

SURVEY ON WILDLIFE DAMAGE AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS WILDLIFE (INCLUDING DEER) – Crop Year 2019

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**UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

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Please make corrections to name, address and ZIP Code, if necessary.

The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only. Your responses will be kept confidential and any person who willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you or your operation is subject to a jail term, a fine, or both. This survey is conducted in accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107–347, and other applicable Federal laws. For more information on how we protect your information please visit: <https://www.nass.usda.gov/confidentiality>. Response to this survey is **voluntary**.

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PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION(S) FOR THE TOTAL ACRES YOU (NAME ON LABEL) OPERATE.

1. Did the operator operate land used for agricultural purposes in 2019? *(Include woodland, cropland, pastureland, fruit and vegetable, horticulture, nurseries, greenhouses, etc.)*

XXXX 1 ☐ **Yes** – Go to Item 2 3 ☐ **No** – Go to Item 50, Back Page

2. In 2019, how many acres did this operation:

- a. Own..... +
- b. Rent or Lease from others or use Rent Free..... +
- c. Rent to others?..... -

ACRES

XXXX

XXXX

XXXX

XXXX

3. Calculate item 2a + 2b – 2c. then the total acres operated in 2019 is.....=

ACRES

XXXX

4. Of the (Item 3) total acres, how many acres of farmed and unfarmed woodlands are on the area you operate?.....

OFFICE USE

XXXX

5. In which county was the largest value of the operation's agricultural products raised or produced?

County:

6. Of the (Item 3) total acres operated for agricultural purposes, how many acres were used to grow the following crops in 2019?

- a. Corn
- b. Soybeans
- c. Hay
- d. Wheat
- e. Oats
- f. Orchards
- g. Woodlands.....
- h. Pasture
- i. Nursery
- j. Other (Include barns, chicken or hog houses, greenhouses, etc)
(specify ^{xxxx})

ACRES

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

xxxx

ACRES

xxxx

7. How many acres on this operation were enrolled in government conservation programs in 2019? (Include CRP, WRP, WHIP, etc)?.....

ACRES

xxxx

8. Sum the acres in Items 6 and 7. This should be equal to Item 3.....

9. Which of the following represents the largest portion of this operation's 2019 gross income? (Check one)

- xxxx 1 ☐ Crop production
- 2 ☐ Livestock production
- 3 ☐ Hunting/fishing/wildlife
- 4 ☐ Timber production
- 5 ☐ Other (specify _____)

10. What percentage of the operator's household income is derived from agricultural purposes? (Check one)

- xxxx 1 ☐ None
- 2 ☐ Less than 25%
- 3 ☐ 25% - 49%
- 4 ☐ 50% - 74%
- 5 ☐ 75% - 100%

11. What was the age of the operator on December 31, 2019? *(Check one)*

- xxxx 1 ☐ Less than 18 years
2 ☐ 18 – 34 years
3 ☐ 35 – 44 years
4 ☐ 45 – 54 years
5 ☐ 55 – 64 years
6 ☐ 65 years and over

12. What is the gender of the operator?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Male
2 ☐ Female

13. Did the operator live on the operation on December 31, 2019?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
3 ☐ No

Section 2 - Damage Caused by Wildlife

14. Was there any damage caused by wildlife (including deer) on the land operated in 2019?

xxxx

1 ☐ **Yes** – Continue

3 ☐ **No** – Go to Item 22 on page 6

ACRES

xxxx

15. Of the (Item 3) total acres operated for agricultural purposes, how many acres had crop damage caused by wildlife?.....

16. Of the (Item 15) acres with crop damage, how many acres can be attributed to damage caused by the following wildlife?

