



Special Interest Articles:

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President's Message by Jim Byrne



What a grand time to be in this industry. It is the beginning of spring with the prospects of green pastures, new calves about to drop and markets are up across the board. That in and of itself can make you smile and give thanks for the industry we are a part of.

Raising elk is a learning experience and no matter how long you've been at it there is more to learn and share. The people of this association and their willingness to help each other are an experience that goes unmatched. Need help? Just call and ask and you will have more insight, information and willingness to help than you will ever need to solve your problems.

We need to share this valuable experience and the friendships that go along with raising elk. We have to start getting more young farmers and ranchers involved with the industry. We need to let potential producers know that the elk industry is viable and has formed a community in which they can be successful. I believe that this industry is a rising entity and needs to be shared with enthusiasm.

I would like to give thanks to Mark Lucas for the time and service he has provided to this association over the last six years (four as association president). Your service has not only been inspiring but also a lot of fun.

A brief reminder concerning the newly proposed TB/Brucellosis rule that may be published by the end of the year. If you have not already read the notification sent out by our industry please take time to do so. This new federal rule will have a major impact on how we do business in the future. The public comment period for suggesting changes has been extended to May 16, 2016. NAEBA has sent out suggested talking points, they are located on Page 4 of this newsletter. We, as an association, believe that the greater the participation by producers, the more likely our input will be considered as valid concerns in this matter.



It's almost time...

MnEBA Goals & Objectives

The MnEBA Board will be sitting down later this month to set Goals and Objectives for the coming two years for MnEBA.

Do you have any suggestions?

Please contact any board member before April 15th! Their contact information is on the following page...

MnEBA News is a bimonthly publication of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association. It is mailed out on the first day of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Deadline for information, articles, and advertisements is the 15th of the preceding month.

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Brenda Hartkopf
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February 2016 Antler Market Update

By Ian Thorleifson and Bill Knutson, NAEBA Marketing Committee Co-Chairs

(As printed in the March 2016 NAEBA Newsletter)

Volatility has been the key word in global markets for the past many months. The unexpected and large-scale drop in petroleum prices has really rocked the foundations, along with a number of other factors. These earthquake-like events have unpredictable impacts on the global banking and financial management systems, resulting in impacts on availability of credit for many business ventures and ongoing operations. In the sphere of commodities, high-frequency trading, speculation and insider information have become favored tools for those with soft calluses from computer keys rather than the manure, dirt and diesel of real producers. Although our antler is not traded on the CME (maybe that's a good thing...) we are not immune to speculation. Dried antler is a relatively stable product that can be stored for long periods of time and sold when the time is right.

Having said all that, indications are that the market for North American antler should be about the same as last year – close to world prices. No buyers have made any commitment as yet, but they are actively buying in New Zealand and Australia right now, with very little product left to sell. Ranges for good quality Elk / Wapiti antler from those areas have been \$33 to \$37 USD per pound paid to the farmer (\$45 to \$50 CDN). Overgrown and damaged at \$24 to \$35 USD (\$33 to \$50 CDN), spiker and regrowth up to \$50 USD or \$70 CDN.

In Canada, some indications are that hard antler may be a tougher market this year than last, with prices averaging under \$10 CAD, but at least one buyer is paying a few dollars more per pound. In the United States, hard antler continues to sell well averaging between \$13-15 USD per pound in most cases. New Zealand hard antler has sold for a steady \$8 USD per pound.

Mark Your Calendars!

2016 MnEBA Summer Picnic Saturday, July 23, 2016

Lubinski Elk Acres – Greg & Roxy Lubinski
435 5th Avenue SW – Plainview, MN 55964

POT LUCK LUNCH BEGINS AT NOON

A Noon Potluck meal is being planned followed by a day of great visiting and the MnEBA summer membership meeting. There will also be lots of good discussion about seeding pastures.

Bring a dish to pass!

FURTHER DETAILS INCLUDING DIRECTIONS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE JUNE NEWSLETTER.

MnEBA

Mission Statement

The Minnesota Elk Breeders Association represents a unified voice that strengthens the Elk farming industry in Minnesota by creating awareness about Elk production and promotion and consumption of Elk products.

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2016

The MnEBA Board of Directors held a meeting February 6, 2016 at the home of Lance & Brenda Hartkopf. Mark Lucas, Brian Wagner, Wade Schimmelpfennig, Greg Lubinski, Mark Luedtke, Kraig Wurst and Brenda Hartkopf were present. Jim Byrne was absent. Lucas began the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Lucas asked for corrections to the December 17th board meeting minutes as presented. Wagner moved to approve, Schimmelpfennig seconded, motion carried. The treasurer's report was then reviewed and showed a balance of \$41,921.81. Schimmelpfennig moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented, Wagner seconded, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Hartkopf reported that 68 people attended this year's annual conference, up from an average of 50-60 over recent years. MnEBA has not yet received the final bill for food and beverage from the conference center so final financials for the conference will be presented at the next meeting.

Hartkopf reported there were a total of 739 calendars sold in the 2016 gun calendar raffle. Eleven calendars were lost by a total of 6 people. High sellers were Wade Schimmelpfennig/Heika Lewandowski selling 107 calendars, Brian Wagner selling 63 and Paul Hartkopf who sold 49 calendars. Eleven sellers received free memberships for selling 30 or more calendars and returning stubs and money to the MnEBA Office by December 31st.

Board discussed the proposed federal Brucellosis/TB Federal Rule. A meeting has been scheduled with Dr. Anderson to review the documents. Will also see what NAEBA and ACA have for comments then assemble a final list of comments for the MnEBA membership.

Discussed schedule for the upcoming Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Show. Several board members committed to shifts. Hartkopf to solicit help for remaining open times. Was decided to see if MnEBA can sell elk antler dog chews in the booth. Hartkopf to check with show officials.

Discussed progress on the membership drive calling campaign. Calls will continue to be made until all elk producers on the list are contacted. Discussed reaching out to South Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin associations about receiving the MnEBA newsletter. Lubinski moved to set the cost of a year's worth of newsletter mailings to other state associations at \$20 per mailing address, Schimmelpfennig seconded, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of officers was held. Wagner nominated Jim Byrne for President, Lubinski seconded, motion carried. Lucas

asked for a volunteer to serve as Vice President, Mark Luedtke volunteered, Wagner seconded, motion carried. Lucas asked for a volunteer to serve as Secretary/Treasurer, Brian Wagner volunteered to remain Secretary/Treasurer, Lubinski seconded, motion carried.

Discussed the 2017 gun calendar raffle. After much discussion, Wurst moved to keep the total number of calendars to 750, Lubinski seconded, motion carried. Board made recommendations on guns for the new list and will keep cash days at six until the gun list is received then reconsider. Will plan to do the same gun prize incentive that for every 10 stubs and money returned to the office by December 31st, your name will go in for a special gun drawing apart from the raffle. Will seek a sponsor to pay for the special incentive firearm.

Board discussed potential 2017 annual conference locations. Hartkopf to send out RFP to venues across the state to seek proposals to consider for the next board meeting.

