



I L L I N O I S

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

PRODUCTION NOTE

**University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign Library
Large-scale Digitization Project, 2007.**

RESULTS OF THE 1989 ILLINOIS DEER HUNTER SURVEY

by

William L. Anderson
and
John H. Kube



Illinois Department of Conservation
Division of Wildlife Resources
Administrative Report Number 1
September 1990

Illinois Department of Conservation
Division of Wildlife Resources
Administrative Report
14 September 1990

RESULTS OF THE 1989 ILLINOIS DEER HUNTER SURVEY

William L. Anderson, Investigations and Surveys Program
John H. Kube, Forest Game Program

Abstract: Purchasers of 1989 firearms (shotgun and muzzleloader) and archery (bow) permits were surveyed via mail-letter questionnaire to determine their attitudes and opinions of current and future deer hunting regulations in Illinois. In 1989, 151,067 individuals received 195,627 permits, and they harvested 66,000 deer. Of 5,945 questionnaires mailed out, 4,882 were returned for a response rate of 82%. For firearms permit holders, 97% obtained 1 permit and 3% obtained 2 permits. For archery permit holders, 87% received 1 permit and 13% received 2 permits. 96% of the firearms permittees and 94% of the archery permittees hunted deer in Illinois in 1989. Hunters who used shotguns and/or bows represented 96% of the deer hunters, while those who used muzzleloaders comprised 4%. The hunters averaged 35 years of age. All groups of hunters--whether shotgun, muzzleloaders, or bow--were supportive of (1) dates currently used for the deer hunting seasons, (2) issuing additional permits during the second 3-day firearms season, (3) issuing "antlerless" (doe or fawn only) permits in counties where deer are excessive, and (4) requiring firearms hunters and bow hunters to bring deer to check stations. All groups of hunters responded negatively to (1) assigning firearms hunters to a 3-day season in November or to a 4-day season in December, (2) permitting local vendors to issue unlimited numbers of antlered-only permits, and (3) legalizing pistols or crossbows for deer hunting. The 3 basic groups of hunters were divided in their attitudes toward (1) changing the firearms season to 9 consecutive days in mid-November, (2) the issuance of nuisance deer permits to landowners and farmers, and (3) establishing a muzzleloader season during Thanksgiving weekend. 45% of the hunters, which equates to 62,000 individuals, said they would hunt if an entirely new deer season were implemented for muzzleloaders. The pins that are issued to successful deer hunters are very important or moderately important to 64% of the hunters. Only 5% of the hunters paid landowners for the right to deer hunt in 1989, but 40% would be willing to pay (average \$16.69 per day). Fewer than 5% of the deer hunters belong to 1 or more state or national deer hunting or conservation organizations. These findings are discussed in terms of their implications for managing the white-tailed deer herd and regulating deer hunters in Illinois.

The white-tailed deer herd is a popular and growing renewable natural resource in Illinois. Deer occur throughout the length and breadth of the state; they are common in most areas and over abundant in others. When over abundant, deer can damage orchards, nursery stock, ornamental plants, and agricultural crops. The species is legal game for archery hunters in all 102 counties and for firearms hunters in 98 counties. In 1989, 151,067 individuals received a total of 195,627 deer hunting permits, and they harvested about 66,000 deer. Thus, in managing the deer herd, it is important to balance the desires of hunters for more deer with those of landowners and farmers to control the population.

To make sound socio-biological decisions for managing deer, the Illinois Department of Conservation (DOC) must be attuned to the attitudes and opinions of both hunters and landowners/farmers toward the deer herd and deer hunting regulations. Therefore, the purpose of the present study was to survey deer hunters to determine their feelings about current and future deer hunting regulations in Illinois. Surveys of this type provide an avenue for understanding the attitudes of the rank-and-file hunter--i.e., the feelings of the "silent majority"--toward the deer resource and the sport of deer hunting. Illinois deer hunters were previously surveyed following the 1981 season (Kube 1984). The attitudes and opinions of landowners and farmers are being determined via a separate survey (C.M. Nixon, pers. commun.).

METHODS AND MATERIALS

The DOC Permit Office issued 6 different types of deer hunting

permits (totaling 195,627 permits) to 151,067 individuals for the 1989 season (Table 1a). The deer hunter survey was directed toward the paid firearms (shotgun and muzzleloader) permit holders and the paid archery (bow) permit holders. These groups represented 136,942 individuals (91% of total), and they were issued 170,682 permits (87% of total). The mailing list for the survey included 1,984 paid firearms (shotgun) permittees, 1,978 paid firearms (muzzleloaders) permittees, and 1,978 paid archery permittees (2.1%, 41.4%, and 2.8% of these respective groups), all of which were systematically selected.

The questionnaire used for the survey (Fig. 1) and a letter of explanation (Fig. 2) were initially mailed on 21 December 1989. Non-respondents were sent a 2nd copy of the questionnaire and another letter (Fig. 3) on 31 January 1990. As of 7 March, 4,882 usable questionnaires were returned for a response rate of 82% (Table 1b).

Data were transferred from the questionnaires to a computer file using a data management program (IBM dBASE III+). The data were then analyzed with a statistical program (IBM SPSS/PC+ V2.0).

According to DOC Permit Office records, 23% of the paid firearms (shotgun) permit holders and 35% of the paid firearms (muzzleloader) permit holders also obtained paid archery permits for deer hunting in Illinois in 1989. Conversely, 32% of the paid archery permit holders also acquired paid firearms permits. Thus, the deer hunters fall into 7 different groups according to the type or types of weapons they used (Table 2). Consequently, the totals calculated for shotgun, muzzleloader, and bow hunters, and all

hunters combined (Tables 3-21), were weighted according to the relative abundance of these 7 groups (Cochran 1977:91-95).