SPECIES	NUMBER OF ACRES AFFECTED BY LOSS
a. Deer	xxxx
b. Resident Geese	xxxx
c. Migrant Geese	xxxx
d. Bears	xxxx
e. Groundhog	xxxx
f. Other (specify:xxxx)	xxxx
Total Acres With Crop Damage Caused by Wildlife (Should match Item 15 above)	

DOLLARS

xxxx

17. How many dollars were lost due to damage by wildlife on this operation in 2019?.....

18. Of the (Item 17) dollars in crop damage, what percentage can be attributed to the following wildlife?

SPECIES	PERCENT OF TOTAL LOSS
g. Deer	xxxx
h. Resident Geese	xxxx
i. Migrant Geese	xxxx
j. Bears	xxxx
k. Groundhog	xxxx
l. Other (specify:xxxx)	xxxx
Total Economic Loss	100%

19. How would the operator describe the level of financial loss suffered by each wildlife species on the operation in 2019?
(Check one box in each row)

SPECIES	No Financial Loss	Slight Financial Loss	Moderate Financial Loss	Severe Financial Loss	No opinion/ Don't know
a. Deer.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
b. Turkeys.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
c. Resident Geese.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
d. Migrant Geese.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
e. Rabbits.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
f. Pheasants.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
g. Beaver.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
h. Coyotes.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
i. Raccoons.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
j. Bears.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
k. Groundhog.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
l. Other (specify:xxxx)xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐

[If any financial loss from deer was reported in Item 19a, then continue, otherwise go to Item 21.]

20. What level best describes the financial loss caused in 2019 by deer for the following crops produced on the land operated? (Check one box in each row)

CROPS	Did Not Plant Crop	No Financial Loss	Slight Financial Loss	Moderate Financial Loss	Severe Financial Loss	No opinion/ Don't know
a. Corn.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
b. Soybeans.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
c. Hay.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
d. Wheat/Oats.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
e. Orchards.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
f. Tree Plantations.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
f. Timber.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
g. Pasture.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
h. Nursery.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐
i. Other (specify:xxxx)xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐	6 ☐

21. During the five-year period 2014 through 2019, has the amount of financial loss from wildlife (including deer) on the land operated increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

- xxxx
- 1 ☐ Increased
 2 ☐ Stayed the Same
 3 ☐ Decreased
 4 ☐ No Opinion/Don't Know

Section 3 - Presence of Wildlife

22. How would the operator describe the number of each species on your operation in 2019? (Check one box in each row)

SPECIES	None	Low	Moderate	High	No opinion/ Don't know
a. Deer.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
b. Turkeys.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
c. Resident Geese.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
d. Migrant Geese.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
e. Rabbits.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
f. Pheasants.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
g. Beaver.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
h. Coyotes.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
i. Raccoons.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
j. Bears.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
k. Groundhog.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
l. Other (specify:.....xxxx)	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐

23. How would the operator describe the number of wildlife (including deer) on the land operated in 2019? (check only one box)?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Too many
 2 ☐ About the right number
 3 ☐ Too few
 4 ☐ No opinion/don't know

[If any deer was reported in Item 22a, then continue, otherwise go to Item 27 on the next page.]

24. How would the operator describe the number of deer on the land operated in 2019?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Too Few
 2 ☐ About the right number
 3 ☐ Too Many
 4 ☐ No Opinion

25. During the five-year period 2015 through 2019, has the number of deer on the land operated increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Increased
 2 ☐ Stayed the Same
 3 ☐ Decreased
 4 ☐ No Opinion/Don't Know

26. During the five-year period 2015 through 2019, has the number of bucks on the land operated increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Increased
 2 ☐ Stayed the Same
 3 ☐ Decreased
 4 ☐ No Opinion/Don't Know

Section 4 - Management of Wildlife

27. Which of the following wildlife control methods were used on this operation in 2019?

CONTROL METHODS	Used on operation in 2019?	Did this action achieve desired results?
a. No control methods used in 2019.....	xxxx 1 ☐	
a. Electric fence.....	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK
b. Wildlife proof fences.....	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK
c. Allow more hunters on your farm.....	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK
d. Encourage neighbors to allow more hunting...	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK
e. Chemical repellants.....	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK
f. Changed farming practices to discourage wildlife	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK
g. Devices to scare wildlife away.....	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK
i. Other (specify xxxx.....)	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK	xxxx 1 ☐ Yes 3 ☐ No 2 ☐ DK

28. How many dollars did this operation spend on control methods to reduce crop damage by wildlife (including deer)? (Include frightening devices, repellents, fences only for wildlife control, etc.).....