Discussed potential locations for the 2016 MnEBA Summer Picnic. No one has yet stepped forward to host. Will keep seeking host farm for this event.

Discussed having MnEBA booth at the 2016 MN FFA Convention. Hartkopf to follow up.

Reviewed State Fair requirements to be included in the Blue Ribbon book during the State Fair. Was decided our margins were not high enough to participate in this. Also talked about offering velvet antler supplements for dogs as proposed by MnEBA member Bill Knutson. Lubinski to follow up with questions for Bill before a final decision is made.

Discussed the year 2017 as the 5 year anniversary of when MnEBA would normally conduct a new elk/farmed cervid survey. Wagner to reach out to the MN Deer Breeders to see if they have an interest in partnering in a new study with MnEBA. Target date for final release would be January 2017. Wagner to report back to board at next meeting.

Discussed updating the MnEBA Goals & Objectives document. Will schedule a face to face meeting for one of the Saturdays in April to update this document.

Set preliminary budget for 2016. Hartkopf to enter data into Quickbooks and send out budget draft for board consideration.

Wagner moved to adjourn, Lubinski seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary

Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

ACTION ALERT!

Hopefully by now everyone is aware of the proposed new federal rules regarding Tuberculosis and Brucellosis in cattle, bison and farmed cervids which was released on December 15, 2015. While the original comment period was to end on March 15, 2016, that date was extended to May 16, 2016.

While this document contains several items of concern, the biggest impact for Minnesota elk producers seems to be on the required whole herd brucellosis testing requirement to ship farmed cervids over state lines. Before this proposed rule was released, only 14 of the total 129 elk operations in Minnesota were Brucellosis certified. This proposed rule impacts almost every elk producer in the state! Many producers have decided to be proactive and have opted to conduct a whole herd brucellosis test to make sure movement can occur no matter the outcome of this proposed rule.

This does not mean, however, that you should just not comment. Even if you are already in position to meet the demands of the proposed rule, or are setting yourself up to be compliant for out of state movement, the principle of requiring such a mandate without the presence of the disease in farmed cervids is still something to be concerned about and to take time to comment about.

Please read below for other areas of concern as outlined by the North American Elk Breeders Association. Take the time to comment on one or several of the concerns outlined below. It's simple and will show USDA that the industry is serious about disease issues and being over-regulated.

NAEBA Is Requesting All Members Comment on the USDA Proposed TB & Brucellosis Rule

The North American Elk Breeders Association has identified several major concerns in the USDA's proposed TB and Brucellosis rule for cervids, cattle and bison. Though several species are included in this document, each species family will have its own set of rules. As currently written, NAEBA, along with other cervid industry associations, have deep concerns regarding several proposed changes. Having said that, NAEBA will be requesting several changes to be made in order to prevent major disruption in interstate commerce. It is important to remember that this rule applies only to interstate movement. Intrastate movement (within the state) will still be administered by your state regulatory agency. Until now, states have individually set guidelines for interstate movement, though this new federal rule will set minimum rules that states must comply with as the new law of the land.

The following concerns listed below have been identified by NAEBA and several other cervid industry leaders. The italicized language is actual proposed rule language with the industry comment below each one.

Whole Herd Brucellosis Testing Mandate

Proposed Language:

SUBPART C—INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF CAPTIVE CERVIDS

§ 76.16 *Interstate movement of captive cervids*

Except as provided in §§ 76.8 through 76.10, captive cervids may only be moved interstate in accordance with this section.

Captive cervids that originate directly from accredited herds. Captive cervids that originate directly from herds that are currently accredited for both brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis may be moved interstate if:

- (1) *The cervids are officially identified; and*
 - (2) *The cervids are accompanied by an ICVI with a statement that the cervids originate directly from herds that are currently accredited for both brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis.*
- (b) All other captive cervids. (1) Captive cervids destined for immediate slaughter. Captive cervids that are destined for immediate slaughter may be moved interstate, provided that:*
- (i) The cervids are officially identified; and*
 - (ii) The cervids are accompanied by an ICVI.*
- (2) Captive cervids not destined for immediate slaughter. (i) General conditions. Captive cervids that are not destined for immediate slaughter may be moved interstate provided that:*

(A) *The cervids originate from a herd that was subjected to a herd test using an official test for brucellosis and an official test for bovine tuberculosis no more than 1 year and no less than 120 days prior to movement, with negative results; and*

(B) *The cervids are additionally tested for brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis using an individual official test no more than 60 days prior to movement, with negative results; and...*

NAEBA Comment: The proposed language that states, “*The cervids originate from a herd that was subjected to a herd test using an official test for brucellosis and an official test for bovine tuberculosis no more than 1 year and no less than 120 days prior to movement, with negative results;*” is a mandate for whole herd Brucellosis testing in order to move animals out of state. Less than 2% of the elk industry is Brucellosis certified, which as proposed, would force them to perform whole herd testing. If this proposed language becomes law, 98% of elk ranches would not be able to move their animals interstate, causing economic loss to the producer and buyer. This means trophy ranches would not be able to purchase bulls they need to fulfill hunts this fall. The sales of these animals would not be able to occur under the proposed language causing thousands of dollars of economic loss to each ranch. NAEBA estimates this requirement to have an economic impact in the millions of dollars.

NAEBA Comment: In addition to the whole herd TB and Brucellosis testing mandates, the next sentence requires an additional second test on animals moving interstate. “*(B) The cervids are additionally tested for brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis using an individual official test no more than 60 days prior to movement, with negative results;*” For some reason the USDA is asking that every animal in a herd be tested for TB and Brucellosis 120 days prior to movement and then each animal moving interstate needs a second test within 60 days. This is an unnecessary requirement that will increase operational costs, stress and possible injury to the animals.

NAEBA Comment: NAEBA’s suggestion is to delete the whole herd testing mandates for non-certified herds and leave the following proposed language. “*(B) The cervids are additionally tested for brucellosis and bovine tuberculosis using an individual official test no more than 60 days prior to movement, with negative results;*” 60 days is reasonable for elk producers to test only the animals moving interstate. Each animal will have to test negative so there is no risk. This should be sufficient to protect biosecurity and not create unneeded hardship to producers and animals.

Economic Impact Concerns

Proposed Language:

Page 17- III. *Costs and Benefits: Economic effects of the proposed rule are not expected to be significant.*

NAEBA Comment: NAEBA estimates the economic impact to be in the millions of dollars because of the direct mandate of whole herd brucellosis testing as proposed Section 76.16. Less than 2% of elk herds are brucellosis certified and it will be very easy to prove the economic loss from these proposed rules on elk producers across the United States. This is an increase of regulation for 98% of the elk industry.