HUNTING REGULATIONS IN 1989

The deer hunting season for firearms (shotgun with rifled slug or muzzle-loading rifle) was held on 17-19 November and 8-10 December in 98 counties. There was no firearms season in Cook, DuPage, Kane, and Lake counties--the Chicago metropolitan area. For archery (bow) hunters, the season occurred on 1 October-16 November, 20 November-7 December, and 11-31 December in the 98 counties with a firearms season, and from 1 October to 31 December in the 4 counties without a firearms season. For all seasons, legal shooting time was from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset, and 1 deer was allowed per permit.

FINDINGS

General Information

Permits Received. Of the individuals with paid firearms (shotgun) permits, 97.5% reported on the questionnaire that they obtained 1 permit and 2.5% obtained 2 permits. Corresponding percentages for individuals with paid firearms (muzzleloader) permits were 97.0% and 3.0%, respectively. Similarly, for the individuals with paid archery permits, 86.7% reported receiving 1 permit and 13.3% reported receiving 2 permits. These percentages are in close agreement with official records in the DOC Permit Office (Table 1b).

Percentage Hunting. As reported by respondents to the

questionnaire, 96.1% of the paid firearms (shotgun and muzzleloader combined) permit holders and 94.0% of the paid archery permit holders actually hunted deer in Illinois in 1989.

Weapons Used. Based on DOC Permit Office records and the results of the survey, hunters who used shotguns and/or bows represented 96% of the deer hunters in Illinois in 1989 (Table 2). Those who used muzzleloaders, either singly or in combination with other weapons, comprised 4%.

Because many hunters use more than 1 type of weapon, the 4,882 permit holders who filled out and returned questionnaires were expected to have used a total of 6,345 weapons (shotguns, muzzleloaders, and bows combined) during the 1989 season. In actuality, they reported using 6,446 individual weapons or +1.6% of the expected. The number of bows reported being used was +5.7%. However, the number of shotguns reported being used was +508 (+24.0%), and the number of muzzleloaders reported being used was -548 (-31.1%). These offsetting values indicate that about 30% of the firearms hunters who expressed intentions (on the permit applications) to use muzzleloaders ended up using shotguns instead.

Age of Hunters. The mean age of all deer hunters was 35.1 years. Muzzleloader hunters were older than this mean, and bow hunters were slightly younger (Table 3).

Attitudes and Opinions

Season Dates. The vast majority (82%) of the hunters liked the dates used for the deer hunting seasons in Illinois in 1989 (Table 4). This means that most of the shotgun and muzzleloader

hunters approved of the split 6-day firearms season, and most of the bow hunters approved of the 86-92 days allocated for the archery season.

About one-half of the shotgun hunters (50%) and muzzleloader hunters (53%) agreed with changing the firearms season to 9 consecutive days in mid-November (Table 5). However, nearly as many of these hunters (45% for both groups) disagreed with this idea. Most of the bow hunters (56%) also disagreed. For all hunters combined, 45% agreed and 49% disagreed with the 9-day firearms season.

All groups of hunters--whether shotgun, muzzleloader, or bow--strongly disagreed with the idea of assigning firearms hunters to a 3-day season in November with antlered-only permits dominating or to a 4-day season in December with either-sex permits dominating (Table 6). Only 14% of the hunters supported this type of firearms season.

Firearms Permits. Majorities of the shotgun hunters (62%) and muzzleloader hunters (62%), and about one-half (53%) of the bow hunters, liked the idea of issuing additional permits during the second 3-day firearms season (Table 7). Overall, for all hunters combined, 58% supported the idea and 29% disliked it.

Majorities of shotgun hunters (62%), muzzleloader hunters (64%), and bow hunters (64%) disagreed with permitting local vendors to issue unlimited numbers of antlered-only permits for the firearms season (Table 8). For all hunters combined, only 29% agreed with this concept.

All 3 groups of hunters agreed with the issuance of

"antlerless" (doe or fawn only) permits during the second 3-day firearms season in counties where deer are excessive (Table 9). For all hunters collectively, 69% agreed with this idea and 25% disagreed.

Each of the 3 groups of hunters were about evenly divided on the concept of issuing additional permits to landowners and farmers to help control nuisance deer (Table 10). For all hunters combined, 48% agreed with issuing these permits and 47% disagreed.

Pistols and Crossbows. Majorities of all 3 groups of hunters thought that both pistols and crossbows should be illegal for taking deer in Illinois (Tables 11 and 12). When all hunters were considered collectively, 61% believed that pistols should be illegal and 56% believed crossbows should be illegal.

Muzzleloader Season. A majority (55%) of the muzzleloader hunters agreed with the idea of establishing a 3-day muzzleloader season during Thanksgiving weekend (Table 13). However, only 33% of the shotgun hunters and 36% of the bow hunters were in favor of this season. For all hunters combined, 35% supported the Thanksgiving weekend season for muzzleloaders and 50% disagreed with the idea.

If a muzzleloader season is established during Thanksgiving weekend, bow hunters would also be allowed in the field during these 3 days. Majorities of the shotgun hunters (55%) and muzzleloader hunters (56%) believe that these bow hunters should be required to wear blaze orange at all times during a muzzleloader season (Table 14). Although only 27% of the bow hunters are of similar opinion, 62% of them believe that blaze orange should be

required at least part of the time--i.e., either all the time or when traveling to and from elevated tree stands. Overall, for all hunters, 44% think that bow hunters should wear blaze orange at all times, 29% think the requirement should apply only when traveling to and from elevated tree stands, and 22% believe there should be no such requirement. In Missouri, bow hunters are required to wear blaze orange at all times during that state's muzzleloader season (L.P. Hansen, pers. commun.).

