



Special Interest Articles:

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- 2021 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar
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President's Message by Mark Luedtke



Hello everyone! Well it appears that the crazy and unusual time we are living through just does not want to go away. I don't know about you, but I cannot help myself, sometimes I find myself sitting and wondering how our society has changed so much, and wondering what will the new normal will be going forward? I hope you and your loved ones are staying healthy and enduring the social distancing and mask requirements. Currently our school district is planning to start the school year with face to face classes and our family is glad.

The Board of Animal Health is moving forward with opening the Farmed Cervidae Rules and making changes to address the changes from last year's legislation and the MnEBA Board is actively involved in this process. We will likely be asking for your involvement throughout the process, so please watch for updates from Brenda and respond or participate when asked. I suspect our involvement as a group will be important for all of us.

Now on to talking about elk. 😊 Hope you had a great year for calving, growing antler and are ready to move some trophy bulls. I still have a few bulls staying on the farm that I am excited to measure but so far, I have to say I have been pleased with the production on the farm. This is the time of year when I must figure out which bulls will get to spend time with the cows and be able to influence my herd for the future which is always exciting for me.

Hope you all have a great season and by all means give me a call if you have a question, comment, or just want to talk elk.

Mark

Make Plans to Attend! **2021 MnEBA Annual Conference** January 8-9, 2021

Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West Hotel

3131 Campus Dr ~ Plymouth, MN 55441

Room Rates \$99 ~ Reservation Line 763-559-6600

*Annual Meeting ~ Informational Seminars ~ Evening
Banquet*

Make a weekend out of it and take advantage of a trip to the cities to visit friends or relatives or simply take the opportunity to do something interesting in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area!

MORE DETAILS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER!

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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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.

Velvet Update

Buyers Purchasing 2020 Velvet in Mid-September

Be ready to sell your velvet in September! See dates and information below on velvet buyers making the rounds in September.

FROM SCOTT SALONEK

Velvet antler buying will start on 9/18. I cannot start before then as I am gone 9/5 until 9/13 and have family events until the 18th. I also do not have a place to put it until 9/18. I have six days from 9/18-9/24 to collect any antler east of Colorado. You may have to bring antler to certain locations once a plan is in place as I am not traveling to your farm for under 300 pounds. As in last year, the antler will go by semi into Calgary, Canada. We load all eastern antler into the semi on 9/24 in Windom, MN and it leaves for Colorado that afternoon.

Price for 2020 is again down 30% from last year, \$17. Regrowth cannot be regrown hard antler or I will not take it. The same with spike antler that is over 10 inches.

Please call to get on a pick up when I am on the included travel routes. If you call from Melrose, MN on 9/22, you will be meeting at Windom, MN on the 24th BEFORE noon, no exceptions. Please also call before 9/6 as I am NOT taking calls until 9/13.

Scott Salonek – 612-850-8684

Schedule

9/18 Western MN
9/19 North Dakota
9/21 WI
9/22 Southern MN
9/23 IA
9/24 Windom
9/25-9/26 Colbran, CO – Willard, UT
9/27 Pocatello, ID

FROM BRIAN WAGNER

Brian Wagner and Scott Groen plan to buy velvet starting mid-September. Contact one of them for more details.

Brian Wagner – 612-366-5078

Scott Groen – 320-979-0911

Attention Meat Sellers:

If you have animals processed on a regular basis, you already know kill dates for the rest of 2020 filled up immediately after COVID-19 became a wide concern. You should be thinking of calling your processor now to schedule dates in 2021 if you haven't already!

