

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
Game Division

Report No. 2141
August 19, 1957

DOE DEER PRODUCTIVITY DATA FOR THE SPRING OF 1957

The accompanying tables supplementing Game Division Report No. 2135 summarize the 1957 productivity records obtained through embryo counts made from does autopsied by the Wildlife Experiment Stations and other Department personnel.

Does dead from various causes were autopsied over a period from late February when the embryos were easily discernible into early June just prior to the first evidence of fawn drop. All but one of the does fall in the category designated as shot and accidentally-killed deer which includes mainly highway and railroad mortalities, fatalities resulting from deer running into fences and other obstructions, predator kills, drownings, and deer shot under permit or illegally. Starvation losses were light during the winter of 1956-57 and only one starved deer, a fawn, was autopsied for productivity information.

The deer were aged from the dentition with the age determined to the nearest full year. Aging was done by persons trained and experienced in the aging technique. If the person examining the deer was not experienced in the method the does were designated only as fawn or adult.

Region II is separated into two areas; Northeast Food Shortage Area where the problem of food shortage has been acute, and the Balance of Region II where food conditions for deer are generally better.

The attached map shows the area boundaries and the productivity rates for does from these areas for the past seven years.

DOE PRODUCTIVITY
Region I 1957

Shot and accidentally killed does

Age does	Total No. does	0 embryos	1 embryo	2 embryos	3 embryos	Total No. embryos	Productivity rate
1 year	22	22	0	0	0	0	
2 years	20	6	9	5	0	19	
3 years	22	1	8	13	0	34	
4 years	17	0	8	9	0	26	
5 years	7	0	1	6	0	13	
6 years	6	0	2	3	1	11	
7 years	5	0	3	2	0	7	
8 years	8	0	3	5	0	13	
9 years	5	1	2	2	0	6	
10 years +	2	0	1	1	0	3	
*Subtotal	92	8	37	46	1	132	1.43
"Adult"	4	0	1	3	0	7	
*Total	96	8	38	49	1	139	1.45

*One-year-olds not included in subtotals and totals

DOE PRODUCTIVITY
REGION II 1957

Northeast Food Shortage Area

Shot and accidentally killed does

Age of doe	Total No. does	0 embryos	1 embryo	2 embryos	3 embryos	4 embryos	Total No. embryos	Productivity rate
2 years	15	5	6	4	0	0	14	
3 years	11	4	4	3	0	0	10	
4 years	6	1	1	4	0	0	9	
5 years	8	1	2	4	1	0	13	
6 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
7 years	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	
8 years	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	
9 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
10 years	5	1	2	2	0	0	6	
Total	48	12	15	20	1	0	58	1.21

BALANCE REGION II

2 years	17	3	5	9	0	0	23	
3 years	25	2	5	17	1	0	42	
4 years	13	0	2	10	1	0	25	
5 years	7	0	0	7	0	0	14	
6 years	6	0	0	5	1	0	13	
7 years	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	
"Adult"	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	
Total	70	5	12	50	3	0	121	1.73

ALL REGION II

Cause of death unknown

3 years	2	0	1	1	0	0	3	
4 years	3	0	1	2	0	0	5	
7 years	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	
10 years	2	0	0	2	0	0	4	
Total	8	1	2	5	0	0	12	1.50

FAWNS, ALL REGION II

1 year	44	38	6					0.14
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(One starved fawn in this group)

DOE PRODUCTIVITY
REGION III 1957

Shot and accidentally killed does

Age does	Total No. does	0 embryos	1 embryo	2 embryos	3 embryos	Total No. embryos	Productivity rate
1 year	10	1	6	3	0	12	1.20
2 years	8	0	1	7	0	15	
3 years	6	1	0	4	1	11	
4 years	2	0	1	1	0	3	
*Totals	16	1	2	12	1	29	1.81

*One-year olds not included in totals

PRODUCTIVITY RATES OF SHOT AND ACCIDENT-KILLED
DOES AS DETERMINED FROM EMBRYO COUNTS

1951 - 1957

UPPER PENINSULA

1951	(13)	1.23
1952	(25)	1.60
1953	(44)	1.50
1954	(92)	1.43
1955	(44)	1.52
1956	(95)	1.37
1957	(96)	1.45

Average 1.44

NORTHEAST FOOD
SHORTAGE AREA

1951	(38)	1.21
1952	(38)	1.55
1953	(11)	1.55
1954	(37)	1.27
1955	(34)	1.38
1956	(62)	1.18
1957	(48)	1.21

Average 1.29

BALANCE REGION II

1951	(61)	1.60
1952	(56)	1.54
1953	(21)	1.91
1954	(51)	1.74
1955	(62)	1.53
1956	(92)	1.70
1957	(70)	1.73

Average 1.66

REGION III FAWNS

1951	No data
1952	(6) 0.83
1953	(7) 0.86
1954	(18) 1.22
1955	(24) 0.54
1956	(10) 0.60
1957	(10) 1.20

Average 0.85

REGION III ADULTS

1951	No data
1952	(10) 2.10
1953	(16) 1.44
1954	(24) 2.00
1955	(31) 1.61
1956	(26) 1.62
1957	(16) 1.81

Average 1.73



Figures for adult does (2 years and older)
unless otherwise indicated.

Number of does examined shown in parenthesis.