It has also been suggested that an entirely new season could be created for muzzleloaders only. This season would be in addition to the regular firearms season, and it would be open to anyone who applied for and received a permit. If created, 45% of the shotgun hunters, 96% of the muzzleloader hunters, 41% of the bow hunters, and 45% of all hunters combined claim they would participate in this new muzzleloader season. These percentages equate to 62,000 hunters, not counting those with landowner permits.

Check Stations and Pins. Overwhelming majorities of all 3 groups of hunters thought the requirement to bring deer to check stations was a reasonable demand of firearms hunters (Table 16). For all hunters combined, 89% thought the requirement was reasonable and only 9% thought it was unreasonable.

Majorities of the shotgun hunters (65%) and muzzleloader hunters (64%), and about one-half (51%) of the bow hunters, thought that bow hunters should also be required to bring deer to check stations (Table 17). For all hunters combined, 60% were in favor of mandatory check stations for bow hunters and 32% were opposed to

such a requirement.

The DOC has traditionally issued pins (buttons) to successful deer hunters. For all hunters collectively, these pins are very important to 30%, moderately important to 34%, and not important to 36% (Table 18). Although differences were small, the pins appeared to be more important to shotgun hunters than to either muzzleloader or bow hunters.

Paying Landowners to Hunt. Only 5% of the hunters paid landowners in Illinois for the right to hunt deer in 1989 (Table 19). However, 40% of the hunters were willing to pay a fee for the right to deer hunt (Table 20a). Of these hunters, 91% would be willing to pay \$20 or less per day to a landowner (Table 20b). The average was \$16.69 per day.

Membership in Organizations

Only 4% of the deer hunters in Illinois are members of Whitetails Unlimited (Table 21). Lesser proportions belong to the Illinois Bow Hunters Society (1.4%), Illinois Bow Hunters Association (1.6%), Illinois Wildlife Federation (2.8%), or Illinois Sportsmen's Legislative Coalition (1.4%). About 8% of the hunters claim to be members of other organizations that represent their deer hunting interest in Illinois; these are primarily local sportsmen's and archery clubs.

DISCUSSION

Findings of this survey suggest that hunters are reasonably well satisfied with the current deer hunting regulations in

Illinois. The hunters--whether shotgun, muzzleloader, or bow--overwhelmingly liked the dates used for the deer seasons in 1989 (Table 4). For the flip side, all 3 groups of hunters were less than enthusiastic about the prospects of changing the dates and sequence for the firearms season (Tables 5 and 6) or for establishing a muzzleloader season during Thanksgiving weekend (Table 13). The hunters were also apprehensive (i.e., about evenly divided) on the subject of issuing additional permits to landowners and farmers to help control nuisance deer (Table 10). All 3 groups strongly disagreed with the idea of permitting local vendors to issue unlimited numbers of additional antlered-only permits for the firearms season (Table 8).

However, the hunters did endorse some changes in the issuance of deer permits. First, most of the shotgun hunters and muzzleloader hunters, and about one-half of the bow hunters, supported the concept of issuing additional permits during the second 3-day firearms season (Table 7). Second, all 3 groups of hunters agreed with the idea of issuing "antlerless" (doe or fawn only) permits during the second 3-day firearms season in counties where deer are excessive (Table 9).

Based on these findings, it is recommended that the dates used for both the firearms and archery seasons remain unchanged for the immediate future. However, should it become necessary to provide additional hunting opportunity and/or exert greater control of deer numbers, an additional day could be added to either or both of the 2 current 3-day seasons. Such a change would have the least impact on--and probably be most acceptable to--the majority of the

hunters. The system currently in place for issuing permits should remain unchanged except that additional permits, including "antlerless" permits in counties where deer are excessive, could be issued during the second 3-day firearms season.

There appears to be little justification for establishing a muzzleloader season. The muzzleloader users, which represent 4% of the deer hunters (Table 2), were the only group that showed support for this idea and, surprisingly, their support was not overwhelming (Table 13). Shotgun hunters and bow hunters, which collectively comprise 96% of the deer hunters, reacted negatively to the prospects of a muzzleloader season.

All deer hunters--whether shotgun, muzzleloader, or bow--strongly endorsed the longstanding requirement for firearms hunters to bring their deer to county check stations (Table 16). Most of the shotgun (65%) and muzzleloader hunters (63%), and about one-half (51%) of the bow hunters, also supported similar requirements for bow hunters (Table 17). Because check stations are invaluable for collecting biological data and aid in law enforcement, the practice of bringing deer to check stations should be required for both firearms hunters and bow hunters throughout the state.

The DOC purchases about 100,000 pins per year for distribution to successful deer hunters. At current prices, these pins cost about \$0.04 each for a total expense of \$4,000 per year. Given the relatively low cost of these pins and the fact that they are very important or moderately important to 64% of the deer hunters (Table 18), the practice of purchasing and distributing the pins should continue. However, in so far as reasonable and cost permissive,

the quality of the pins should be improved.

The possibility of legalizing pistols and crossbows for deer hunting in Illinois has been the subject of much debate in recent years. The argument for pistols stems from the fact that large-caliber handguns are ballistically similar to the muzzle-loading rifles that are currently used in Illinois. On the down side, most pistols have capacity for at least 6 cartridges (versus 3 for shotguns) and are inherently less accurate than rifles and many slug-firing shotguns. Crossbows, which are mechanically held in the drawn position, can be operated effectively with little practice; consequently, they are highly competitive when pitted with hand-held compound and long bows.