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes May 28, 2020

The Board of the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association held a phone conference on Thursday May 28th at 8:00 a.m. Mark Luedtke, Brian Wagner, Greg Lubinski, Kraig Wurst, Perry Olson and Brenda Hartkopf were present. Jim Byrne, Paul Anderson and Tony Kwilas were guests. Luedtke called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

Luedtke asked Kwilas to give an update on the status of farmed cervidae language which could be brought back to legislators if a special session is held. Kwilas reported that there was language in the House Environment and Natural Resources Finance Committee HF4554 bill, but not in the Senate version. Due to that and a number of other policy issues the two committees could not agree on, this bill was not passed during the regular session which ended on May 18. Indications are that a special session will be called on June 12 in order for the Governor to extend his peacetime emergency powers. Legislators will then need to decide what other orders of business they want to work on. The Senate Republican caucus is meeting this evening to talk about which bills they would like to continue to pursue. Kwilas will check with them tomorrow to see if the Environment and Natural Resources Finance bill is on their agenda. If it is, he will arrange a Zoom conference call with MnEBA and Senator Ingebrigstson to discuss our concerns. Kwilas then left the call.

Hartkopf reported there has been no word from the Board of Animal Health on when farmed cervidae rulemaking is set to take place, but the anticipation is that it will be soon. She will forward further information from Dr. Glaser as it becomes available.

Zoe Pohlman was the only person who applied for the 2020 MnEBA Scholarship. The committee unanimously recommended Zoe to receive the scholarship. Zoe has been notified and will be

receiving the scholarship in December for her second semester.

Board discussed the MnEBA Summer Picnic which is still on schedule. Hartkopf reported hearing from the Campbells' who said they are still planning to host the picnic. Board to continue to reevaluate holding the summer picnic based upon the Governor's recommendations as the date gets closer.

Discussed the cancellation of the Minnesota State Fair by fair officials and what kind of economic impact that would have on MnEBA. Hartkopf reported the State Fair is looking at possible alternatives to "capturing fair food magic this summer" and will keep the board up to date on any potential opportunities.

Hartkopf reported there are eight sponsors to date for the 2021 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar and that four more are needed. A gun list will soon be requested for board review. Board did not have any suggestions for general changes to the types of firearms which should be included on the list.

Discussed two recommendations by MnEBA members for the recipient of the 2020 MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt. After discussing both options, decision was made to send an application to one of the recommendations along with follow up with Tony Beckel to determine the dates that will work for him. Will follow up with the second recommendation for the 2021 hunt. The Olson family has offered to provide the bull for the hunt this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Hartkopf, Executive Secretary



2020 MnEBA Summer Picnic Cancelled Until 2021

Unfortunately, MnEBA's Summer Picnic had to be cancelled this year due to the hosts, Jerry & Linda Campbell having a family emergency right before the event and they were unable to host the picnic. Jerry & Linda look forward to trying again next year! No date has been set as of yet, but watch for a new date for next year's event to come out early next year.

Board of Animal Health Reviewing MN Farmed Cervidae Rules

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health has been sending out numerous emails to farmed cervidae owners and the general public outlining a very open and transparent effort to re-write the Minnesota Farmed Cervidae Rules. This is being done as a follow up to include the new farmed cervidae laws that were enacted in May 2019. This opening of the rules is also creating an opportunity to address additional concerns which can be added in addition to the new laws.

The MnEBA legislative committee (Jim Byrne, Paul Anderson and Brenda Hartkopf) and Board have been working throughout the summer to prepare for this effort. They have outlined five general concerns for which attention is needed:

1. Relief for deer and elk breeders caught up in CWD endemic areas.
2. Providing a way for the Board of Animal Health to control animal movement in the case of a disease outbreak.
3. Protecting producers who follow the rules and depend on raising farmed cervidae for their livelihoods while holding producers accountable who do not follow the rules.
4. Incorporating testing history as a risk assessment tool to assist in evaluating risk with Level 6 CWD farms.
5. Strengthening requirements for intrastate movement of animals through CWD testing history requirements.

The Minnesota Elk Breeders Association was allowed only one representative on the 15 member task force.