Proposed Language:

Page 18-19. *This rule will also impose testing requirements for brucellosis for captive cervids moved interstate for any purpose other than immediate slaughter. We do not currently have information regarding the number of captive cervids moved interstate. However, based on the number of deer farms within the United States, industry estimates that between 5 and 10 percent of captive cervids within the United States are moved interstate annually, and brucellosis testing costs, we estimate the total annual testing costs would range between about \$124,000 and \$382,000.*

NAEBA Comment: This testing cost estimate by USDA APHIS is very low and out of touch with the elk industry. Less than 2% of elk ranches are Brucellosis certified. Now, under the proposed language in Section 76.16, anyone moving elk interstate would have to complete a whole herd test 120 days prior to movement. This is a new cost that otherwise would not be incurred. Testing for Brucellosis costs on average \$20 per animal, plus veterinarian time on average of \$90 an hour, plus stress of testing and handling animals. For a ranch with 150 animals, the testing cost for just one year would be \$3,000 plus \$700 equates to a \$3,700 impact to just one elk farmer. This is just one example that shows the inaccuracy of the USDA’s estimate. Additionally, this estimate relates to the entire cervid industry.

Proposed Language:

Page 149 ...*the Administrator has determined that this proposed rule, if promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.*

NAEBA Comment: NAEBA estimates the economic impact of this rule as currently drafted would be several millions in 2016 alone.

Cervid Surveillance Issues**Proposed Language:**

Page 102. *We currently do not regulate captive cervids for brucellosis. Because captive cervids are not regulated for brucellosis, testing of the animals for brucellosis prior to interstate movement is currently limited.*

NAEBA Comment: Even though USDA does not currently regulate cervids for brucellosis, every state, except for Minnesota, requires a negative Brucellosis test on animals before importation. In forty years (or more) there has never been a case of brucellosis in farmed cervids outside the Greater Yellowstone Area.

NAEBA Comment: We request farmed elk, as a species, be given Brucellosis free status due to the amount of surveillance in the past 10 years or more. There is no data to show farmed elk have had Brucellosis outside the Greater Yellowstone area in the last 40 years.

Proposed Language:

Page 102. *There is, however, no routine slaughter inspection of or surveillance activities for captive cervids. Moreover, many captive cervids that are slaughtered for meat purposes are slaughtered at custom slaughter establishments that are not under Federal or State oversight.*

NAEBA Comment: This is a complete false statement that ignores an everyday practice of the cervid industry. Anyone who sells venison/elk meat has to have it state or federally inspected in order to legally sell their product.

Proposed Language:

Page 102. *Additionally, in recent years, wild elk populations in the GYA have been determined to be infected with brucellosis. For these reasons, we believe it would be prudent to regulate the interstate movement of captive cervids for brucellosis at least until such time as we have greater knowledge of the prevalence for the disease in the domestic captive cervid population within the United States.*

MnEBA Comment: USDA contends there is not enough surveillance occurring in farmed cervids and that we need whole herd testing to ensure the absence of the disease. In 2015, Minnesota alone tested 1,821 farmed cervids for brucellosis, out of a total farmed cervid population of 10,262. Every one of these animals were negative. A total of 1,534 Minnesota farmed cervids tested negative for brucellosis in 2014 and 1,490 tested negative in 2013. These are statistically significant numbers which should not be overlooked.

PLEASE COMMENT BY MAY 16TH!

You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

Federal Rulemaking Portal: Go to: <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2011-0044>.

Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2011-0044, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA Driven to DiscoverSM

University of Minnesota Small Ruminant/Camelid Club Makes Annual Visit to Elk Farm

Members of the University of Minnesota Small Ruminant/Camelid Club (SRCC) recently organized a field trip to visit a Minnesota elk farm. Because of proximity to the campus, they requested to visit the farm of Lance & Brenda Hartkopf in Howard Lake. This group is comprised of veterinary students who have a special interest in small ruminants, camelids and cervids. They collectively participate in various field trips, conventions and presentations providing exposure to their areas of interest to provide students opportunities to increase their knowledge of the husbandry and medical care of these species of animals.

While the day was blustery and cold, this group had great questions and came away having learned a lot about elk farming! They were genuinely interested in learning all they could about elk!

Here are their comments in a thank you card to the association a few days later:

Dear Lance & Brenda,

"Thank you so much for sharing your time and your knowledge with us, and for letting us visit your farm. We greatly enjoyed the chance to learn about elk and their management. Hopefully we can return next year for another visit!"

Karen Plass, SRCC Cervid Chair

"Thank you for letting us visit your farm and for answering all of our questions so well!!"

Melissa

"Thanks for your time and patience. We saw your love and care for the elk. Thanks for getting us involved!"

Meng & Zhen



Karen, Meng, Zhen & Melissa enjoyed seeing and holding elk antler. They were amazed by the size and that they shed their antler each spring and grow a larger set every year.

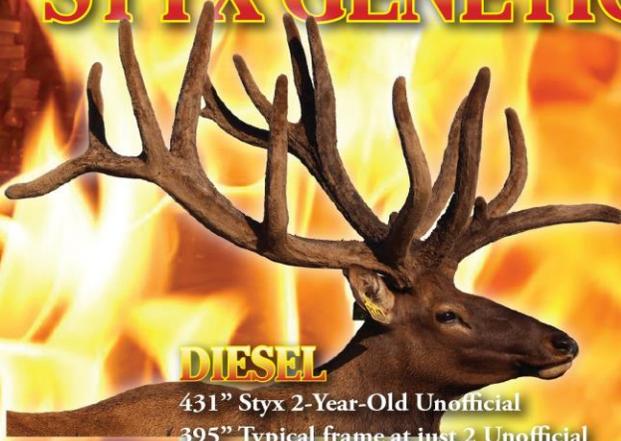


Karen seeing how much the antler weighs.



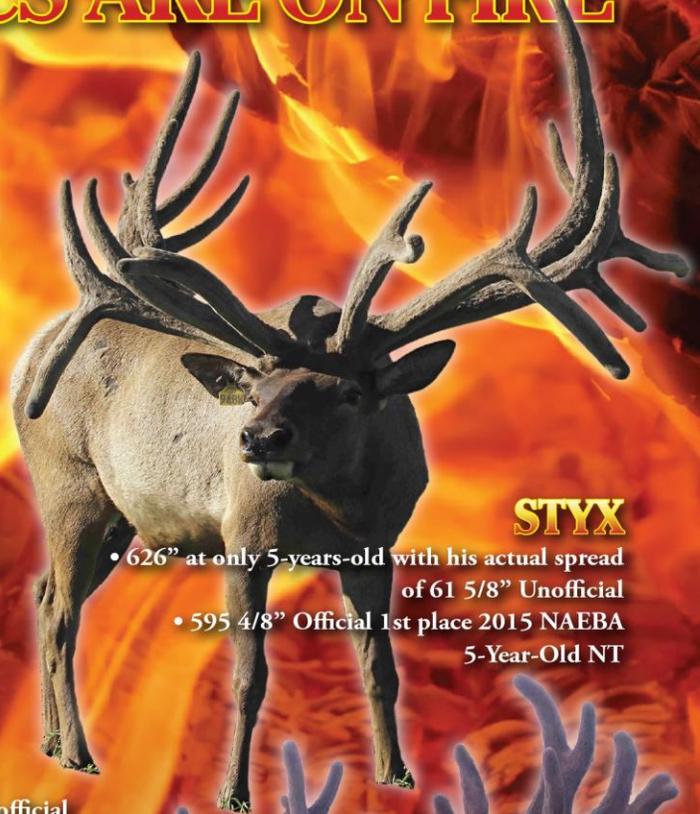
Meng had a particular interest in antlers as he was familiar with velvet antler usage from his home country of China.