The establishment of a crossbow season at the expense of the current archery season, or of a pistol season at the expense of the regular firearms season, would be unpopular--and probably controversial--among Illinois deer hunters. Legalizing crossbows for the archery season would also be unpopular. However, the classification of pistols as legal weapons for the regular firearms season would probably be met with less resistance, as would an entirely new season for either pistols or crossbows. Unfortunately, any "new" deer hunting season would almost certainly have to be scheduled in January, when bucks have started to drop their antlers and embryos in pregnant does are conspicuous.

Acknowledgements.--Appreciation is extended to T. Miller and J.A. Tranquilli for assistance in developing the questionnaire used for the survey; J.A. Ellis and J. Garver for critically reading a

preliminary draft of the report; C.M. Race and D.C. Newton for preparing the mailing list; R.E. Warner for help in computer programming; L.K. Campbell and C.M. Zielske for processing data; and E.A. Anderson and T.H. Simpson for word processing. This study was funded in part by Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Project W-105-R, the DOC, Illinois Natural History Survey, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, cooperating.

LITERATURE CITED

- Cochran, W.G. 1977. Sampling techniques. John Wiley & Sons, New York*Chichester*Brisbane*Toronto*Singapore. 428pp.
- Kube, J.H. 1984. Opinions and preferences of Illinois deer hunters. Job Completion Report, Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration, Project W-63-R. 46pp.

Table 1a. The types and numbers of deer hunting permits issued by the Illinois Department of Conservation in 1989. The 195,627 permits were issued to 151,067 individual hunters. There were 1,975 hunters who received 2 paid firearms permits, 8,741 hunters who received 2 paid archery permits, and 23,024 hunters who received both a paid firearms permit and a paid archery permit.

Type of Permit	Number	Percentage
Paid Firearms	99,775 ^{a,b}	51.0
Paid Archery	70,907	36.2
Paid Landowner Firearms	8,962	4.6
Free Landowner Firearms	12,473	6.4
Free Landowner Archery	3,043	1.6
Special	467	0.2
Total	195,627	

^aIncluded 94,998 (48.6%) permits issued to hunters who intended to use shotguns and 4,777 (2.4%) permits issued to hunters who intended to use muzzleloaders.

^bIncluded 89,255 either-sex permits and 11,709 antlered-only permits.

Table 1b. Responses of hunters to the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey.

Response Rate				
	List of Shot-gun Hunters	List of Muzzle-loader Hunters	List of Bow Hunters	Total
Questionnaires:				
Mailed	1,984	1,983	1,978	5,945
Returned	1,671 (84.2%)	1,738 (87.6%)	1,473 (74.5%)	4,882 (82.1%)
Weapons Used				
	Shotgun	Muzzleloader	Bow	Total
Source:				
Expected	2,119	1,761	2,465	6,345
Reported ^a	2,627	1,213	2,606	6,446
Difference	+508 (+24.0%)	-548 (-31.1%)	+141 (+5.7%)	+101 (+1.6%)
Permits Received				
	Shotgun Hunters	Muzzleloader Hunters	Bow Hunters	
Source:				
Official Records - 1	(firearms) 98.0% ^b	(firearms)	(archery) 85.9%	
2	2.0% ^b		14.1%	
Reported ^a - 1	97.5%	97.0%	87.5%	
2	2.5%	3.0%	12.5%	

^aVia questionnaire.

^bShotgun hunters and muzzleloader hunters combined.

Table 2. Number of paid permit holders who used shotguns, muzzleloaders, and/or bows during the deer hunting season in Illinois in 1989.

Type of Hunter	Number	Percentage
Shotgun only	71,253	52.0
Muzzleloader only	2,236	1.6
Bow only	39,142	28.6
Shotgun + muzzleloader	1,287	1.0
Shotgun + bow	20,928	15.3
Muzzleloader + bow	1,144	0.8
All 3 weapons	952	0.7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	136,942	100.0

Table 3. The ages of hunters who filled out and returned the questionnaire used for the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey.

Type of Hunter	n	Years	
		Mean \pm SE	Range
Shotgun			
Shotgun only	1,359	35.5 \pm 0.4	9-84
Shotgun and muzzleloader	107	42.1 \pm 1.0	15-72
Shotgun and bow	1,034	35.2 \pm 0.4	12-76
All 3 weapons	101	37.8 \pm 0.9	11-77
Total	2,601	35.5 \pm 0.2	9-84
Muzzleloader			
Muzzleloader only	563	41.8 \pm 0.5	13-79
Muzzleloader and shotgun	107	42.1 \pm 1.0	15-72
Muzzleloader and bow	433	38.6 \pm 0.4	14-71
All 3 weapons	101	37.8 \pm 0.9	11-77
Total	1,204	40.6 \pm 0.3	11-79
Bow			
Bow only	1,018	32.9 \pm 0.3	12-75
Bow and shotgun	1,034	35.2 \pm 0.4	12-76
Bow and muzzleloader	433	38.6 \pm 0.4	14-71
All 3 weapons	101	37.8 \pm 0.9	11-77
Total	2,586	33.9 \pm 0.2	12-77
All Hunters	4,615	35.1 \pm 0.2	9-84

