



LEE COUNTY WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION



October 2007

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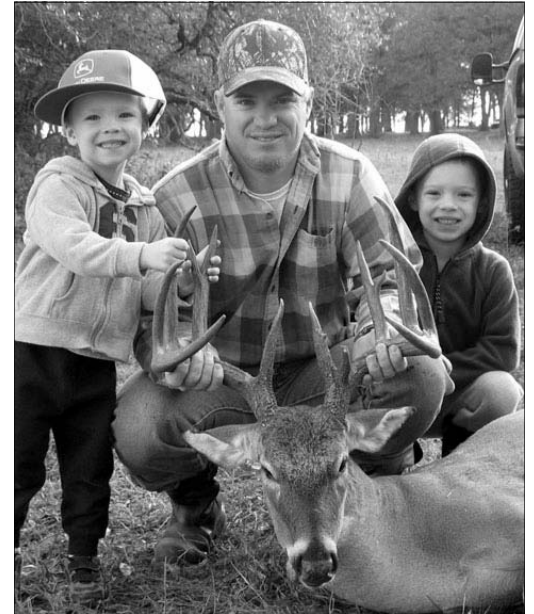
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Old Buck and Spike Contest

In an effort to encourage hunters to learn to estimate a buck's age by its physical characteristics and behavior before harvesting, and to let quality bucks live to older age classes while still keeping pressure on lower quality young bucks, the Association will again have an oldest buck contest and a drawing for any member registering a spike (at least one unbranched 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 winner will be the buck with the highest gross Boone & Crockett score. There haven't been many entries in the spike category in the past so chances of getting drawn if you enter are high.



Call me to register your deer so I can collect age and antler measurements.
My phone numbers are 979-884-2710 (home) and 979-255-8480 (cell).

~Greg Pleasant

Remember the Wildlife Photo Contest

We will be having the photo contest again this year. You can submit digital photos electronically or bring them on paper, whichever you prefer. We will have two categories, regular camera and trail camera. The only rule is that the photo was taken this year in Lee County of a living animal. 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, jpg format for digital or unframed 8 x 10's are

preferred, but 4 x 6's will be accepted. Printed photos will be photographed or scanned for the presentation.

The directors will be judging the photos and awards will be given at the annual meeting on February 1st. Please have your name, which category (regular 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.



Help With The Youth Shooting & Hunter Education Event

The Lee County Wildlife Management Association and Texas Parks and Wildlife will be hosting the third annual Youth Shooting and Hunter Safety Event on Tuesday October 23, at Nails Creek Park on Lake Summerville. We will be hosting approximately 60 Lee County middle school students for a day of safety with firearms, and hunter 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 a picnic lunch will be provided.

It takes about 25 volunteers to make this event happen. If you can help please contact one of your directors or Greg Pleasant. We will find a spot for you.

Cost Sharing for Food Plots

In an effort to encourage members to keep planting food plots for wildlife, the LCWMA will provide up to \$25 in matching funds (you spend 50 dollars, we reimburse you \$25 dollars) for the purchase of seed to plant wildlife food plots in Lee County. 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

Purchase any wildlife food plot seed and we will reimburse you for half of the cost up to \$25.00. 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.

Getting a soil test is always money well spent. Most food plot failures can be avoided by having the

Fall Co-op Meetings

South Lee - August 24

The South Lee meeting was held at the Serbin Picnic Grounds on Friday evening with a social hour and a catered chicken fried steak meal. The program was on trapping feral hogs and the current research being done to control them.

Two Creeks - September 8

Two Creeks had their fall meeting at the pavilion at Nails Creek Park on lake Somerville on Saturday and had nearly 40 members in attendance. The program was on trapping feral hogs and the current research being done on them. A barbecue meal was served.

West Yegua - October 14

The West Yegua Co-op will have their fall meeting on Sunday, October 14, beginning at 4:00 pm. Come out and enjoy a delicious meal at Bobby Zoch's ranch on FM 1624. The program will be on the value of prescribed burning to improve wildlife habitat.

East Yegua & Blue Branch, November ?