STYX GENETICS ARE ON FIRE



DIESEL

431" Styx 2-Year-Old Unofficial
395" Typical frame at just 2 Unofficial



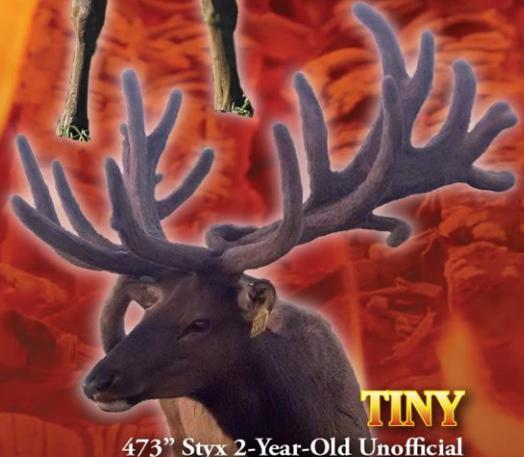
STYX

• 626" at only 5-years-old with his actual spread of 61 5/8" Unofficial
• 595 4/8" Official 1st place 2015 NAEBA 5-Year-Old NT



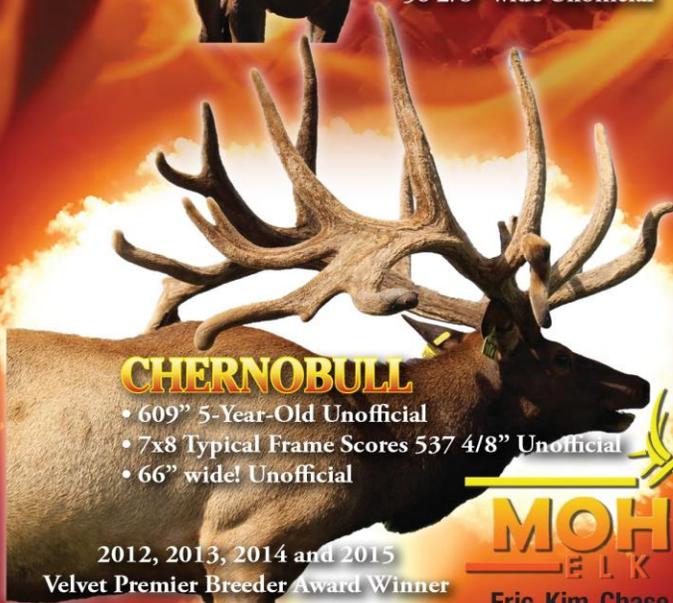
STRYKER

550" Styx 3-Year-Old Unofficial
56 2/8" wide Unofficial



TINY

473" Styx 2-Year-Old Unofficial
Special thanks to Herb Fritch of Two Feathers Elk & Bison for his purchase of Tiny. Make semen inquiries to Mohlman Elk Farm who retains 1/2 semen rights.



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• 66" wide! Unofficial

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Board Blog by Kraig Wurst, Director



Hi all,

I hope spring is going well for everyone. The first couple months of being on the board have been very educational and fun. I was able to work the booth the first day at the Outdoor News show in February and was very pleased with the crowd and the interest in Elk farming. The crowd was a lot bigger than the last few shows I worked at, and there were more serious inquiries than I had seen before.

March has been pretty exciting for our family also. We had our 3rd child, Vienna Pearl on the 7th. I had forgotten how much work a new baby is. Luckily I have a good wife and the baby has been a ton of fun. On a side note, any thoughts I ever had on bottle feeding an elk calf have been squashed.

This time of year is also busy with the elk. I just ran the elk through the chute to get them tested for Brucellosis, I wanted to get them tested before the bulls start growing out their velvet. I got great help from Greg Lubinski and a couple days later we both went to Jim Byrne's to help him with his Brucellosis tests. It makes things a lot easier to have experienced help for those big jobs. That's one of the great things about our business compared to others, I haven't met an elk farmer yet that wasn't willing to help or share information. Just a quick reminder while I am talking about Brucellosis tests, even though the comment period has been pushed back, make sure to write in and let them know what you think of the proposed standards, and if you plan on shipping any elk out of state this fall it's time to get that first test done.

I also ran my elk through to worm, vaccinate, and give them copper boluses for the first time. That was a learning experience! I realized I swear a lot more when I am working elk than in normal life, I will have to work on that before the kids get old enough to help me. I bought my copper boluses online at scahealth.com, they were the cheapest that I found, and arrived in short order. I have also been using Ivomec Long Range for worming and have been quite happy. It costs between \$10 for calves to \$20 for bulls per year, it's a little expensive but it's only two shots a year and eliminated my worm problems completely.

I took advantage of a couple nice days and overseeded some pastures with red clover. I always like to overseed some type of legume to get a higher protein content and get some free nitrogen in the ground. Figuring out the right pasture mix seems like a never ending challenge. A great guy to talk to about that is Greg Lubinski. He has experimented with quite a few different mixes and has some good knowledge on the subject. On the other hand if you want to grow some thistles, I'm the man to talk to!

To end I would like to wish everybody the best of luck with their velvet and calves this spring, and that I have really enjoyed being on the board the first couple of months. Please feel free to contact me at kraig.wurst@gmail.com or at (507) 273-6174.

FFA Foundation Blue Jacket Thank You's

In the February newsletter, MnEBA printed thank you's from two of the four recipients of an FFA blue jacket sponsored by MnEBA partially funded through a generous donation by Greg & Roxy Lubinski.

One more thank you was received in to the MnEBA office shortly after the newsletter went to print.



Congratulations to the Wurst family on their new addition – Vienna Pearl born March 7th.

Dear MnEBA,

Thank you so much for the generous gift of my FFA Jacket! I am very grateful.

*Colton Rau
Staples-Motley FFA
Staples, MN*



The Minnesota Elk Breeders Association is one of many organizations and individuals who contribute to the national Public Relations Campaign organized by the American Cervid Alliance. Here is a recent example of this program at work. This highly successful campaign is just finishing its second year!

Letter: Don't Overhype Impact of Chronic Wasting Disease

Dispatch Argus – Letters
February 18, 2016

Let's not overhype Chronic Wasting Disease ("CWD: A threat to deer," Feb.9). While CWD has been spread over time by the movement of free-ranging deer, the disease hasn't been shown to affect deer populations.

Researchers in Wisconsin and Colorado have come to this conclusion after study, and it's likely due to the fact that CWD has such a long incubation period that even if a deer has it, the animal will often die of something else first. Researchers in Wyoming have also predicted that, over time, genetic shifts will occur in elk or deer populations that reduce the effects of CWD. And lastly, CWD does not affect humans.

The state DNR says it has a surveillance program and hopes to buy time until a vaccine can be developed. The agency shouldn't be standing by. It should be helping fund research efforts to develop a vaccine. It's one thing to try to keep track of where the disease is; it's another to work on fighting it.