Table 4. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

4. Did you like or dislike the dates used for the deer hunting seasons in Illinois in 1989?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Liked	Disliked	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,359	73.8	17.3	8.9
Shotgun and muzzleloader	107	72.0	21.5	6.5
Shotgun and bow	1,032	77.9	16.6	5.5
All 3 weapons	102	73.5	21.6	4.9
Total	2,600	74.7 ± 1.7 ^a	17.2 ± 1.5	8.1 ± 1.1
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	563	69.6	19.9	10.5
Muzzleloader and shotgun	107	72.0	21.5	6.5
Muzzleloader and bow	428	69.4	22.7	7.9
All 3 weapons	102	73.5	21.6	4.9
Total	1,200	70.8 ± 2.8	21.1 ± 2.4	8.1 ± 1.6
Bow				
Bow only	1,014	94.0	3.1	3.0
Bow and shotgun	1,033	97.2	1.4	1.5
Bow and muzzleloader	432	97.2	1.4	1.4
All 3 weapons	102	94.1	2.9	2.9
Total	2,581	95.1 ± 0.8	2.5 ± 0.6	2.4 ± 0.2
All Hunters	4,605	82.4 ± 1.1	11.7 ± 0.9	5.9 ± 0.7

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 5. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

5. Would you agree or disagree with changing the firearms deer season in Illinois from a split 6-day season (3 days in November and 3 days in December) to a single 9-day season in mid-November?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,366	52.3	42.7	5.0
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	55.0	41.3	3.7
Shotgun and bow	1,040	41.8	53.8	4.3
All 3 weapons	102	40.2	58.8	1.0
Total	2,617	49.9 ± 2.0 ^a	45.3 ± 1.9	4.8 ± 0.8
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	565	55.2	40.7	4.1
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	55.0	41.3	3.7
Muzzleloader and bow	436	55.0	43.6	1.4
All 3 weapons	102	40.2	58.8	1.0
Total	1,212	52.5 ± 2.9	44.5 ± 2.9	3.0 ± 1.0
Bow				
Bow only	1,021	32.1	57.6	10.3
Bow and shotgun	1,040	41.8	53.8	4.3
Bow and muzzleloader	436	55.0	43.6	1.4
All 3 weapons	102	40.2	58.8	1.0
Total	2,599	35.9 ± 1.9	56.1 ± 1.9	8.0 ± 1.1
All Hunters	4,639	44.6 ± 1.5	49.4 ± 1.5	6.0 ± 0.7

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 6. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

6. Do you agree or disagree with the idea of assigning firearms hunters to a 3-day season in November or to a 4-day season in December, but not to both seasons? For the 3 days in November, most of the hunters would receive antlered-only permits. For the 4 days in December, most of the hunters would receive either-sex permits.

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,371	9.8	83.1	7.1
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	9.2	89.9	0.9
Shotgun and bow	1,041	8.6	85.2	6.1
All 3 weapons	102	7.8	88.2	3.9
Total	2,623	9.5 ± 1.1 ^a	83.7 ± 1.4	6.8 ± 1.0
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	564	6.2	87.2	6.6
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	9.2	89.9	0.9
Muzzleloader and bow	435	9.0	84.4	6.7
All 3 weapons	102	7.8	88.2	3.9
Total	1,210	7.7 ± 1.5	87.6 ± 1.9	4.7 ± 1.2
Bow				
Bow only	1,019	29.0	52.6	18.4
Bow and shotgun	1,041	8.6	85.2	6.1
Bow and muzzleloader	435	9.0	84.4	6.7
All 3 weapons	102	7.8	88.2	3.9
Total	2,597	21.5 ± 1.6	64.7 ± 1.9	13.8 ± 1.4
All Hunters	4,641	14.0 ± 1.0	76.6 ± 1.2	9.4 ± 0.9

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 7. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

7. Do you like or dislike the idea of issuing additional permits (i.e., in addition to county quotas) during the second 3-day firearms season in Illinois?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Liked	Disliked	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,365	61.8	26.1	12.2
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	65.1	24.8	10.1
Shotgun and bow	1,037	61.5	27.9	10.6
All 3 weapons	102	64.7	24.5	10.8
Total	2,613	61.8 ± 1.9 ^a	26.4 ± 1.7	11.8 ± 1.3
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	561	59.0	29.6	11.4
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	65.1	24.8	10.1
Muzzleloader and bow	434	58.8	29.7	11.5
All 3 weapons	102	64.7	24.5	10.8
Total	1,206	61.6 ± 2.8	27.5 ± 2.6	10.9 ± 1.8
Bow				
Bow only	1,020	47.4	36.4	16.3
Bow and shotgun	1,037	61.5	27.9	10.6
Bow and muzzleloader	434	58.8	29.7	11.5
All 3 weapons	102	64.7	24.5	10.8
Total	2,593	52.6 ± 2.0	33.2 ± 1.8	14.2 ± 1.4
All Hunters	4,628	58.3 ± 1.4	29.0 ± 1.3	12.7 ± 1.0

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 8. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

8. Would you agree or disagree with permitting local vendors to issue unlimited numbers of antlered-only, county-specific permits for the firearms deer season?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,368	30.0	61.8	8.3
Shotgun and muzzleloader	108	34.3	58.3	7.4
Shotgun and bow	1,039	30.9	62.8	6.4
All 3 weapons	102	39.2	55.9	4.9
Total	2,617	30.4 ± 1.8 ^a	61.8 ± 1.9	7.8 ± 1.0
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	565	25.3	68.8	5.8
Muzzleloader and shotgun	108	34.3	58.3	7.4
Muzzleloader and bow	434	27.2	67.7	5.1
All 3 weapons	102	39.2	55.9	4.9
Total	1,209	30.3 ± 2.6	63.8 ± 2.8	5.9 ± 1.4
Bow				
Bow only	1,023	26.1	64.1	9.8
Bow and shotgun	1,039	30.9	62.8	6.4
Bow and muzzleloader	434	27.2	67.7	5.1
All 3 weapons	102	39.2	55.9	4.9
Total	2,598	27.9 ± 1.8	63.6 ± 1.9	18.5 ± 1.1
All Hunters	4,639	29.4 ± 1.3	62.6 ± 1.4	8.0 ± 0.8

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 9. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

9. When deer become excessive in individual counties, would you agree or disagree with the issuance of "antlerless" (doe or fawn only) permits to hunters during the second (December) 3-day firearms season? The "antlerless" permits would be in addition to the county quotas for either-sex permits.

