

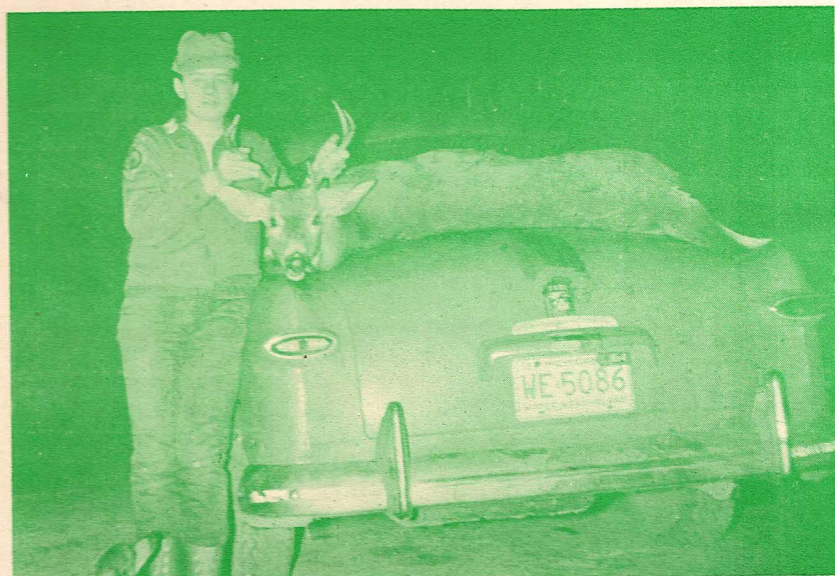
Michigan Bow Hunters

NEWS



VOLUME 1, NO. 2

SEPTEMBER, 1965



Paul Nelson and his 1964 buck

Fall Hunting Seasons Approved . .

The Conservation Commission at its July meeting approved a bulky package of fall hunting opportunities for sportsmen. Highlights from the Commission's action is as follows:—

Turkeys—Permits will be issued to 400 selected hunters who may use either shotguns or bows and arrows. Limit of one bird per hunter, and a hoped for total of about 200 birds. Hunters will need a small game license and a permit to hunt these big birds. Selection of the 400 hunters will be made by a drawing from applicants who must apply between Aug. 1 and Aug. 27.

Quail—Hunters may take four per day or 12 for the season in 15 southern Michigan counties during the November 11-15 season. Small game license needed, but no special permit required.

Elk—Season very similar to last year, when 300 special \$25.00 licenses were issued to hunters select-

ed by a drawing from applicants. As last year, Conservation Department employees may not apply, and the 300 hunters licensed in the 1964 season are also ruled out. Deadline for application is August 27 and the season runs December 8-16. About the same areas and quotas will be in force.

Bear—All bear hunting will be prohibited for two years in the Lower Peninsula where bear numbers are dwindling. In the Upper Peninsula, special seasons will be held September 1-15 and October 1 to November 5. Bear may also be taken in the Upper Peninsula during the firearm deer season.

Small Game—Most regulations are the same as last year, but Drummond Island will be open to sharp-tail grouse hunting while Dickinson county will be closed.

(Continued on Page 5)

FORT CUSTER BOW HUNTING NEWS FLASH

Word has just been received from the Conservation Department in Lansing for procedures on obtaining permits to hunt deer with bow and arrow on Fort Custer.

The Fort will be open to bow hunters from October 21 to November 5, inclusive. Five hundred names will be chosen at random (if necessary) from those that apply for **each** of two 8-day periods (October 21-28 and October 29-November 5). Each of the 1,000 permit holders may hunt on any or all of the 8 days **in their chosen period**.