Charly Seale
Media Review Committee Chairman
American Cervid Alliance

*Spring Coulee
Velvet Capsules*



Bill & Karen Knutson
Home of Spring Coulee Elk

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MnEBA Kitchen

Feeling adventurous? Here's a recipe from the Taste of the Wild section of Outdoor News by chef John Ramage. Chef Ramage says this recipe evolved from the most-requested item on his catering menu!

Wild Game Rigatoni Ala Vodka

2 lbs. ground elk	5 sprigs fresh basil chopped, or 1 tsp. dried basil
1 lb. bacon, cut in small strips	1 cup vodka
1 medium onion, diced	1½ quarts heavy or light cream
3 cloves garlic, chopped	1 cup grated Pecorino Romano cheese
2 – 28 oz. cans crushed tomatoes	2 lbs. rigatoni or pasta of choice
2 bay leaves	Salt and fresh-cracked pepper to taste



In a 4-quart saucepan, sauté bacon until slightly brown. Add onions and garlic, sauté until translucent. Add meat and bay leaves and cook until meat is cooked through. Add vodka and crushed tomatoes; simmer on medium heat for 30 minutes. Add heavy cream, bring to a boil, and then simmer for 20 minutes. Remove bay leaves. Add cheese. Season taste. Add chopped basil. Serve over rigatoni, penne, ziti or ravioli pasta.

Have a delicious elk recipe to share?

Please send it to the MnEBA office to be included in the next newsletter!

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In The News

First Batch of Target Tests Reveal 19 Additional CWD-Positive Cervids

Arkansas Game & Fish – www.agfc.com

March 24, 2016

LITTLE ROCK - Bad news continues to roll in from north Arkansas amid the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's efforts to find the prevalence rate of chronic wasting disease in the area where the disease initially was detected. Results from last week's tests revealed an additional 18 deer and a single elk with the disease.

Last week tissue samples from 49 deer and elk taken in and around the 125,000-acre focal area were sent to the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Madison for testing. Out of 18

positive deer samples, four were found just outside of the AGFC's focal area. Those deer were either found dead or were killed by vehicles. The single cow elk was taken from the Boxley Valley area of Newton County.

Arkansas now has 22 CWD positive samples from the state's deer and elk. Before today's lab results, two deer and an elk had tested positive for the fatal disease. All three of those initially tested cervids came from within Newton County. Today's test results included 17 positive samples from Newton County

and two deer from Boone County.

The first animal in Arkansas confirmed to have CWD was a 2½ year old female elk. The elk was killed by a hunter October 6 on the Buffalo National River near Pruitt during elk season. The disease was confirmed on February 23.

As of today, more than 260 deer and 18 elk have been taken for sampling. Another large batch of samples is currently at the Wisconsin lab with results expected late next week.

Pence Signs Captive Hunting Bill

Niki Kelly | *The Journal Gazette*

March 22, 2016

INDIANAPOLIS - Indiana's captive hunting industry is officially legal and on the books after Gov. Mike Pence signed legislation into law Tuesday.

Senate Bill 109 codifies the controversial practice of hunting farm-raised deer for money behind high fences following a court ruling in its favor last year. It is effective immediately.

There are currently seven captive facilities - located in Harrison, Marshall, Kosciusko, Blackford, Whitley, Miami and Decatur counties.

The bill is the culmination of a 10-year legal battle waged over these hunting grounds, ending when the Indiana Court of Appeals ruled last year that the

Department of Natural Resources didn't have statutory authority to regulate privately owned deer. The Indiana Supreme Court allowed the decision to stand in June, which left the practice unregulated.

Lawmakers could have banned the practice altogether but chose instead to impose modest rules on the industry.

The new law transfers all authority regulating hunting preserves to the Board of Animal Health - even the hunting aspects of the industry. Many wildlife and hunting groups opposed the bill, which treats farm-raised deer as livestock.

Also under the law, new captive hunting entities must be at least

100 acres. Those grandfathered can be 80 acres. There is no language on how many animals per acre are permitted. Fences must be at least 8 feet high.

Hunting is allowed between Sept. 1 and March 1, and there is no limit on the number of deer that can be taken.

An animal that has been sedated can't be hunted for at least 24 hours. And hunting cannot occur within 150 yards of an artificial feeding site. Computer-assisted hunting - through the use of drones, for example - is also prohibited.

<http://www.journalgazette.net/news/local/indiana/Pence-signs-captive-hunting-bill-12178783>

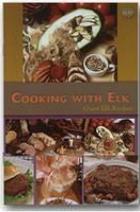
MnEBA Promotional Materials

The following items are available for promotional purposes. To see the full line of MnEBA promotional offerings, check out www.mneba.org and click on the "Promo Materials" button.

You can order online and pay by credit card or print off an order form and mail it to the MnEBA office along with a personal check. Contact info@mneba.org or call the MnEBA office at (320) 543-2686 with further questions.

MEAT PROMOTIONS

Elk Meat Poster 11" x 17" laminated poster in full color featuring elk burger and steak. Can personalize free of charge, no minimum order. \$5/each.



"ELK, Meat for a Healthy Life" Brochure 50 ct., \$10/each

3rd Edition "Cooking With Elk" Cookbook

1-9 copies, \$2.00/each; 10-99 copies, \$1.50/each; 100+ copies, \$1.00/each (*pictured*)

Table Tents feature a juicy elk burger, a MUST HAVE for restaurants selling elk burgers. Sold in packs of 20 for \$5.

VELVET PROMOTIONS



Velvet Antler for People Brochures is an updated, general velvet antler brochure. \$12.50/pack of 50 (*pictured*)

Velvet Antler for Pet Brochures is a first of its kind general info brochure about velvet antler & pets. \$12.50/pack of 50

Velvet Antler Brochures is a general velvet antler brochure produced by NAEBA. \$.30 each

GENERAL INFORMATION



Elk Info Brochure with general elk health and market info. FREE to MnEBA members up to 100 copies. \$.50 each to non-members. (*pictured*)

Raise the Legend Book, a general info booklet specifically created for the new breeder or those contemplating raising elk. Up to five copies FREE to MnEBA members!

Elk, America's Greatest Animal – Minnesota Elk DVD (NEWLY REVISED!) A DVD promoting all elk markets, with special emphasis on promoting Minnesota grown elk. Great tool for speaking to civic groups and classrooms. \$5 each.

HOME DÉCOR



Price includes shipping & handling.

Elk Trashcan (*pictured*) \$25 each

Elk Rug (Small) \$27.50 each

Elk Rug (Large) \$40 each

MNELK / MINNESOTA GROWN BOX

For meat sales or any other Minnesota grown elk products which can be boxed up. Box size 17"x10"x8.25". Designed to hold 30 lbs.

\$1 each



CWD Live Test Symposium Held in Texas

By Laurie Seale

The Texas Parks & Wildlife and the Texas Animal Health Commission recently held a CWD ante-mortem (live) testing symposium at the Texas Disposal Systems Events Pavilion in Austin, Texas. We sincerely appreciate the Jim Gregory family for supplying the venue for this very important meeting with researchers, regulators and the cervid industry. The meeting was also broadcast on the web for those who could not attend. NAEBA was one of the financial sponsors that provided the web live streaming and will retain a copy of the meeting.