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,368	67.3	26.1	6.6
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	83.5	12.8	3.7
Shotgun and bow	1,039	69.4	25.0	5.6
All 3 weapons	102	83.3	14.7	2.0
Total	2,618	68.2 ± 1.8 ^a	25.5 ± 1.7	6.3 ± 0.9
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	563	73.7	21.5	4.8
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	83.5	12.8	3.7
Muzzleloader and bow	435	74.7	21.1	4.1
All 3 weapons	102	83.3	14.7	2.0
Total	1,209	77.9 ± 2.4	18.2 ± 2.2	3.9 ± 1.0
Bow				
Bow only	1,021	67.3	24.1	8.6
Bow and shotgun	1,039	69.4	25.0	5.6
Bow and muzzleloader	435	74.7	21.1	4.1
All 3 weapons	102	83.3	14.7	2.0
Total	2,597	68.4 ± 1.8	24.2 ± 1.7	7.4 ± 1.0
All Hunters	4,637	68.6 ± 1.4	24.8 ± 1.3	6.6 ± 0.7

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 10. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

10. Deer depredation on soybeans, orchards, nursery stock, and other crops are serious problems on some areas in Illinois. With this in mind, do you agree or disagree that the Department of Conservation should issue additional firearms permits (i.e., in addition to county quotas) to the landowner or farmer to help control local deer populations? The permits would be farm-specific, and the landowner or farmer could distribute (including selling) the permits as he wishes.

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,363	49.4	44.4	6.2
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	42.2	54.1	3.7
Shotgun and bow	1,036	45.4	49.9	4.7
All 3 weapons	102	52.9	43.1	3.9
Total	2,610	48.5 ± 2.0 ^a	45.7 ± 2.0	5.8 ± 0.9
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	560	50.7	46.3	3.0
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	42.2	54.1	3.7
Muzzleloader and bow	435	39.1	58.2	2.8
All 3 weapons	102	52.9	43.1	3.9
Total	1,206	46.9 ± 2.9	49.9 ± 2.9	3.2 ± 1.0
Bow				
Bow only	1,015	49.2	46.9	3.9
Bow and shotgun	1,036	45.4	49.9	4.7
Bow and muzzleloader	435	39.1	58.2	2.8
All 3 weapons	102	52.9	43.1	3.9
Total	2,588	47.8 ± 2.0	48.1 ± 2.0	4.1 ± 0.8
All Hunters	4,620	48.2 ± 1.5	46.8 ± 1.5	5.0 ± 0.6

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 11. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

11. Do you think that pistols (designated calibers only) should be legal or illegal for deer hunting in Illinois?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Legal	Illegal	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,364	31.6	63.5	4.9
Shotgun and muzzleloader	106	50.0	47.2	2.8
Shotgun and bow	1,035	34.9	60.2	4.9
All 3 weapons	102	50.0	45.1	4.9
Total	2,607	32.8 ± 1.8 ^a	62.3 ± 1.9	4.9 ± 0.8
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	560	40.7	55.9	3.4
Muzzleloader and shotgun	106	50.0	47.2	2.8
Muzzleloader and bow	435	42.3	54.7	3.0
All 3 weapons	102	50.0	45.1	4.9
Total	1,203	44.9 ± 2.9	51.7 ± 2.9	3.4 ± 1.0
Bow				
Bow only	1,018	36.2	60.1	3.6
Bow and shotgun	1,035	34.9	60.2	4.9
Bow and muzzleloader	435	42.3	54.7	3.0
All 3 weapons	102	50.0	45.1	4.9
Total	2,590	36.1 ± 1.9	59.8 ± 1.9	4.1 ± 0.8
All Hunters	4,620	34.5 ± 1.4	61.0 ± 1.4	4.5 ± 0.6

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 12. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

12. Do you think that crossbows should be legal or illegal for deer hunting in Illinois?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Legal	Illegal	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,369	42.0	50.2	7.8
Shotgun and muzzleloader	108	41.7	50.0	8.3
Shotgun and bow	1,037	35.3	60.2	4.5
All 3 weapons	102	32.4	63.7	3.9
Total	2,616	40.4 ± 1.9 ^a	52.6 ± 2.0	7.0 ± 1.0
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	563	36.9	54.7	8.3
Muzzleloader and shotgun	108	41.7	50.0	8.3
Muzzleloader and bow	434	31.1	65.2	3.7
All 3 weapons	102	32.4	63.7	3.9
Total	1,207	36.2 ± 2.8	57.1 ± 2.8	6.7 ± 1.4
Bow				
Bow only	1,018	35.9	60.3	3.8
Bow and shotgun	1,037	35.3	60.2	4.5
Bow and muzzleloader	434	31.1	65.2	3.7
All 3 weapons	102	32.4	63.7	3.9
Total	2,591	35.6 ± 1.9	60.4 ± 1.9	4.0 ± 0.8
All Hunters	4,631	38.4 ± 1.4	55.8 ± 1.5	5.8 ± 0.7

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 13. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

13. Do you agree or disagree with the idea of establishing a muzzleloader deer season in Illinois during the 3 days (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) of Thanksgiving weekend? If such a season is established, participating hunters must be unsuccessful during the first 3-day firearms season, must use muzzleloaders only during the first 3-day firearms season, and would not be allowed to hunt during the second (December) 3-day firearms season.