DOLLARS

xxxx

29. Are you aware of depredation programs offered by your State's Department of Natural Resources?

xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
3 ☐ No

30. During the five-year period 2015 through 2019, did you contact your State's Department of Natural Resources offices about wildlife damage (including damage from deer)?

xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
3 ☐ No

31. How do you feel about the way your State's Department of Natural Resources (or Department of Conservation) manages wildlife (including deer)?

xxxx 1 ☐ I am satisfied
2 ☐ I am not satisfied
3 ☐ No opinion/don't know

32. Did you work with one or more of your neighbors to manage wildlife (including deer) on the land you operated in 2019?

xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
3 ☐ No

Section 5 - Hunting

33. Was anyone (including yourself) allowed to hunt wildlife (including deer) on this operation in 2019?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
 2 ☐ Don't know
 3 ☐ No

[If hunting was allowed in Item 33, then continue, otherwise go to Item 41 on page 10.]

34. Who was allowed to hunt wildlife (including deer) on any of the land you operate in 2019? (Check all that apply)

- xxxx ☐ The operator
 xxxx ☐ The operator's family
 xxxx ☐ The operator's friends or neighbors
 xxxx ☐ Strangers who ask for no rent/fee
 xxxx ☐ Strangers who pay a rent/fee
 xxxx ☐ Anyone regardless of permission

35. Did the operator hunt wildlife (including deer) during in 2019 hunting season(s)?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
 3 ☐ No

36. Did the operator rent or lease hunting privileges to hunters for wildlife (including deer) hunting on any of the land operated in 2019?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
 3 ☐ No

[If hunting privileges were rented or leased in Item 36, then continue, otherwise go to Item 39 on the next page.]

37. In 2019, for which of the following species did the operator rent or lease hunting rights to hunters?

SPECIES	Rent or Lease Hunting Rights to Hunters
Deer.....	xxxx ☐
Turkey.....	xxxx ☐
Waterfowl.....	xxxx ☐
Pheasants & Quail.....	xxxx ☐
Other Game.....	xxxx ☐

38. Did the operator charge fees for access to hunt wildlife (including deer) on any of the land you operate in 2019?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
 3 ☐ No

39. In 2019, how much wildlife was harvested on any of the land you operate in 2019?

SPECIES	NUMBER HARVESTED
a. Deer	XXXX
b. Turkeys	XXXX
c. Resident Geese	XXXX
d. Migrant Geese	XXXX
e. Rabbits	XXXX
f. Pheasants	XXXX
g. Beaver	XXXX
h. Coyotes	XXXX
i. Raccoons	XXXX
j. Bears	XXXX
k. Groundhog	XXXX
l. Other (specify:XXXX)	XXXX

40. How did you manage wildlife (including deer) hunting and harvest on any of the land you operated in 2019? (Check only one box)

- XXXX
- 1 ☐ I do not allow wildlife hunting
 - 2 ☐ I restrict female wildlife hunting but not male wildlife harvest
 - 3 ☐ I restrict male wildlife hunting but not female wildlife harvest
 - 4 ☐ I restrict male and female wildlife harvest
 - 5 ☐ I do not restrict the number or type of wildlife harvested
 - 6 ☐ I do not make decisions about wildlife management

41. Which of the following best describes how current antlerless permit availability impacts your ability to manage deer on the land you own/operate? (Check only one box)

- XXXX
- 1 ☐ Current antlerless permit availability is appropriate and allows me to effectively manage deer on the land I own/operate.
 - 2 ☐ Current antlerless permit availability is too restrictive to allow me to effectively manage deer on the land I own/operate.
 - 3 ☐ Current antlerless permit availability is too liberal to allow me to effectively manage deer on the land I own/operate due to overharvest on neighboring properties.
 - 4 ☐ No opinion.

Section 6 - Attitudes Toward Wildlife

42. Would the operator prefer the number of wildlife (including deer) increase, decrease, or stay the same on the land operated in 2019?