Dr. Mike Miller, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, was the first researcher to present information that morning in regards to the detection of prions in deer and elk via tonsil or rectal mucosa biopsies. Dr. Miller has been researching CWD for a very long time. He made an interesting statement that I think is worth repeating. He stated that the research facility in Colorado is very infectious and any deer they bring onto that facility eventually dies from CWD, but the elk they have brought in to that same facility never develop CWD. I find that very noteworthy because the research facility at Wyoming has had very different results. Anytime the Wyoming facility brings in elk, they all eventually contract CWD and die, with the exception of one LL elk that has been alive for more than 10 years and continues to test negative for CWD with ante-mortem tests. Why would elk not contract CWD at the Colorado facility? This factor really presents more questions than answers.

Dr. Nathan Shotts, Verge Group, gave a great presentation on using the retropharyngeal lymph node as an ante-mortem CWD test. The Verge Group has been conducting surgery on live deer, removing part of the retropharyngeal lymph node and submitting it as an ante-mortem test. The retropharyngeal lymph node is already an approved tissue for determining CWD post mortem (dead). The Verge Group presented data on the removal of lymph nodes from ten whitetail deer prior to the depopulation of a Wisconsin herd in November 2015. The Verge Group's lymph node submissions matched USDA's post mortem test results exactly on all ten animals. Of the ten animals, three were found to be positive for CWD. Two of the three animals were positive in the lymph node and brain stem, while the third deer tested positive in the lymph node only. With the Verge Group getting all ten of the animals listed correctly as positive or "not detected", I believe it will only be a matter of time before this procedure is approved as an ante-mortem test for CWD in deer. While not a perfect test for

CWD because of the delicate surgery involved and the cost to perform the surgery, at least it will offer the cervid industry an option for the very valuable animals caught up in trace outs rather than killing them to find out if they are positive or "not detected" for CWD. As a side note, the Verge procedure is not a likely option for elk. In deer, the retropharyngeal lymph nodes tend to test positive for CWD in the early stages of the disease and then the disease advances to the brain, but in elk the disease doesn't always show up in the lymph nodes first like it does in deer.

Dr. Nicholas Haley, Midwestern University, presented similar data to Dr. Miller's on the rectal biopsy ante-mortem test and the importance of knowing the genotype of any deer or elk in order to evaluate the sensitivity of any ante-mortem test whether it is rectal biopsies, tonsil biopsies, or retropharyngeal lymph nodes. The most susceptible genotypes to CWD are the GG deer and MM elk. These genotypes more than likely will test positive in the various tissues within 12 months of infection. The GS deer and the ML elk are in the middle of the road for CWD resistance. These genotypes will most likely test positive in the various tissues within 24 months after infection. The SS deer and the LL elk are the most resistant to CWD and the rarest of all the different genotypes. Dr. Haley has recently engaged in two Elk Research Council projects that will help to validate an ante mortem CWD test.

In the study at the Colorado research facility, presented by Dr. Miller, it took some of the SS deer 6 years from the time of inoculation before they died. Some of the SS deer died from EHD during the research project which hindered the project to some degree. This statement by Dr. Miller reminded me of a presentation made by Dr. Terry Kreeger at a USAHA conference in 2012. Dr. Kreeger stated that CWD infected elk will die of other causes such as a bullet or a predator before they will die from CWD. Dr. Kreeger claimed that CWD does not pose a serious threat to elk and if left to Mother Nature, the more resistant animals will likely thrive and eventually the elk herd in Wyoming would be more resistant to CWD.

Dr. Tracy Nichols, USDA/APHIS researcher, gave an overview of all the various ante-mortem tests including the blood test research that is being conducted. Iowa State University has had some early success with a small number of CWD blood samples. However, many more blood samples, with accurate results, will be necessary in

order to successfully validate the initial success of their research findings. Dr. Nichols is also collaborating with the University of Texas Health Center in their studies to develop a blood test for the detection of prions.

Dr. Randy Pritchard, USDA/APHIS, followed up with the regulatory aspect of approving an ante-mortem test for detecting CWD. I personally was hoping the process to approve the Verge test using the retropharyngeal lymph nodes would be further along in the validation process but that wasn't the case. We all know how slow the regulatory side of USDA works so it may be some time before that validation takes place, but I do believe it will happen eventually.

Dr. Pritchard also mentioned the pilot projects that will be conducted, using the rectal biopsy as a screening tool, for the herds that are caught up in trace outs from an Ohio herd that was depopulated for CWD. We can only hope for good results so that USDA will validate that test as well. We need these tests in order to prevent unnecessary, long quarantines for herds/animals that get caught up in trace outs and to prevent the killing of healthy animals to prove they are non-detected for CWD. We need an ante-mortem test that is accurate with a high degree of sensitivity and specificity. Sensitivity is the correct identification of a true positive and specificity is the correct identification of a true negative. We truly cannot afford a test that results in false positives because then we are back to killing healthy animals.

One point the presenters kept stressing is that none of these tests are a "one and done" test. I can agree with that statement when there is a short duration from the time when the exposed animal(s) left the property, but I disagree when a long time frame is involved and in my opinion it does not warrant two or more tests (unless the genotypes are the more resistant SS and LL). As an example, let's say someone sells an animal to another breeder and three or four years later that particular animal tests positive for CWD. That herd is now caught in a five year trace out because they could be the source of the infection. The science presented during this symposium shows that all of the different genotypes, with the exception of the SS deer and the LL elk, would test positive in the various tissues within two years after infection. So if that possible source herd completes one whole herd test and none of the animals test positive, that herd should be eliminated as a possible source of the infection because of the length of time since the positive animal left the property. USDA's response was that it would also depend upon the records of the herd; such as how many post mortem tests had been done and how

many animals had transferred in and out of the herd since that time and if those animals were tested for CWD when they died or were killed. That is one reason why it is so important to stress to other breeders how important it is to test an animal that was purchased from someone else. If you miss a test on an animal that eventually leads back to a trace out from another farm, it could cause your herd to be caught in a trace out with no way to test out because the animal is no longer available.

The final portion of the symposium was a panel discussion where we were able to ask questions of all the presenters. Charly Seale used Dr. Mike Miller's testimony from the Brakke hearing in Iowa to get Dr. Miller to state for the record that CWD has not had a significant detrimental effect on a statewide population of deer or elk in the wild.

There was an interesting question asked that has multiple pros and cons; is it more beneficial to breed for less resistant CWD genotypes or the more resistant? The answer to that question is not an easy one. If I were a hunting ranch not moving live animals, I would breed for the more resistant genotypes because they most likely would be killed before they would test positive for CWD. But speaking from a breeder's stand point, the more resistant genotypes will warrant longer quarantines if you are ever unfortunate enough to get caught up in a trace out. It's a double edged sword.

I was the last person of the day to be able to ask a question, so I chose to close with the following comments.