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,363	32.9	49.8	17.2
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	44.0	52.3	3.7
Shotgun and bow	1,037	32.1	55.4	12.4
All 3 weapons	101	45.5	52.5	2.0
Total	2,610	33.1 ± 1.8 ^a	51.1 ± 2.0	15.8 ± 1.4
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	563	64.5	32.9	2.7
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	44.0	52.3	3.7
Muzzleloader and bow	433	57.7	38.6	3.7
All 3 weapons	101	45.5	52.5	2.0
Total	1,206	54.9 ± 2.9	42.1 ± 2.8	3.0 ± 1.0
Bow				
Bow only	1,021	36.9	46.3	16.7
Bow and shotgun	1,037	32.1	55.4	12.4
Bow and muzzleloader	433	57.7	38.6	3.7
All 3 weapons	101	45.5	52.5	2.0
Total	2,592	35.8 ± 1.9	49.3 ± 2.0	14.9 ± 1.4
All Hunters	4,627	34.9 ± 1.4	50.1 ± 1.5	15.0 ± 1.0

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 14. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

14. If a muzzleloader season is established during Thanksgiving weekend, bow hunting would continue during these 3 days. What is your attitude toward requiring bow hunters to wear caps and upper garments of solid blaze orange during this time period?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage			
		Required at All Times	Required Except In Elevated Tree Stands	No Requirements	No Opinion
Shotgun					
Shotgun only	1,365	61.5	20.5	10.9	7.0
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	67.9	16.5	10.1	5.5
Shotgun and bow	1,037	30.7	35.7	27.6	6.1
All 3 weapons	101	41.6	37.6	17.8	3.0
Total	2,612	54.6 ± 1.9 ^a	24.0 ± 1.7	14.7 ± 1.4	6.7 ± 1.8
Muzzleloader					
Muzzleloader only	563	63.1	24.5	9.6	2.8
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	67.9	16.5	10.1	5.5
Muzzleloader and bow	434	40.3	38.5	19.1	2.1
All 3 weapons	101	41.6	37.6	17.8	3.0
Total	1,207	56.1 ± 2.1	27.5 ± 2.6	13.0 ± 1.9	3.4 ± 1.0
Bow					
Bow only	1,015	24.5	35.0	36.7	3.8
Bow and shotgun	1,037	30.7	35.7	27.6	6.1
Bow and muzzleloader	434	40.3	38.5	19.1	2.1
All 3 weapons	101	41.6	37.6	17.8	3.0
Total	2,587	27.1 ± 1.7	35.4 ± 1.9	33.0 ± 1.9	4.5 ± 0.8
All Hunters	4,624	44.1 ± 1.5	28.6 ± 1.3	21.6 ± 1.2	5.7 ± 0.7

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 15. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

15. It has also been suggested that an entirely new deer season could be created for muzzleloaders only. This season would be in addition to the regular firearms season, and it would be open to anyone who applied for and received a permit. If created, would you participate in this new muzzleloader season?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Yes	No	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,371	40.8	40.6	18.7
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	94.5	2.8	2.8
Shotgun and bow	1,042	52.7	31.9	15.5
All 3 weapons	102	97.1	1.0	2.0
Total	2,624	44.7 ± 1.9 ^a	37.7 ± 1.9	17.6 ± 1.5
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	566	95.8	1.8	2.5
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	94.5	2.8	2.8
Muzzleloader and bow	436	95.0	2.3	2.8
All 3 weapons	102	97.1	1.0	2.0
Total	1,213	95.5 ± 1.2	2.0 ± 0.8	2.5 ± 0.9
Bow				
Bow only	1,023	32.3	48.2	19.6
Bow and shotgun	1,042	52.7	31.9	15.5
Bow and muzzleloader	436	95.0	2.3	2.8
All 3 weapons	102	97.1	1.0	2.0
Total	2,603	41.3 ± 1.9	41.1 ± 1.9	17.6 ± 1.5
All Hunters	4,649	45.2 ± 1.5	37.7 ± 1.4	17.1 ± 1.1

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 16. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

16. The Department of Conservation has traditionally operated county check stations to collect biological data from deer harvested during the firearms season in Illinois. Do you feel that the requirement to bring deer to check stations is a reasonable or an unreasonable demand of hunters?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Reasonable	Unreasonable	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,367	88.3	9.1	2.6
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	88.1	9.2	2.8
Shotgun and bow	1,040	91.3	6.2	2.5
All 3 weapons	102	91.2	5.9	2.9
Total	2,618	89.0 ± 1.2 ^a	8.4 ± 1.1	2.6 ± 0.6
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	564	87.6	10.1	2.3
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	88.1	9.2	2.8
Muzzleloader and bow	436	90.8	6.9	2.3
All 3 weapons	102	91.2	5.9	2.9
Total	1,211	89.0 ± 1.8	8.5 ± 1.6	2.5 ± 0.9
Bow				
Bow only	1,025	85.4	11.4	3.2
Bow and shotgun	1,040	91.3	6.2	2.5
Bow and muzzleloader	436	90.8	6.9	2.3
All 3 weapons	102	91.2	5.9	2.9
Total	2,603	87.6 ± 1.3	9.5 ± 1.1	2.9 ± 0.7
All Hunters	4,643	88.5 ± 0.9	8.8 ± 0.8	2.7 ± 0.5