Prospective hunters must file application for a permit with the Michigan Department of Conservation on a special form, to be postmarked not later than September 15. Forms may be picked up at license dealers in the Kalamazoo-Battle Creek-Grand Rapids area and at the Conservation Department field office at Plainwell, Allegan State Game Area and Yankee Springs — or write the Department of Conservation, Administrative Services, Lansing, Michigan, 48926 — **enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope to speed handling.**

BEAR



By Floyd Eccleston

To some of you bowhunters the following lines will be old hat. To a good many of you it will mean information, preparation, and waiting for the time to pass, that you too can hunt the Black Bear with your bow

(Continued on page 2)

Review Of 1964 Hunting Statistics

So many requests from bow hunters are received asking where to hunt and for statistics of what weight bow is most commonly used by bow hunters, that it is almost impossible to handle the volume of mail during the months of July, August and September each year.

Perhaps the following information may be of help to you in deciding where to hunt and what weight bow to use. In the spring we published a report compiled by Governor of District 6, with the figures taken from 190 Big Game Award Application blanks turned in by MBH members from the 1964 bow and arrow season.

Three black bear kills were reported and all from Iron County in the Upper Peninsula. (In 1965 and 1966, bear will be legal game in the Upper Peninsula only, due to the fact bear numbers are dwindling in the lower peninsula). Of the 187 deer taken Gladwin county leads with 19, Clare and Calhoun counties had 11 each. Iron, Kalamazoo, and Alpena counties followed with 9 each and Presque Isle, Lake and Alcona had eight each. The balance covered a wide range of counties in both the Upper and Lower peninsulas and ranged from one to six each. Hunter success ratio was slightly less than 9% of the entire membership.

It is just about impossible to tell you where to hunt other than to quote last years figures. One reason is that one year you will find deer plentiful in one section and the next year in the same section it is impossible to find even a track. For the most part this is probably due to feeding and watering conditions. If there is a good acorn crop you will find the deer in the oaks. If acorns are not available, deer will move on to search other food. Water is very important, so try and find where they are watering. Another point to remember is that you don't see as many deer from the road while driving along in your car as you used to. There are still lots of deer but you have to get out in the woods to find them.

Another interesting statistic is the average distance of each hit. The 1964 average distance was 25.24 yards. Most bow hunters who have been successful in getting their game each year, will tell you that they like to get the game as close as

possible before taking a shot. The thought on this is that the closer the game the more accurate the shot.

Getting on to bow weights, the average weight of bows by our successful hunters in 1964 was 46.7 lbs. The three most popular bow weights used were 50, 47 and 45 pounds respectfully. Most bow hunters will also tell you that it is best to use the weight bow you can shoot the more accurately with. Use the heaviest bow you can handle but also remember the sharper your broadheads the more penetration you get.

We hope the above information will be a guide to you and that you will be one of our successful hunters this fall. Also remember, keep the bow hunting sport clean and abide by the hunting rules. You will receive a small "Michigan Game Law Digest" when you purchase your license. Our advice is **READ IT** and help keep out sport clean and sportsmanlike.

(Con't. from Page 1)

in the spring.

Euractus americanus, the American Eu, true, actos, bear is undoubtedly one of the finest wild animals native to North America, and especially the Province or Ontario, Canada where we have been hunting for a number of years. By "we", I mean my brother-in-law, Dr. H. R. Woodruff and myself. Many of you know him as Woody.

Access from the States is easy and without complication, usually via of Big Mac and now the International bridge at the Soo. Hunting and fishing licenses are reasonably priced and may be obtained at port of entry. By inquiring among the local residents in the area you are going to hunt you will be able to locate the most likely places bear frequent. The logging camps, many operating only in the winter, are good hunting areas. Other good spots are along streams during the spawning runs of suckers and pike. Blinds built at certain spots make for good close shots.

When bear first emerge from hibernation they will eat grass, roots, bark and check the stumps for bugs, worms and small rodents until their stomachs start to stretch to become normal. During this time they do not

seem to travel far from their natural domain. It is during this time the archer will have the best chance of seeing bear.

Logging camps have been very good as many of them do not allow hunting with rifles as there are a number of men in the bush at this time of year. After you have been given permission to hunt in these areas and have proven you are not a litter bug and control your fires, etc., you will be welcome thereafter. It was one of these vast logging areas we were fortunate to find. As far as we know we have been the only two bowhunters to hunt in this area. And what a hunting-fishing paradise! I believe permission was also granted because the thought was that we couldn't hurt the bear population. And of course we didn't for the first three years.