- Any regulator's job is to minimize the risk of disease, not eliminate it completely and when it comes to CWD most regulators tend to have zero risk tolerance – this needs to change.
- Give us the tools to get us out of quarantines; we are real people with real bills to pay.
- Because of the lack of funding to successfully run the program, we need options other than depopulation of animals and herds.
- State vets that have dealt with CWD for a long time such as Colorado and Wisconsin are allowing the animals to be depopulated through hunting, thereby saving tax payers' money.
- Predators play a huge role in the decline of a wild population, unlike CWD.
- CWD found in the wild is not the end of the world and has never had a significant detrimental effect on any wild population; per Dr. Miller's statement and testimony in public record.

Welcome New Members

Peoples State Bank of Plainview

100 4th Avenue SE, Plainview, MN 55964
 (507) 534-3137 (Work), (507) 534-3882 (Fax)
 bklavetter@peoplesstatebank.com

Joke of the Day

A man went to his lawyer and told him, "My neighbor owes me \$500 and he won't pay up. What should I do?"

"Do you have any proof he owes you the money?" asked the lawyer. "Nope," replied the man. "OK, then write him a letter asking him for the \$5,000 he owed you," said the lawyer. "But it's only \$500," replied the man. "Precisely. That's what he will reply and then you'll have your proof!"

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Thank you for your support!

Inserts to this Newsletter Mailing

2016 MnEBA Membership Directory

The new directory is now available. Please let the office know if you need additional copies. While every attempt is made to keep membership information updated, please let the office know if there should be any changes or updates made to your listing.

2016 MnEBA Scholarship

If you have a college age young adult in your family, make sure to check out the MnEBA Scholarship. TWO scholarships will be given out once again this year, each worth \$350. The scholarships are being made available to sons/daughters or grandsons/granddaughters of any active/lifetime MnEBA member who is pursuing a post-secondary degree in the Fall of 2016. An agriculture-related field of study is preferred, but not limited to. For further details, see the insert in this mailing, or if you receive your newsletter online, see the insert included with your 2016 Membership Directory mailing. Deadline to apply is **May 15th**! There will be no extension of this deadline.

2017 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar Sponsorship

This will be the eighth year of MnEBA's Gun Raffle Calendar which has become hugely popular thanks to great members who have stepped up to sponsor calendar ads and sell calendars. This past year, we sold out of every calendar we had! Members are saying that more and more people are asking THEM for calendars, it's become a buying tradition! Sales for the new 2017 calendars will be conducted beginning this coming July and will conclude at the MnEBA Annual Conference next January.

MnEBA is now looking for members to sponsor a month in the calendar. Sponsorship applications are included as an insert to this mailing. All that's needed is a picture from your farm, a business card (or business card info) and payment. This is a great way to advertise what is special about your farm. A nice bull or a unique photo you captured of your animals can be viewed by hundreds of people for an entire calendar month! If you're wanting to sponsor a calendar month, be sure to forward payment as soon as possible to secure a spot. The deadline to sponsor an ad is **May 15th**.

EXTRA SPONSOR NEEDED! MnEBA is looking for a sponsor for the gun which will be raffled off to those who sell 10 calendars or more and return stubs and money to the office by December 31st. Please contact the office if this is something you'd be willing to do!

Vet Corner by Dr. Glen Zebarth

Keep Checking Copper Levels in Your Elk

One of the biggest problems I've been running into lately is finding low copper levels in elk. Even though feed and commercial elk supplements contain copper, it's still tough to reach the levels elk really need through free choice feed.

Low copper levels are still one of the biggest contributors to causing elk to be more susceptible to other health problems. One of the most common problems during calving season is that calves are more likely to get the scours when copper levels are low in their mothers.

Signs of copper deficiency are a rough and/or very light colored hair coat. Although in the spring, all the coats are rough looking so it's very hard to tell. The best way to test your elk's copper levels are through checking the copper levels in the livers after slaughter.

It's often times difficult to find copper boluses, and if you can't find them, it's important to keep looking. Copper boluses will help keep your animals from hitting rock bottom with copper deficiency, but often times they will still not bring the animals to the level they should be at. Bruce Friedel says elk should be receiving 330 mg per head per day of copper. The general recommended dosage is 260 mg per head per day. If using chelated copper, can use less.

The most successful way to supplement with copper is to force feed copper sulfate by mixing it into their feed. Check with your nutritionist on the best way to do this.

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wedocows!

Committee Reports

Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Show

Thank You to All Booth Workers!



By all accounts, the Outdoor News Deer & Turkey Show on February 26-28 was a great success, both for Outdoor News and for the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association. Booth workers reported more interest from people looking into raising elk than they have had in a long time!

Many thanks to the following individuals for helping man the booth: Greg Lubinski (two days), Kraig Wurst, Jim Byrne, Pat Prodzinski, Mark Lucas and Lance & Brenda Hartkopf. Your promotion of the association and industry was greatly appreciated!

MnEBA COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Annual Conference	Rita Prodzinski (507) 452-1282
Fundraising	Brenda Hartkopf (320) 543-2686
Government Relations	Jim Byrne (507) 358-6505
Health	OPEN
Scholarship	Kaye Zebarth (320) 834-4064
State Fair	Greg & Roxy Lubinski (507) 534-3247 Paul Hueg (612) 791-0443

NAEBA Animal & DNA Registration Rule Changes



The North American Elk Breeders Association has approved several changes to its animal registration rulebook, effective immediately. Most of the changes were technical in nature, however, there are two noteworthy changes to review. The changes were approved to increase the integrity of the breed registry. The North American Elk Breeder Association has the only elk breed registry in the western hemisphere.

The most important change to note is the pedigree registration requirements in the Silver Registration level. **Effective January 1, 2016, any animals born in 2016 and thereafter, to be eligible for SILVER level registry, must be blood tested positive for purity or have State/Province Pure Herd Status. Previous SILVER Level registrations will be grandfathered into the program.**

This means animals can no longer be Silver registered by pedigree registration without DNA matching to both sire and dam. This change will not impact any animal that is alive before the 2016 calving season.

It is important to note, NAEBA Gold and NAEBA Silver levels are the only levels that mean the animals are proven to be pure. Purity can be proven by one of three ways: the animal can be DNA matched to two pure parents, which will receive a Gold Level. Or, the animal can be simply blood tested for purity to receive a Silver level. The third way is if the animal is born in a certified pure state or province, which would also be a Silver Level.

If an animal has DNA on file but not proven to be pure with one of the three methods previously mentioned, it can be eligible for Bronze level.

If members want to list their animals in the system with a pedigree but without DNA on file, the animal can be inventoried for \$5.

There is great value in NAEBA's breed registry and all these rules will be followed with no exceptions.

For the purpose of record keeping, the second change is adding a separate category in the registry for known hybrids. Elk can crossbreed with Red Deer and Sika Deer and these offspring are not eligible for NAEBA Gold, Silver and Bronze Levels. Any known hybrids would have the option of being registered at a HYBRID LEVEL. This is for the purpose of keeping the animal's information on file, including purity and DNA information.