President Mark Luedtke was chosen to be MnEBA's representative with Brenda Hartkopf as an alternate. Other organizations and individuals deemed stakeholders include one representative each from the MN DNR, MN Department of Agriculture, MN Department of Health, U of M Veterinary Diagnostic Lab, U.S. Department of Agriculture, MN Deer Farmers Association, MN Deer Hunters Association, MN cervid veterinarian, non-native MN cervidae species, at-large MN cervid owner, MN tribal member, at-large member of the public, at-large livestock producer and representative of Association of MN counties.

The first meeting with the Advisory Committee was held on August 26th. In this meeting, a draft of proposed changes was reviewed by the committee but not completed (see BAH draft at <https://www.bah.state.mn.us/farmed-cervidae-rulemaking-advisory-committee/>). There will be a series of meetings in the coming weeks not only to discuss BAH suggested changes, but changes other stakeholders wish to add. Members of the public, including farmed cervidae owners, can listen to the meetings and are allowed to comment during the last 15 minutes of every meeting. Watch for Board of Animal Health e-blasts for dates, times and call-in information.

As MnEBA begins to get an idea of what kind of changes are being proposed, members will be getting more information on suggested comment topics as we work to submit comments by October 30th. Please stay tuned to e-blasts from the Board of Animal Health and also MnEBA to stay up to date on what is happening and be ready to respond if called upon.



Let's Be Friends!!

Make sure to follow the Minnesota Elk Breeders Association on Facebook at "MN Elk Breeders Association". Even more importantly, share your Facebook page with MnEBA and make sure your elk posts are sharable! MnEBA wants to show others what our members are doing!

Farm Direct Minnesota

There's a new group on Facebook that is helping to pair up Minnesota farmers to directly market their products and services to consumers. Farm Direct Minnesota has quickly gained popularity since COVID-19. Search "Farm Direct Minnesota" on Facebook and click on the "Join" tab. You can post your available elk products or you might even find an item from another farmer you need for yourself!



News Release

For Immediate Release: August 20, 2020

Contact: Michael Crusan, Communications Director, 651-201-6815 or michael.crusan@state.mn.us

Board of Animal Health invites public involvement during farmed deer and elk rulemaking process

Saint Paul, MN - The Minnesota Board of Animal Health is asking for public participation as it goes through the process of changing its rules for farmed Cervidae (commonly called deer and elk) to help the agency better prevent and control diseases like CWD. The public can participate in the process in several ways including providing written comment, and by tuning in to the first meeting of the Farmed Cervidae Advisory Committee on Wednesday, August 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Full meeting details and how to join the meeting are posted on the Board's rulemaking website and the final 15 minutes of the meeting will be open to public comment.

Members of the public can also provide written comments about the proposed rule changes at any time through at least September 14 during this part of the rule making process. The public will have a second opportunity to comment on the rules after the Board publishes its Notice of Intent towards the end of 2020.

The Farmed Cervidae Advisory Committee's role is to advise the Board as the agency writes changes to Minnesota Rules chapters 1721.0370 to 1721.0420. The committee has diverse representation from groups like farmed Cervidae producers, deer hunters, tribal members, regulatory agencies, veterinary professionals, agricultural producers and members of the public. The proposed rule changes are focused on addressing changes made by the Minnesota legislature in 2019 to Minnesota Statute §35.155.

Review the current draft of proposed rule changes on the Board's webpage at <https://www.bah.state.mn.us/farmed-cervidae-rulemaking-advisory-committee/>. Anyone can provide public comments about these proposed rules. The Board wants your opinion and asks you to please be specific when commenting on the rule changes. The Board will thoroughly review and consider all comments. Please note though, comments are not votes and the Board makes the final decision on the rule changes.

Animal Bytes August 2020

Join an upcoming listening session for the general public.