We had a lot to learn, and to put it in print would take some doing. First we had to really find where the bear were traveling at this time of year. We had made camp by darkness he first night, up at daylight, breakfast, and ready to go. To our surprise we had made camp right on a well traveled runway. We followed it and found it to take us a half mile from camp and ended at the mouth of a good size stream that emptied into a lake. Due to the noise from the water we built the blinds away from it, but near the runways. We caught suckers and pike until we tired, and used the suckers for bait.

In normal years the best time for such hunting is during later May and the first part of June, I guess the first three years we were too early. We had a few shots, but you guessed it, we missed. From then on it was the last ten days of May. Bear are not hard to kill with the bow and arrow, provided that good sharp broadheads are used. Anywhere in the chest cavity is the best target and a bear hit through the lungs usually succumbs very rapidly. A 45 pound bow is sufficient for killing black bear. Of course a heavier bow will give more penetration if bone should be hit. The main thing is to be able to draw the weight bow you can handle, and place the arrow where it should be. Since our first trip and some eight years later we have taken five bear. Three of these have made the N.F.A.A.'s Pope and Young Club.

So make it a date and keep it. Speckled trout, pike and bear.

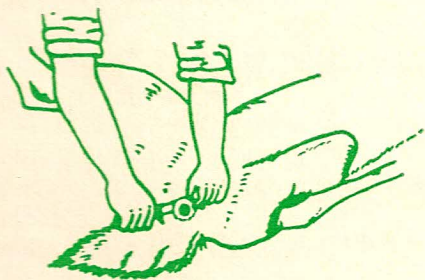
TO FIELD DRESS A DEER

(A) After making sure game is dead, the first thing to do is affix your game tag or seal to an antler—or to the ear or lower jaw if a doe. The animal is not legally yours until this has been done.

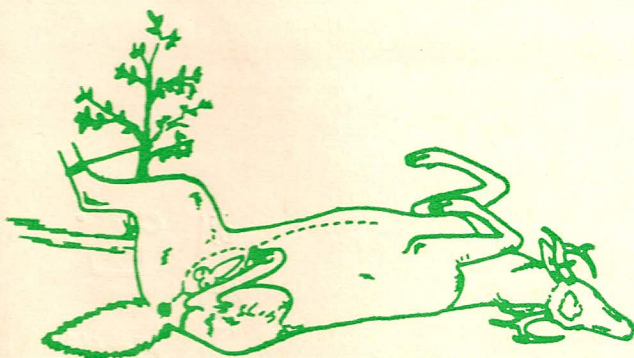


(B) Remove the arrow if still protruding from the game. Tuck in the tongue, cover or conceal bloody areas, make sure your background is pleasing (no cars, fences buildings, etc.) and take photos.

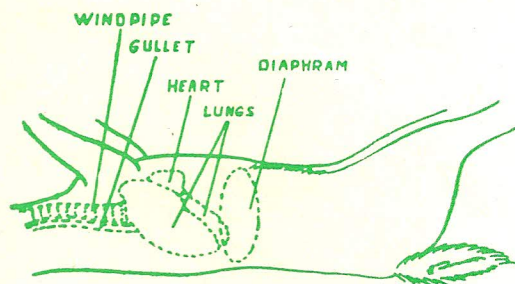
(C) Insert knife blade 3 or 4 inches slightly to one side of anus and cut circle completely around it. Make sure tube is free of surrounding tissue. Pull out an inch or two and seal tube with piece of cord or boot lace.