The East Yegua and Blue Branch Coops of LCWA will be combining their meetings again this year but at the time of printing the details had not been competed. The subject will possibly be native grass restoration. Keep a lookout for a postcard with more information, or contact your directors.

Feral Hog Report

I am interested in providing progress reports on hog trapping efforts by coop members. If you have been trapping hogs in Lee County I would like to hear from you. I would like to compile some numbers of hogs that are being removed and learn better about what is working and what isn't. I was lucky enough to catch 31 pigs in September, how have you done? If you are not trapping but would like to be, the association is still offering pig trap gates for \$75. Please give me a call or send me an e-mail and let me know what is working or if you would like a gate. Greg Pleasant: tpwbiologist@bluebon.net.

Prescribed Burn Workshop Opportunities Dec 8 and Jan 12

Two field days on the safe and effective use of fire to improve habitat for wildlife will be available to anyone interested at no charge. The objective of these classes is to show landowners what benefits fire can provide, when and how fire can be used safely and what help is available to landowners who want to burn. Topics will include site selection, preparation, what tools and equipment that are needed and all the how-to's. If conditions allow, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in a prescribed burn.

The workshop on December 8 will be in Lee County but is open to anyone interested. It will be held on my personal property. I have used prescribed burning on the property for several years. Therefore you will be able to see what impact repeated fire can have on manipulating vegetation. Coffee and lunch will be provided by the Lee County Wildlife Association. Please RSVP for this workshop by December 3rd to Greg Pleasant at 979-540-2744 or e-mail tpwbiologist@bluebon.net. The address is 1757 CR 121 Giddings, call or e-mail for more directions or information.

The workshop on January 12 will be held at LCRA Cooper Farm located at 2001 Waldeck Rd in Ledbetter. Please contact Lee Fritch for information on this workshop at 1-800-776-5272 ext. 8140. You will need to bring your own sack lunch to this workshop.

Registration will start at 8:00 a.m. and the program will start at 8:30 a.m. on both dates. Attendees should come dressed to work. This includes leather boots, cotton pants and shirt and leather gloves. Depending on what we burn, we should be done around 1:30 p.m. or so.

LCWA President's Comments... by Billy Gillum

Hello, Lee County Wildlife Association members! This month I will be meeting with the LCWA Directors to begin working on our annual meeting, scheduled for February 1, 2008. We need your suggestions and ideas on changes to make, if any, to improve the annual event. One question always comes up, and that is do we need a guest speaker and a topic discussed? I welcome your comments and thoughts by contacting me at BGillum@ag.tamu.edu or by calling me at 979-540-0351. Also, please discuss these issues with your Wildlife Association directors.


Wow, what a difference in weather and country conditions this year compared to 2006. Drought conditions to excessive, including wildlife food plot plantings in the spring. Now, there is so much vegetation and weeds that a light disking is a must to get the seed in contact with the soil. Incorporating lime at the earliest opportunity, and P and K based on soil test recommendations into the seedbed as it is prepared in late summer. If using small grains, drill 60-120 lbs. of grain seed into the seedbed at a depth of 3/4" - 1" this time of year. Hopefully moisture is available to sustain growth. Lightly disk broadcasted seed to cover no deeper than 1". After seed germinates and before plants reach approximately 4" in height, apply 50 lbs. of N per acre. Plan on applying an additional 50 lbs. N per acre in February to boost spring forage yields.

Clovers are an excellent winter legume to plant for your deer herd, especially around wooded areas. Clovers that have done well in Lee County include Ball, White Clovers, Burr Medics and Arrowleaf. Be sure and inoculate the legume seed and plant no deeper than 1/2". Clovers can also be broadcast seeded over the area, and I recommend dragging something over the planting to press the seed into the soil. If you do not have time or money for food plots, the deer will have plenty of browse, forbs and acorns this year to get them through the winter.

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Anyone wishing to place a business card ad for one year may contact Lee County Wildlife Association, c/o Texas Cooperative Extension, P.O. Box 150, Giddings TX 78942-0150.

Dianna Noack
Senior Vice-President - Branch Manager



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