



LEE COUNTY WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION



October 2005

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Old Buck and Spike Contest

An effort is being made to encourage hunters to learn to estimate a bucks age by their physical characteristics and behavior before harvesting them. This is to let quality bucks live to older age classes while still keeping pressure on lower quality young bucks. The association will have an oldest buck contest and a drawing for a youth and an adult winner from hunters registering spikes (at least one un-branched antler). To be eligible, all bucks must have been harvested in Lee County, and be

registered by a TPWD biologist. Registering a harvested buck will also enter the hunter in the six county drawing with many great prizes. Deer heads cannot be frozen at time of registration and the jaw bone must be attached. In the event of a tie for the oldest buck, the tie breaker will be the buck with the highest gross Boone & Crockett score.

Call me to register your deer so I can collect age and antler measurements. **My phone numbers are (H) 979-884-2710 (C) 979-716-0221 Greg Pleasant.**

Wildlife Photo Contest Improved

We are going to have the photo contest again this year with a few improvements. We will be displaying the photos using a projection system, so more people will get to enjoy the photos. Another advantage to doing this is that you can submit your digital photos electronically, saving printing cost and simplifying delivery. We will still have the two categories, general and trail camera. Last year the only restriction was that the critter had to be alive. This year we are only accepting photos taken in Lee County and during 2005, and again, only of critters that are alive. You must have your photos into the Lee

County Extension Office or Greg Pleasant's office in person or by e-mail by January 9th. You can enter as many photos as you like, jpeg format for digital or unframed 8x10's are preferred, but 4x6's will be accepted. Printed photos will be digitized for the presentation.

The directors will be judging the photos and awards will be given at the annual meeting on February 3rd. Please have your name, which category (general or trail), and phone number with or on the back of each photo. The Association will not be responsible for returning photos, but you can make arrangements to pick them-up after they are digitized for the presentation.

Brush Clearing, Hog Trapping, Aquatic Weed Control & more

A program on feral hog trapping, brush control, aquatic weed control and controlling stored grain insects will be held at LCRA's Cooper Farm near Waldeck in Fayette County on Tuesday, November 15th. Registration will be from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. and the program will run from 9:00 to 4:00. A catered lunch will be served at a nominal fee. Possibly up to 6 hours of CEU's will be given. For more information contact Larry Nickel, Extension Agent in La Grange, at 979-968-5831.

A Call For Volunteers

The Lee County Wildlife Management Association will be hosting the first annual Youth Shooting and Hunter Safety Event on Tuesday October 11th at Nails Creek Park on Lake Somerville. We will be hosting approximately 60 Lee County high school students for a day of safety with firearms, hunter and boater safety and education. Each student will have the opportunity shoot archery, shotgun, pistols and rifles, including black powder, in a *safe and controlled* situation. We will have eight stations that the students will rotate through and we will be providing lunch. We need a few more people that can come out and help. You could simply be a leader for one of the groups to escort them to their next station or help with one of the events, or even help cook and serve lunch. We will find a spot for you to take advantage of your experience. We currently need someone with black powder experience. If you are willing to help please contact one of your directors or Greg Pleasant. Thank you.

Changes to the Antler Restriction and Bag Limit

This is the first year of the (no longer experimental) antler restriction regulation.

The major change this year is that Lee County (along with 20 other counties) now has a two buck bag limit. Only one buck with a 13-inch or greater spread can be taken. At least one of the two bucks must meet the one unbranched antler requirement. Example: you can shoot two "spikes" or one spike and one 13-inch or greater buck. *Please note that the 6 points on one side but less than 13 inch rule was dropped.*

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) will still be collecting deer age and antler measurements to assess the effectiveness of the regulation. There are three voluntary check stations in Lee County where you can self register your deer: H. W. Doyle processing plant in Giddings, T. J's Party Supply in Lexington and Gunters Grocery in Dime Box. The Lexington and Giddings check stations will be manned the first two weekends of deer season. We get more information from your deer if myself or another biologist registers your deer, So please call me when ever you have a deer through out the season.

Hunters registering a legal buck will be entered into a drawing for one of 12 great prizes that include a lifetime hunting and fishing license (donated by Texas Sportsman Association).

Cost Sharing for Food Plots

The Lee County Wildlife Management Association wants to encourage members to plant more food plots this fall for wildlife.

The LCWMA will provide up to \$25 in matching funds (you spend a

dollar, we spend a dollar) for the purchase of seed to plant wildlife food plots in Lee County. Funds will once again be available on a first come first serve basis until \$1,250. has been spent. Last year all the funds were not used. To take advantage of this offer please bring a copy of your receipt to The Lee County Extension Office.

Purchase any wildlife food plot seed from any store and we will reimburse you for half of the cost up to \$25. You must spend at least \$50 on seed to receive the full \$25 reimbursement. This offer is only good for current seed purchases to be planted in Lee County this year and for current paid members. The deadline for bringing in receipts is December 1st. Don't miss out on this opportunity by assuming that all the money is gone. You can call the Extension Office to check if funds are still available if you are concerned.

Getting a soil test is always money well spent. Most food plot failures can be avoided by having the correct pH and adding fertilizer if needed.

Purchase any wildlife food plot seed from any store and we will reimburse you for half



West Yegua Fall Co-op Meeting October 22

The West Yegua Co-op will have their fall meeting on Saturday, October 22, beginning at 6:30 pm. Come out and enjoy a delicious meal at Bobby Zoch's ranch on FM 1624.

The speaker will be Dr. William Ocumpaugh who will discuss establishing food plots and the varieties of food plants that are doing well here.

Dr. Ocumpaugh is a professor of agronomy and forage at Texas A&M Research Center in Beeville.