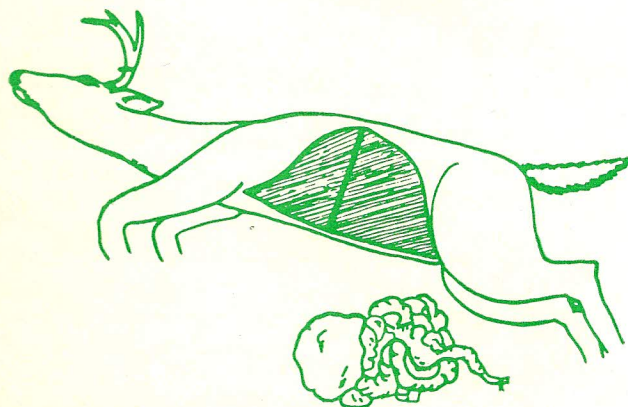
(D) Roll game on back, so head is slightly uphill. If animal is large it can be held in this position by tying legs to trees or brush, or by propping logs or rocks against both sides. Cut carcass open along center line of belly, starting at breast bone and working back. If knife is held in right hand, guide knife blade with fingers of left hand to prevent cutting into stomach or intestines. Incision should be forked to pass on each side of the sex organs, and should be continued back across aitch bone (pelvis) to anus.



(E) Cut membrane (diaphragm) separating chest cavity from paunch, slicing from breast bone down sides close to ribs. This exposes heart and lungs. Reach up past lungs into forward end of chest cavity and cut off windpipe and gullet as far forward as you can reach (windpipe feels like radiator hose). Be careful of knife blade in doing this or you may cut your grabbing hand.



(F) Turn deer on side and pull out entire contents. A few light cuts may have to be made along sides to loosen supporting tissue. Pull anus into body cavity before rolling out intestines. Be careful in doing this not to tear bladder (lies close to backbone between hind legs) or you'll taint the meat.



(G) Lift deer's head and neck to drain blood through anal opening. Wipe out inside of body with dry grass, ferns, or a cloth. Do not use water. Prop open belly with stick to promote cooling. Separate heart and liver from other organs and put in plastic bag for easy carrying.

(H) At first opportunity hang deer by antlers or head. Split breastbone and aitch bone and prop open to cool completely.

Note: Some hunters remove hair tufted glands on inside of hind legs in the belief that they will taint the meat. You can do this if you want to but it isn't necessary.



MBH Sixteenth Annual

Deer Silhouette Shoot

September 26th and 27th is fast approaching and if you haven't made plans to attend the annual MBH silhouette shoot you had better make plans today before it is too late. Livingston County Sportsmen Club are hosting the event for the second straight year at their club grounds located between Brighton and Howell and club officials report they are trying to make plans to give MBH members an even better reception than last year.

You can shoot on either Saturday or Sunday whichever is the most convenient for you. the host club will also have a small game novelty round that you can shoot either day and this will help fill your time as well as sharpen you up using your hunting bow and arrows before taking to the woods for the actual hunt. Plans have been completed for the hot dog roast about 5:00 P.M. on Saturday evening which is free to members. Don't forget the party Saturday night. Earl Foerster reports the hall has been rented and the Dance Combo is under contract to appear and furnish the dance music. This party is also free to our members.

The Deer Silhouette Annual Program will be in the mail around the first week in September and will list available motels and restaurants and other pertinent information. Camping and trailer space is also available on the club grounds as the program of events, shooting rules well as three meals a day and lunches in between. Sunday noon the club will serve their famous Bar-B-Q Chicken Dinner for the reasonable price of \$1.50 for a complete meal.

We asked the host club to tell us a little about their club and facilities and Harold Simmons of Howell has complied. The club grounds are located north of Interstate 96 between Howell and Brighton on McClements Road. The club has 54 beautiful acres of rolling, wooded and semi-wooded property. A small stream runs across the club grounds and we have our own pond. Club members and their families enjoy excellent pan fishing from the pond. There is a large area set aside for camping and picnicing and the large Bar-B-Q pit is used the year around for cook-

SUPPLEMENTAL BOW AND ARROW HUNTER INFORMATION — 1964

	Hunters	Days Hunted	Hunter Success
Region I	3,310	27,420	20.1%
Region II	29,310	227,710	5.8%
Region III	11,760	121,500	3.7%
State-wide	44,380	376,630	6.3%