The Board is holding listening sessions for the general public. If you plan to make comments at these sessions, please be prepared to state your name and affiliation/interest. The following dates and times are posted for the public to join a virtual meeting either online or by phone:

- **Thursday, August 27, two hours 5 – 7 p.m.** Dial: 763-317-4323 if prompted, enter code: 604 513 560#
- **Wednesday, September 2, two hours 1 – 3 p.m.** Dial: 763-317-4323 if prompted, enter code: 451 534 020#
- **Wednesday, September 9, two hours 6 – 8 p.m.** Dial: 763-317-4323 if prompted, enter code: 186 123 719#
- **Thursday, September 17, two hours 4 – 6 p.m.** Dial: 763-317-4323 if prompted, enter code: 643 190 544#

CWD not detected in buck connected to Pine County investigation

Earlier this month, the final CWD exposed farmed deer in the Pine County and Douglas County CWD investigation was euthanized and the USDA confirmed CWD was not detected. The animal had been quarantined in Chisago County since the investigation began in late 2019. The herd owner agreed to USDA indemnity this summer and the quarantine was released on Monday, August 17 following the test results.



Minnesota Wildlife

August 25, 2020

CWD sampling changes in 2020

In the ongoing strategy to manage chronic wasting disease in Minnesota's wild deer, we've made several changes to this year's deer hunting regulations. CWD sampling is voluntary for 2020, so that hunters can submit samples from their deer at unstaffed sampling stations that facilitate social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you hunters—in advance!

Hunters, you are essential to surveillance efforts and our ability to collect the needed samples to detect the disease on the landscape. While that's always been true, changes this year highlight this important point because if you're in a CWD zone, you will have the option to get your deer sampled. At the DNR, we remain committed to keeping our wild deer healthy while also facilitating social distancing for hunters and DNR staff.

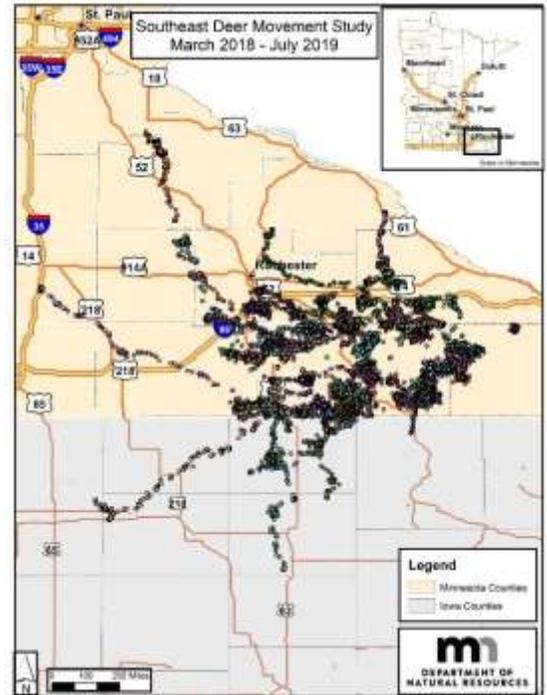
Public meeting about CWD in the south metro area

The DNR will hold a virtual public meeting in September to provide information about chronic wasting disease pertaining to its discovery in a wild deer in Dakota County in March. The meeting will be from 7-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 15. It will include a presentation from DNR staff about the agency's management response and 2020 deer hunting regulations. Participants will also have an opportunity to ask questions.