- xxxx
- 1 ☐ Increase greatly
 2 ☐ Increase slightly
 3 ☐ Remain the same
 4 ☐ Decrease slightly
 4 ☐ Decrease greatly

43. How does the operator feel about having wildlife (including deer) on the land operated in 2019?

- xxxx
- 1 ☐ I enjoy having them around
 2 ☐ I enjoy wildlife, but their presence caused some problems at times
 3 ☐ I regard wildlife as a nuisance
 4 ☐ No opinion/don't know

44. Which of the following best describes how current wildlife (including deer) harvest regulations impact your ability to manage wildlife (including deer) on the land operated in 2019? (check only one box)

- xxxx
- 1 ☐ Current wildlife harvest regulations are appropriate and allow me to effectively manage wildlife on the land I operated.
 2 ☐ Current wildlife harvest regulations are too restrictive to allow me to effectively manage wildlife on the land I operated.
 3 ☐ Current wildlife harvest regulations are not restrictive enough to allow me to effectively manage wildlife on the land I operated due to overharvest on neighboring properties.
 4 ☐ No opinion/don't know

45. Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements:

		1	2	3	4	5	6
		Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither agree nor Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
Placement of feed and minerals unnaturally concentrates wildlife (including deer).	17 1	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Placement of feed and minerals is important to maintaining healthy wildlife (including deer) populations.	17 2	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Placement of feed and minerals can promote the spread of diseases like chronic wasting disease (CWD).	17 3	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

46. Did you provide feed for wildlife (including deer) in 2019?

- xxxx
- 1 ☐ Yes
 2 ☐ Don't know
 3 ☐ No

POUNDS

xxxx

a. Approximately how much feed did you provide in 2019?

47. Did you provide minerals for wildlife (including deer) in 2019?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Yes
 2 ☐ Don't know
 3 ☐ No

POUNDS

xxxx

a. Approximately how much minerals did you provide in 2019?.....

48. Regarding the wildlife (including deer) on and around the land you operated in 2019, how much of a problem is each of the following?

		1 Not a Problem	2 Somewhat of a Problem	3 A Great Problem	4 Don't know/ Not Applicable
Crop/property damage	181	☐	☐	☐	☐
Hunters who trespass	182	☐	☐	☐	☐
Dogs running wildlife (including deer)	183	☐	☐	☐	☐
Vehicle collisions with Wildlife (including deer)	184	☐	☐	☐	☐
Road hunting/spotlighting	185	☐	☐	☐	☐

49. Which level best describes the overall damage caused by wildlife (including deer) on the land you operated in 2019?

- xxxx 1 ☐ Insignificant (hardly noticeable)
 2 ☐ Present but acceptable
 3 ☐ Unacceptable
 4 ☐ No opinion/don't know

50. Which level describes the damage caused by wildlife (including deer) on your operation in 2019? (Check one box in each row)

SPECIES	None	Damage was insignificant	Damage was acceptable in exchange for having deer around	Damage was unacceptable	No opinion/Don't know
a. Deer.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
b. Turkeys.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
c. Resident Geese.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
d. Migrant Geese.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
e. Rabbits.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
f. Pheasants.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
g. Beaver.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
h. Coyotes.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
i. Raccoons.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
j. Bears.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
k. Groundhogs.....xxxx	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐
l. Other (specify:.....xxxx)	1 ☐	2 ☐	3 ☐	4 ☐	5 ☐

Section 7 - Conclusion

51. Please comment on crop conditions, weather, wildlife damage:

52. **Survey Results:** To receive the complete results of this survey on the release date go to
(http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/{State}/index.asp)

Would you rather have a brief summary mailed to you at a later date? ⁹⁹⁹⁰ ₁ ☐ Yes ₃ ☐ No

Respondent Name: _____

9911

Phone: () --

9910

MM

DD

YY

Date:

This completes the survey. Thank you for your help.

Response		Respondent		Mode		Enum.	Eval.	Change
1-Comp	9901	1-Op/Mgr	9902	1-Mail	9903	9998	9900	9985
2-R		2-Sp		2-Tel				
3-Inac		3-Acct/Bkpr		3-Face-to-Face				
4-Office Hold		4-Partner		4-CATI				
5-R – Est		9-Oth		5-Web				
6-Inac – Est				6-e-mail				
7-Off Hold – Est				7-Fax				
8-Known Zero				8-CAPI				
				19-Other				
S/E Name								

Office Use for POID			
9989			
_ _ _ _ - _ _ _ - _ _ _ _			
Optional Use			
9907	9908	9906	9916