KNOW YOUR GAME

Species	Male	Female	Young
Deer	Buck	Doe	Fawn
Elk	Bull	Cow	Calf
Bear	Boar	Sow	Cub
Moose	Bull	Cow	Calf
Mt. Goat	Billy	Nanny	Kid
Antelope	Buck	Doe	Fawn
Mt. Sheep	Ram	Ewe	Lamb
Wild Boar	Boar	Sow	Shoat
Wolf	Dog	Bitch	Pup or Whelp
Mt. Lion	Tom	Lioness	Cub

outs and several chicken Bar-B-Qs are held during the summer months. MBH members will remember the fine chicken dinner served last year at the silhouette shoot on Sunday afternoon and this same event is scheduled for this year.

On the wooded part of the club grounds we have 28 field targets with straw butts and 28 silhouette targets with sand bank back stops to catch the arrows. The club also boasts a very nice modern club house with a kitchen, rest rooms and a large combination dining room and meeting room. Parking for cars is excellent, with plenty of room for hundreds of cars and also supervised at all times, so no cars are parked in and you are free to come and go as you wish.

The Livingston County Sports Club is happy to again host the MBH shoot and are doing their best to provide an even better affair than last year.

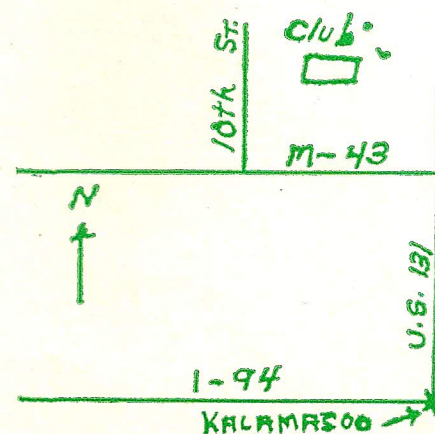
Last but not least, Walter Smith of Detroit is in charge of the merchandise prizes that will be given away at the shoot as awards. There will also be several hundred dollars worth of door prizes and permanent trophies for first place in all divisions, Instinctive and Free Style, Men, Women, Boy and Girl classes. Please wont you join us?

MBH District 7 "Deer and Bear Silhouette Shoot"

Governor of District 7, Deucaine Lake announces a district silhouette shoot will be held in his district on September 12th at Kalamazoo, Michigan. Host club is the Potawatomi Bowmen. Chairman of the event is Arnold Leddy.



Shooting time is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Prizes for all classes.

Special Note: Below is a map so you can easily find the range. Please note there is only one way to enter on to 10th Street and that is off M43. So leave I-94 or 131 at M-43. Go west to the first road (10th Street) and go north to the range. There will be signs at the corners where you have to turn.




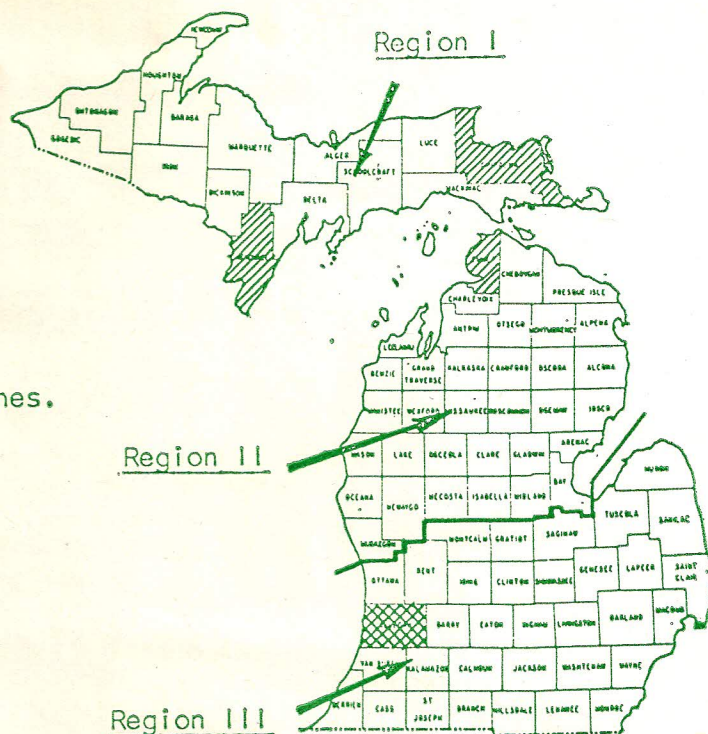
Archery Seasons--1964

State-wide, October 1 - November 5.