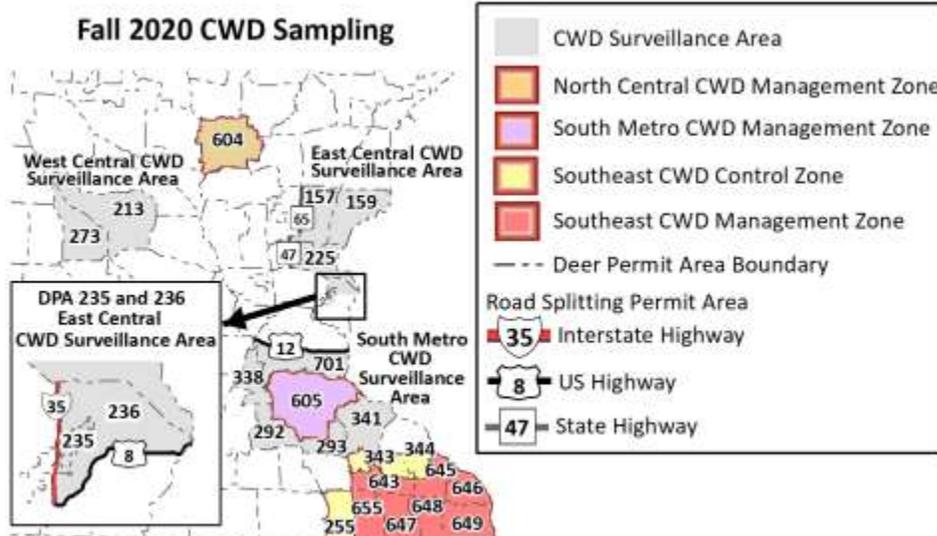
Go to the DNR web site for more information about how to participate at <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/cwd/index.html>.

Southeast Minnesota Deer Collar Study

Where are collared deer moving?



From the DNR website at www.dnr.state.mn.us



Board Blog by Perry Olson, MnEBA Director



Ass-u-me - I scheduled a family meeting a while back bringing in all four kids and Sandy to discuss some family estate matters. With the pending election and much of the craziness we have seen this year, I wanted to educate the kids (ages 20-30) on what they will have in the future, that right now they may not know much about, and how politics will impact their futures. We sat around the kitchen table and I asked them something like, "How much is a 500" bull worth?" The answers started coming in.....\$900, \$950, \$1000, then one went way out there and said \$1500! Inside, I said to myself, did I really have these kids around me for 18+ years and this is all the better I did educating them about that which they see every single day!?!? Do I really complain about the general public not knowing anything, yet people in my own house aren't educated about where their clothes, food and college tuition came from? (While the real question I asked was actually about trucking, not elk, I had to cater to my audience.....) My point is that I knew I had been failing to educate my adult children about the "family business" and it was time to make that happen.

What I learned was that I had been doing an even poorer job of educating our children than I even thought. Further, I knew that if I were to educate them, I couldn't start with terms like net profit margin, capital gains tax, depreciation schedules and stepped-up basis. Even basic terms like Revenue and Expense were more difficult to understand than I expected they should be for kids this smart. Sure I could blame the education system that feels basic money management is not a life skill worth teaching to teen-agers, but I need to accept blame for this, not pass it on anyone else. In the elk business, we are used to being asked the basic questions every day like "do you sell them for meat" and "how do those antlers grow back every single year!" But in life, I often make the mistake of "assuming" that those around me should know what I know and think the way I do.....just because! I don't always take the extra time to educate them in the same manner that I would educate that person who is curious about my elk, but maybe has never seen one before. Those people actually didn't know that elk cast their antlers every spring and grow a new set every single year. They actually have never eaten an elk stick or steak. But, as an elk producer, it's my duty to educate them on the basics of what I do, why I do it and, if they become more interested, take the time to teach them about actually doing it. Who knows, they may become a big customer someday!

Today, August 19, I shipped my first bull and now the pace will get frantic as we ship bulls, prep cows/calves for the breeding season and ship velvet antler next month. Elk activity is as high this year as I have seen, perhaps in 15 years or more! I have actually had at least 2 people call with an interest in buying every single group of animals on the farm, be it bulls, cows, calves. Maybe the elk industry will be one of those industry's that gets a little positive boost from the pandemic with people not travelling abroad and looking at staying closer to home this year for their hunting trips! I can feel the summer evening air giving way to the cooler evenings of fall, my favorite time of the year! Get outside and enjoy your animals this fall! Be safe through shipping and breeding seasons and Enjoy Raising Elk, America's "Greatest" Animal!

