	25	29	27	0
Deer Harvested	78	120	135	137	129	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	12	13	19	22	24	48
Deer Killed	18	52	95	119	184	389
Complaints	25	27	45	32	45	49
Union						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	4	6	4	11	5	0
Deer Harvested	3	1	4	12	7	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	8	6	6	8	5	4
Deer Killed	18	21	16	13	10	13
Complaints	12	9	11	12	6	4

Table 7. Continued

County	Year					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Van Wert						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	3	5	3	0
Deer Harvested	0	3	3	1	2	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	1	0	1
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	0	1	4	5	6	2
Vinton						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	3	2	0	4	5	0
Deer Harvested	22	29	17	20	15	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	3	4	4	5	5	5
Deer Killed	0	4	31	19	24	27
Complaints	4	5	4	9	9	5
Warren						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	17	9	10	14	12	0
Deer Harvested	18	12	6	9	21	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	19	13	18	16	21	15
Deer Killed	81	35	60	83	75	58
Complaints	33	22	29	26	29	15
Washington						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	16	25	32	41	51	0
Deer Harvested	67	71	153	241	181	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	16	21	35	44	43	54
Deer Killed	79	69	112	138	132	185
Complaints	23	36	71	63	71	56
Wayne						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	3	7	5	6	0
Deer Harvested	0	3	11	11	22	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	6	7	6	15	15	18
Deer Killed	6	13	8	31	28	70
Complaints	6	12	16	20	23	19
Williams						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	10	17	9	29	44	0
Deer Harvested	19	45	28	62	73	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	3	2	3	3	8	8
Deer Killed	12	7	10	9	18	26
Complaints	10	17	19	31	48	9
Wood						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	0	2	0	3	1	0
Deer Harvested	0	2	1	5	2	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	1	1	1	1	1
Deer Killed	0	2	5	4	2	3
Complaints	0	3	1	4	2	1
Wyandot						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	1	5	7	11	17	0
Deer Harvested	10	23	33	49	61	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	3
Deer Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints	2	6	7	11	17	4
STATEWIDE						
In-Season						
Permits Issued	689	890	1,049	1,125	1,296	0
Deer Harvested	2,041	3,247	4,219	3,961	4,365	0
Out-of-Season						
Permits Issued	867	839	1,100	1,298	1,300	1,591
Deer Killed	3,338	3,674	5,337	5,770	6,039	8,723
Complaints	1,390	1,510	2,221	1,903	2,214	1,677

extent, this increase is due to the elimination of the Hunting Season Control permit in 2007.

Beginning in 1997, the DOW began issuing damage permits that were valid only during deer season. Our intent with the Hunting Season Control Permit (HSCP) was to provide additional hunting opportunity while still effectively addressing bona fide damage problems. Where hunting was ineffective (damage occurring outside the hunting season or deer simply were not available for harvest during legal shooting hours), the DDCP would be issued. Although the program was being effectively used by many landowners, evidence of abuse of the free HSCPs began to appear shortly after program initiation. Therefore, in 2007 the decision was made to pull the Hunting Season Control permit from our deer management tool box. The Division of Wildlife, however, remains committed to dealing with localized damage problems through the use of the DDCP as well as the reduced cost Antlerless Permit (\$15).

Season Summary

The 2007-08 season will not be one we'll soon forget. Poor weather during both the regular and bonus firearms seasons undoubtedly hampered hunters and resulted in lower harvests. Heavy rains statewide led to a record 51% drop in the opening day gun harvest. Despite little improvement in the weather during the balance of the week, the harvest returned to within 12% of the 2006-07 season. Hunters were afforded little opportunity to make up lost ground during the bonus gun hunt in mid-December, as they faced a mix of rain, sleet, and snow during most of the 2-day hunt. The 2-day harvest was down nearly 30% from last season. In spite of the weather and a slow finish to the 2007-08 season, hunters got off to a great start this year, due in large part to the new Antlerless Permit (\$15).

As noted above, the new Antlerless Permit (\$15) essentially doubled the Deer Zone

bag limit for archers for the first 8 weeks of the season. A total of 84,015 Antlerless Permits (\$15) was issued during the 2007-08 season, boosting total deer permit sales by nearly 7% and the antlerless harvest by 38% during the early archery season. As expected, hunters in Deer Zone A took advantage of the additional harvest opportunities. The antlerless harvest during the first 8 weeks of the archery season was up 139% in Deer Zone A compared to last year (Fig. 6). Archers harvested 27% and 36% more antlerless deer in Deer Zones B and C, respectively, compared to last year. Although the increases were modest by comparison, we were very pleased with the results as hunters have been able to harvest 2 and 3 deer in Zones B and C, respectively, for the past 3 seasons. The fact that archers took advantage of the increased bag limit in counties with an existing multi-deer bag limit suggests that perhaps cost was an issue for some hunters as our

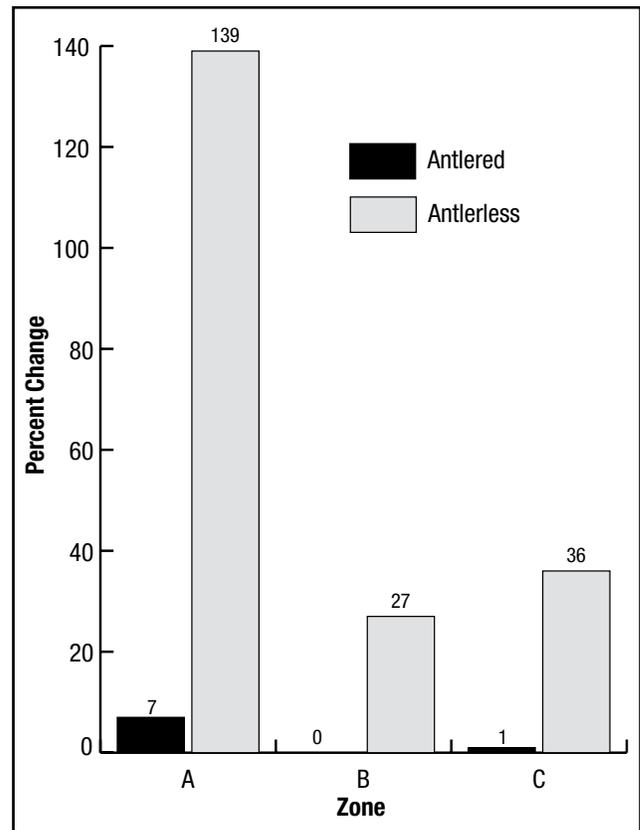


Figure 6. Antlered and antlerless harvest (% change) from archery opener to gun season, 2007 versus 2006 by Deer Zone.

Summary of 2007-08 Ohio Deer Seasons

survey results suggested. Clearly for some hunters, however, the challenge to harvest 6 deer was all the reason needed to take advantage of the permit. A number of landowners took advantage of the temporary bag limit increase by harvesting multiple antlerless during the first 8 weeks of the archery season. Regardless of the motivation(s), the Antlerless Permit (\$15) was largely responsible for the 38% increase in the antlerless harvest during the first 8 weeks of the archery season and more importantly, the 3%

increase in the overall antlerless harvest for 2007-08. The modest 3% increase is significant for at least 2 reasons. First, the increase came in spite of large declines in the harvest during both the regular and bonus firearms seasons. Secondly, and most importantly, the overall increase means that we accomplished our goal of increasing the antlerless harvest, rather than simply redistributing it. To that end, the permit and the 2007-08 season were successful.





DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Ted Strickland, Governor • Sean D. Logan, Director
David M. Graham, Chief

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