HYBRID level requirements:

- a. DNA profiled
- b. Purity test case number on file
- c. Identified with 2 forms of identification; the visible dangle tag and the 2nd form of ID can be a microchip, a tattoo, the NAEBA tag or a State/Province required tag number.

In Memory



Sharon Kay Olson was born on born July 12, 1952, in Trimont, Minnesota to Cecil and Maxine (Perkins) Walters. She was baptized at the Alpha Presbyterian Church in Alpha, Minnesota. Her family moved from the farm to Welcome, Minnesota, in 1958. She was confirmed in 1966 at the St.

Paul's United Church of Christ in Welcome. She graduated from Welcome High School in 1970. She worked for PERA in St. Paul after high school and then moved back to Welcome in 1971 where she worked for Railway Motors.

On November 21, 1970, Sharon was joined in marriage to Donovan J. Olson in Welcome. They lived in Welcome until they moved to Windom in 1976 where Sharon worked for STI as a bookkeeper. In 1980, Sharon and Don bought one truck and started Fortune Transportation where she worked until entering Hospice Care in January of 2016.

Sharon became a member of the First United Methodist Church in Windom in 1976 where she was a member of various committees. Sharon was an involved parent with her children's activities; she was a member of the Windom PEO, Windom Country

Club, and Minnesota and American Trucking Associations. She enjoyed spending time at her home in Mesa, AZ, traveling, watching the MN Vikings, and eating out. Through the years, Sharon was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother (or Mimi as she was called). On March 8, 2011, Sharon was diagnosed with breast cancer. Sharon fought the disease with faith, courage, grace and strength for over five years until she passed away in her home on March 10, 2016, at the age of 63.

Sharon's family includes her husband of forty five years, Donavan Olson; mother, Maxine (Perkins) Walters of Windom; two sons, Perry (Sandy) Olson of Windom and Benjamin (Sue) Olson of Greely, CO; one daughter Dana (Le) Krumrey of Windom; 7 grandchildren; two brothers, Gary Walters of Shakopee and John (Carna) Walters of Mankato; one sister, Peggy (Larry) Perrine of Brandon, SD; one brother-in-law, Duane Olson of Mankato; three sisters-in-law, Cindy (Dave) Wolford, New London, WI; Joleen (Jeff) Miller of Welcome and Carol (Russ) Osnes of Eagan.

Sharon is preceded in death by her father, Cecil Walters and mother and father-in-law Jeffery and Marian Olson, sister-in-law Jayleen Olson and brother-in-law Todd Johnson.



Dean Allen Gerdes, 55 of Esdaile, WI died unexpectedly at his home on Wednesday, March 9, 2016.

Dean was born on January 20, 1961 in Red Wing, MN, the son of Larry and Mary (Cook) Gerdes. He was a 1979

graduate of Ellsworth High School. Dean met Susan Boers on a blind date, arranged by friends and they were married on October 13, 1984 in Chicago, IL. Dean was a 20 year employee of the Dayco Company and had been employed by the Red Wing Shoe Company since 2006.

He had a passion for motorcycle hill-climbing; competing for over 40 years, and he held the fast time

record at Valley Springs hillclimb for 20 years. He also enjoyed helping his children compete in the sport. Dean enjoyed woodworking, small engines, tinkering and most of all he found great satisfaction in the activities his children participated in.

He was a member of Eidsvold Lutheran Church, Esdaile, WI.

Dean leaves behind his wife Sue, Esdaile, WI. Daughter: Jaclyn (Michael) Graber, Maiden Rock, WI; and son Alex Gerdes, Ellsworth, WI. Father: Larry Gerdes, Esdaile, WI. Sisters: Pam (Peter) Huppert, Ellsworth, WI and Tammy (Michael Schoeder) Rupp, Bay City, WI. He is further survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and numerous friends. Dean was preceded in death by his mother Mary, brother Bradley and grandparents.

Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

9086 Keats Avenue SW
Howard Lake, MN 55349

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FAX:
320-543-2983

E-MAIL:
info@mneba.org

OFFICE HOURS
8:30-11:30 a.m.
Mondays, Tuesdays &
Thursdays

Calendar of Events

April 25, 2016 – Minnesota State FFA Convention Ag Career Fair, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN

July 23, 2016 – MnEBA Summer Picnic, Lubinski Elk Acres, Plainview, MN

July 28 – 30, 2016 – 26th Annual NAEBA Convention & International Antler Competition, Ramada Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Omaha, NE

Classified Ads

Herd Dispersal: (40) bred cows, (8) heifers, and (80) bulls various ages, mostly less than 4 years old. Available September 2016. Herd is CWD tested since 2002, TB accredited, and will have 2nd whole herd brucellosis test September 1, 2016. Taylor Elk Ranch, Don Olson, 507-920-6935 or dono@taylorelk.com.

For Sale: (10) bred cows, pregnancy checked positive on 1/19/16, 43 lb/450 SCI genetics, closed herd. TB accredited, CWD Level 6 certified, Colorado approved. Delivery available. \$2,400 each. Contact Darrell Turek at 612-756-0712.

For Sale: Deer drop chute, Ray Matejcek design. Doors open on both sides, excellent condition. \$1,000. Contact Darrell Turek at 612-756-0712.

For Sale: Elk hydraulic squeeze chute, works great. Dale Michel design. \$1,000. Contact Darrell Turek at 612-756-0712.

For Sale: Distributor for Franklin Waterers, energy efficient PC & AP Models, also standard waterers. Rely on Franklin Waterers. Contact Jay at Pronschinske Elk, 507-458-7970.

Wanted: Any and all elk meat animals, trophy bulls, breeding stock or whole herds. Brian Wagner, 612-366-5078

Wanted: Grande Natural pays competitive prices for Elk Hard Antler drops or cutoffs, spikes, buttons, etc. AND we will pay UPS shipping if you cut them down and pack 'em up. Call Rich at 719-580-0661, or email Rich@ElkUSA.com.

Elk Hide Tanning: Elk hide tanning, \$225 hair off or \$15 per square foot, hair on. We can also make jackets, vests, gloves and more from your hides. Call for free catalog or for more information at (800) USA-FOXX. Check out our web site at www.usafoxx.com or email info@usafoxx.com. USA Foxx & Furs, Duluth, MN.

Wanted: Grande Natural buys Elk or Whitetail meat animals delivered to Crescent Meats, Cadott, WI or Eickman's, Steward, IL. We will meet or beat the competition on the rail price. Looking for fleshy critters generally 3 years and older on cows, 2 year and older on bulls. Call 719-657-0942 or email Rich@ElkUSA.com.

Wanted: Looking for a future herd sire, breeding stock and a used semen tank. You can e-mail me at bruce@kruegerlumber.com or at 920-772-4487 in the evening.

Advertise Here Free: If you are a MnEBA member, you can advertise here free of charge. If you are not a member but are interested in advertising, the cost is \$25 up to 25 words and \$.45 per word over 25 words. For more information, contact Brenda Hartkopf at (320) 543-2686.

MINNESOTA ELK BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

9086 Keats Avenue SW
Howard Lake, MN 55349