Perry

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Velvet Capsules*

Bill & Karen Knutson
Home of Spring Coulee Elk

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Advertiser Index

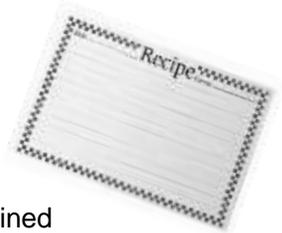
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Thank you for your support!

MnEBA Kitchen

Here's a delicious stew recipe to warm you up on the cool fall days arriving in the next few weeks!!



Slow Cooker Elk Tortellini Stew

- 1 lb. elk stew meat
- 3/4 cup chopped onion
- 3/4 cup chopped carrot
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. sugar

- 1 can (14.5 oz) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 2 cans (10.5 oz each) beef broth
- 1 tsp. dried basil
- 2 cups frozen cheese-filled tortellini
- 1 cup frozen green beans (cut into pieces)

DIRECTIONS

In a 4-quart slow cooker, added elk, onion, carrot, celery, garlic, sugar, tomatoes and beef broth in order listed. Cover and cook on Low for 8 to 9 hours.

About 25 minutes before serving, stir in basil, frozen tortellini and green beans. Increase heat setting to High. Cover; cook about 25 minutes or until beans are tender.

Do you have a favorite elk recipe? Please send a copy of the recipe to the MnEBA office so we can share it with others!

RACK PLUS™ FOR OUTSTANDING RESULTS

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IS THE HALLMARK OF ADM'S DEER AND ELK FEEDING PROGRAM.

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CitiStim®, an ADM proprietary feed ingredient, is a proven, truly unique, whole-cell, inactivated yeast product that may help the animal strengthen its defense against health challenges by supporting and optimizing gut function, gut integrity, and body defense responses.

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AN_DeerHelp@adm.com
www.ADMAnimalNutrition.com/wildlife

2021 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar

It's Time to Order Your Calendars!

Have you picked up your 2021 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendars yet? There are 426 calendars in the hands of members to sell so far. There were 800 calendars printed again this year so there are still another 374 available for anyone who can sell them! Board members have been given extra calendars to hand out to other members to sell as they run in to them this fall. If you won't be seeing any board members for a while, calendars can be mailed to you from the office.



Once again this year, members are eligible for great incentives when selling calendars. A free MnEBA membership for selling 30 or more calendars and returning stubs and money before December 31st is being offered once again this year. Also back by popular demand, for every 10 calendars sold with stubs and money being returned before December 31st, your name goes into a drawing to win a Winchester Wildcat 22LR rifle. The more calendars you sell, the more chances to win!

MANY THANKS to all MnEBA members who stepped up to sponsor a month in the 2021 MnEBA Gun Raffle Calendar! This year's sponsors include: Jerry & Linda Campbell, Dennis & Jacky Engebretson, Lance & Brenda Hartkopf, Bill & Karen Knutson, Mark & Lisa Luedtke, Eric & Kim Mohlman, Perry & Sandy Olson, Wade & Heike Schimmelpfennig, Darrell & Sheila Turek, Brian Wagner & Tena Martin, Kraig & Jenny Wurst and Klint & Lora Wylie.

Now is a great time to order your calendars while they are still in stock. Contact the MnEBA Office to order yours today!

2021 MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt

This Year's Hunt Takes Place in October

Thanks to the generosity of Tony's Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch, the Minnesota Elk Company and Fortune Transportation, this year's MnEBA Charitable Elk Hunt is scheduled to take place October 19-21 at Tony's Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch in Baudette, MN. This marks the 14th year MnEBA has offered this hunt.



This year's recipient, Jason Grant, was nominated by Perry Olson. Jason is a highly valued employee of Fortune Transportation. For the past two years, Perry and Jason's wife Katie have been trying to find a way for Jason to fulfill his dream of harvesting a bull elk. Jason only recently found out that he was chosen for this year's hunt!

Jason was born on a Navy base in Illinois and grew up on a California Navy base. When Jason was 18 years old, he joined the Army where he served for 10 years. In addition, Jason spent two years with the National Guard and 2-3 years in the Reserves. Over the years, Jason served not one, not two, but three tours in Iraq.

