

Ashdown Area Deer Group(AADG)

Replies to Deer Questionnaire

28 April 2009

NB Not all questions were answered in the 29 questionnaires returned

Areas and habitats of properties covered by questionnaire		
	Hectares	%
Total	4939	100
Woodland	1782	36
Pasture	1750	35
Arable	1239	25
'Other'	35	1

The area covered by AADG is about 385 km². The questionnaire therefore covers about 12% of it.

No. of properties in which deer species present	
Fallow	25
Roe	21
Muntjac	13
Sika	3

No. of deer shot			
	Female	Male	Total (incl. unsexed)
Fallow	263	324	600
Roe	21	16	37
Muntjac	3	5	9
Sika	1	0	1

The number of deer shot/hectare of area covered by questionnaire = 0.131, i.e. 13.1/km².

The impact of deer on properties. Score severity: 0=not an issue, 3=major issue.		
Impact areas	No. properties where deer have an impact	Score severity of impact on a scale 0-3
Existing woodland	22	3 x 0, 7 x 1, 9 x 2, 3 x 3
Coppice	18	1 x 0, 5 x 1, 8 x 2, 4 x 3
New planting (<10 years)	16	1 x 0, 1 x 1, 6 x 2, 9 x 3
Road traffic accidents	11	0 x 0, 4 x 1, 3 x 2, 4 x 3
Agriculture/horticulture/ gardens/golf course	21	2 x 0, 1 x 1, 6 x 2, 12 x 3
Fencing	4	2 x 3

What happens to venison from properties, in frequency and as approximate percentages (i.e. venison may be used in different ways from any one property)	No	%
Sell to game dealer	7	70, 60, 10 (x 2)
Own consumption or give to friends	15	100 (x 2), 60, 33, 20, 10 (x 5), 5 (x 2)
Stalker takes venison in exchange for culling	20	100 (x 2), 95, 90 (x 3), 80, 33, 30, 20, 10
Own venison outlet direct to retailer (butcher, restaurant etc.)	2	65, 20
Direct to consumer	1	20

Deer larder arrangements on/for properties	No.
No larder facilities	12
Own larder for handling "in skin" carcasses only	7
Own larder with facility to skin and cut carcasses for sale as venison	2
I have spare larder capacity and would be willing to share use	0

Obstacles or lack of incentives to cull deer	No.
Lack of expertise in culling	2
Lack of time to cull	6
Low venison price locally	2
Woodland design or structure makes it difficult to cull	8
Lack of high seats	5
Difficulty in retrieving or transporting carcasses	2
Lack of carcass storage locally	0
Public access	11
Safety	3
Lack of suitable rifle	2
Dogs off lead	1
Sentimental reasons	1
Public resistance	1

Local deer management groups	No.
Aware of a local deer management group near you other than the AADG	6
A member of a local deer management group near you	4
Interested in becoming involved in the AADG	11