-  --Open to any deer.
-  --Bucks only, antlers at least 3 inches.

Allagan County, October 1 - December 15.

-  --Open to any deer.



3rd Annual MBH District 2 Live Deer Hunt

District 2 Governor, Vern Nelson and County Rep Jim Sands inform us that October 30 and 31 are the dates for the annual live deer hunt to be held in the Cadillac area and is open to anyone interested in hunting with the bow and arrow.

Meeting Place — Johnny's Restaurant, 902 S. Mitchell St., Cadillac, Michigan — (1 block north of Michigan State Police Post on U.S. 131)

Time — 7:00 A.M. each morning all ready to go.

Plenty of deer have been seen and missed on the previous two hunts and Vern and Jim are in hopes a few hunters connect this year and taken home a trophy.

(Con't. from Page 1)

Bobcats—The bounty on bobcats was removed this year, so they can be hunted for sport in the Upper Peninsula the year around. In the Lower Peninsula, last year's cat season ran from December 15-February 15; this winter the season will run from January 1 to February 28.

Deer of either sex may be taken in all counties of Michigan with the bow and arrow during the regular bow and arrow season.

Knockin' Around The North

By-Liz Gall

Onaway Bow Hunters are busy these days with classes for local people interested in hunting with the bow — instructing "would be" hunters in the care and use of their equipment and safety practices with same.

This year a bow hunter will have to pass up that chance at a bear in the lower peninsula—and, of course, this is the year that folks in the Rogers City, Millersburg, Onaway area have been seeing the bruins on the roam. That dry spell in the early part of our summer season and the late frost made wild berries hard to find. One animal was so bold as to visit the back yard of some folks near Onaway.

The deer report — per local folks, not conservation report — is pro and con. Many have seen lots of fawns, others were treated by the sight of dandy bucks, while others have had trouble spotting any size of sex of the game animal. Guess it's like a neighbor of ours says, "The deer are where you find 'em!" The drought and the cool, cool weather have given us hopes that the foliage will be dead and down early this year. There are spots where the brakes are brown and withered from the frost and there is the smell of

fall in the air. The apple crop is good up here this year, the acorns are spotty, and, due to recent rains, the mushrooms are popping up all over. These are favorite foods of deer as well as other wild life. They prefer the mushrooms found in the jack-pines area — they know that apples and acorns will keep longer and be there for the taking after the mushrooms are gone.

The S.F.A.A. held their Field Championship Shoot Aug. 22 and will now be concentrating their practice sessions to hunting tackle. Arrows will be straightened, some replaced by new ones, and some will simply change a few heads — but all will be "test shot" in the next few weeks to find the best of the bunch before the S.F.A.A. silhouette shoot coming up Sept. 19th on the Petosky Bowmen hunting range near Petoskey. Targets at this shoot will be similar to MBH silhouette animals and prizes will be "handmade" trophies. This is an open shoot — that is any and all bowmen are invited to participate. An "added attraction" at this shoot will be a drawing for merchandise prizes for those who take part and who are paid-up MBH members.

Attention Bowhunters Everywhere

16th Annual Michigan Bowhunters Deer Silhouette Shoot

Livingston County Sportsmans Club

BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN



September 26 & 27, 1965

SATURDAY — 8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY — 8:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

- FREE HOT DOG ROAST -

SATURDAY — 5:00 P.M.

Trophies For First Place, Man, Woman, Boy, Girl
Instinctive and Free Style Divisions

Merchandise Prizes awarded on the Lewis System

Plenty of Door Prizes - Dance Saturday Night, Live Band

YOU MUST BE A MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE BUT MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE SHOOT