A big thank you to everyone who is helping to make this year's hunt possible. They include Tony Beckel of Tony's Trophy Elk Hunt Ranch, Minnesota Elk Company for providing the bull and transporting it to Baudette, and Fortune Transportation for providing the way for Jason and his wife to get to Windom and then up to Baudette. MnEBA looks forward to making the dream of hunting a beautiful bull elk a reality for yet another very deserving military veteran.

Vet Corner by Glen Zearth, DVM

Increasing Your Calving Percentage

Things to think about going into breeding season

Now is the time to be preparing for fall breeding to increase your chances of calving success in the spring. Some things to think about include:

- 1. Copper supplementation** – Supplementing feed with extra copper is always beneficial to elk, but especially so during breeding season. Cows have been on pasture for several months and may be consuming less copper as a result. You might consider adding 280 mg copper sulfate per head per day as a top-dress to your feed ration. Combine it with soybean meal or distillers grain to make it more palatable.
- 2. Semen check** – Semen check your breeding bull, especially if you're using a different or new bull. Infertile bulls are not common, but it does happen. Also, have your veterinarian check to make sure there are no physical abnormalities in the bull.
- 3. Pasture quality** – Start thinking about obtaining good quality nutrition for the cows going into breeding. One of the most important things of all is to make sure the cow is on a rising plane of nutrition with cows gaining weight going into breeding. Highly fertilized straight alfalfa is not the best, it's better to have a mix of grass and alfalfa. Also, check pastures to make sure there's not too much fescue. Watch mineral levels and check copper levels. Herds are showing up all the time with low copper levels and this does affect breeding conception. Also avoid excess potassium as this also inhibits fertilization.
- 4. Distiller grains caution** – If feeding large amounts of distiller's grains, be very careful of high sulfur levels which will work to offset mineral balances. If there's an imbalance, limit distillers feed or increase minerals. Work with a nutritionist to make sure everything is balanced.
- 5. Pregnancy check** cows the first of the new year. It's too late to have them conceive, but just the right time to send them to slaughter unless they're an exceptional cow. Keeping open cows is an economic hardship that can be avoided.

A poor calving percentage can have a very negative impact on profitability of your herd. If you want to make money in elk, you need to make sure your calving percentages are high. Anything you can do now to prepare for success in the spring will put money in your pocket long term.

Board of Animal Health Program Numbers

September 2020

PROGRAM NUMBERS

Total Herds
289

Total Animals in Those Herds
8,081

Species Breakdown of Animals

Species	Total	Number of Herds*
White-Tailed Deer	4,158	193
Elk	3,561	93
Red Deer	145	8
Reindeer	99	10
Fallow Deer	52	9
Muntjac	28	7
Sika Deer	24	5
Pere David's Deer	5	1
Moose	4	1
Caribou	3	2
Mule Deer	2	1

*The total number of herds in this table does not match the number of cervid herds listed in the left as some herds may have more than one species in their herd.

Chronic Wasting Disease Testing SFY 2020

Number tested for CWD: 2,173

Not Detected: 2,139

Other: 28 (location, unsuitable or untestable)

Positive: 6 (Douglas and Pine County CWD-infected herds)

NAEBA Develops New Purity Test Utilizing DNA

Hair Samples Already On File Can Be Used

The North American Elk Breeders Association (NAEBA) is pleased to announce the new elk purity test, using DNA and created by the University of California at Davis, is now being used to process orders for members.



Purity test order forms are available on the NAEBA website. Hair, semen or blood may be submitted as samples for purity testing. Submitted samples may also be tested at the same time for DNA parentage and/or CWD genotyping, if desired, with their respective testing fees.

The DNA purity test costs \$50 per sample, which is a significant savings over the cost of the previous purity test using blood samples. This test is only available to NAEBA members and all orders must be processed through the NAEBA office. Testing time is similar to processing DNA parentage (four weeks from sample submission to results) and the lab will not accept rush orders due to testing time requirements.

The University of California at Davis has a very high confidence in the test and is able to determine the level of red deer genetics that exist in a hybrid. Markers from across the United States and Canada were used for test creation, covering a wide array of elk genetics. Hundreds of samples were used for validation testing that reinforced confidence in the test. As an example, the test showed a case of a 1/4 hybrid, 1/8 hybrid and 1/16 hybrid that DNA proved were father, son and grandson, respectively, showing the test can capture the generational impacts over time.

NAEBA began working with the University to create a new elk purity test using DNA samples. This project, which began in December 2018, is an effort by NAEBA at a considerable cost to have a simple and reliable purity test available for elk owners across the continent.

“This is another tool provided by NAEBA for its members,” said NAEBA President Bill Mayes. “Having this test up and running in time for trophy bull transit allows opportunity for our members to engage in commerce.”

Sample collection instructions are also on the NAEBA website.

Committee Reports

2021 MnEBA Annual Conference

Depending upon the state of COVID-19 next January, the 2021 MnEBA Annual Conference is scheduled to be held the weekend of January 8-9, 2021 at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West in Plymouth, Minnesota. This is the same location where the 2020 conference was held.

Again this year, the hotel is offering a free hot breakfast buffet for two each morning for anyone staying at the hotel the previous night.

There will be plenty of timely topics and good discussion. If you have any seminar subjects you would like to see offered, please let Rita or the MnEBA Office know. You will want to make plans to attend!!

MnEBA COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Annual Conference	Rita Prodzinski (507) 452-1282
Fundraising	Brenda Hartkopf (320) 543-2686
Government Relations	Jim Byrne (507) 358-6505 Dr. Paul Anderson (952) 212-6109
Health	OPEN
Scholarship	Eileen Byrne (507) 358-3063 Rita Prodzinski (507) 452-1282
State Fair	Greg Lubinski (507) 273-0525 Paul Hueg (612) 791-0443

Minnesota Elk Breeders Association

9086 Keats Avenue SW
Howard Lake, MN 55349

PHONE:
320-543-2686

FAX:
320-543-2983

E-MAIL:
info@mneba.org

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

Calendar of Events

January 8-9, 2021 – MnEBA Annual Conference, Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West, Plymouth, MN

March 12-13, 2021 – NAEBA March Mingle, Hampton Inn Salt Lake City Airport, Salt Lake City, UT

August 26-September 6, 2021 – Minnesota State Fair, St. Paul, MN

Classified Ads

For Sale: NV Elk Modular Handling System, (8) swing gates, (7) slider gates, (2) homemade slider gates, one unit has Manual Squeeze and one unit has AI door. Also Elk-Rite 7000 Squeeze Chute with electric hydraulic unit, 10K for all. Will consider reasonable offer. Also other elk raising related equipment for sale. Contact Pat Prodzinski at 507-312-0327.

For Sale: Elk Rite "Almar 9000 Squeeze Chute" with pump and hoses, \$8,000. Contact Jim Byrne at 507-358-6505.

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

Services Offered: Outback Fence & Fabrication is here for all your fencing needs. We specialize in - Exclusion Fencing, Trellis Fencing, Chain Link Fencing, Woven Wire Fencing, Steel and Wood Post Fencing. We fabricate fences and enclosures for applications like Deer, Elk, Bison, Livestock (cattle, horses, goats, sheep, etc.). We are also here for your fabrication needs specializing in - Livestock Equipment (feeders, bunks, cattle gates, buckets, etc.), Repair and Modification (trailers, wagons, tractors, machinery, etc.), Custom Entry and Enclosure Gates, In Shop or On-Site Equipment and Machinery Repair Services. Contact us today with questions or an estimate on your project at 507-951-7632 or outbackfence@hotmail.com. Book for your fencing needs and projects for 2021 now! Visit our website at www.outbackMN.com.

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