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 17. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

17. Do you think that bow hunters should or should not be required to bring deer to check stations.

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Should	Should Not	No Opinion
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,365	69.4	22.3	8.3
Shotgun and muzzleloader	107	72.9	17.8	9.3
Shotgun and bow	1,040	49.2	41.5	9.2
All 3 weapons	102	52.9	39.2	7.8
Total	2,614	64.8 ± 1.9 ^a	26.7 ± 1.7	18.5 ± 1.1
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	566	68.2	22.6	9.2
Muzzleloader and shotgun	107	72.9	17.8	9.3
Muzzleloader and bow	435	52.0	40.0	8.0
All 3 weapons	102	52.9	39.2	7.8
Total	1,210	63.3 ± 2.8	27.9 ± 2.6	8.8 ± 1.6
Bow				
Bow only	1,021	52.5	38.7	8.8
Bow and shotgun	1,040	49.2	41.5	9.2
Bow and muzzleloader	435	52.0	40.0	8.0
All 3 weapons	102	52.9	39.2	7.8
Total	2,598	51.4 ± 2.0	39.7 ± 1.9	8.9 ± 1.1
All Hunters	4,636	59.6 ± 1.4	31.7 ± 1.4	8.7 ± 0.8

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 18. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

18. The Department of Conservation has traditionally issued pins to successful deer hunters. How important is this pin to your overall deer hunting experience?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage		
		Very Important	Moderately Important	Not Important
Shotgun				
Shotgun only	1,361	30.8	34.4	34.9
Shotgun and muzzleloader	108	22.2	39.8	38.0
Shotgun and bow	1,031	34.9	32.1	33.0
All 3 weapons	100	33.0	35.0	32.0
Total	2,600	31.6 ± 1.8 ^a	33.9 ± 1.9	34.5 ± 1.9
Muzzleloader				
Muzzleloader only	564	21.5	33.2	45.4
Muzzleloader and shotgun	108	22.2	39.8	38.0
Muzzleloader and bow	432	28.9	35.4	35.6
All 3 weapons	100	33.0	35.0	32.0
Total	1,204	25.0 ± 2.5	35.5 ± 2.8	39.5 ± 2.8
Bow				
Bow only	1,019	25.5	33.2	41.3
Bow and shotgun	1,031	34.9	32.1	33.0
Bow and muzzleloader	432	28.9	35.4	35.6
All 3 weapons	100	33.0	35.0	32.0
Total	2,582	28.8 ± 1.8	32.9 ± 1.8	38.3 ± 1.9
All Hunters	4,615	30.3 ± 1.4	33.6 ± 1.4	36.1 ± 1.4

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 19. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

19. Did you pay a landowner in Illinois for the right to hunt deer in 1989?

Type of Hunt	n	Percentage	
		Yes	No
Shotgun			
Shotgun only	1,362	4.5	95.5
Shotgun and muzzleloader	108	7.4	92.6
Shotgun and bow	1,035	5.3	94.7
All 3 weapons	101	6.9	93.1
Total	2,606	4.7 ± 0.8 ^a	95.3 ± 0.8
Muzzleloader			
Muzzleloader only	557	4.3	95.7
Muzzleloader and shotgun	108	7.4	92.6
Muzzleloader and bow	429	3.7	96.3
All 3 weapons	99	5.1	94.9
Total	1,193	5.1 ± 1.3	94.9 ± 1.3
Bow			
Bow only	1,021	5.0	95.0
Bow and shotgun	1,031	4.7	95.3
Bow and muzzleloader	432	3.7	96.3
All 3 weapons	101	5.0	95.0
Total	2,585	4.9 ± 0.8	95.1 ± 0.8
All Hunters	4,613	4.8 ± 0.6	95.2 ± 0.6

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 20a. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

20. Would you be willing to pay a landowner in Illinois for the right to hunt deer?

Type of Hunt	n	Percentage	
		Yes	No
Shotgun			
Shotgun only	1,347	39.8	60.2
Shotgun and muzzleloader	107	44.9	55.1
Shotgun and bow	1,022	38.7	61.3
All 3 weapons	99	45.5	54.5
Total	2,575	39.7 ± 1.9 ^a	60.3 ± 1.9
Muzzleloader			
Muzzleloader only	552	35.7	64.3
Muzzleloader and shotgun	107	42.1	57.9
Muzzleloader and bow	429	35.0	65.0
All 3 weapons	98	44.9	55.1
Total	1,186	38.7 ± 2.8	61.3 ± 2.8
Bow			
Bow only	1,018	41.7	58.2
Bow and shotgun	1,020	37.2	62.8
Bow and muzzleloader	429	32.4	67.6
All 3 weapons	100	45.0	55.0
Total	2,567	40.1 ± 1.9	59.9 ± 1.9
All Hunters	4,574	39.8 ± 1.4	60.2 ± 1.4

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 20b. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

If "yes", about how much would you be willing to pay per day?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage					
		<\$20	\$20	\$40	\$60	\$80	>\$100
Shotgun							
Shotgun only	579	57.5	34.0	6.2	1.6	0.7	0.0
Shotgun and muzzleloader	52	55.8	36.5	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Shotgun and bow	452	68.8	21.7	6.2	1.3	0.2	1.5
All 3 weapons	49	61.2	28.6	4.1	6.1	0.0	0.0
Total	1,132	60.0 ± 4.4 ^a	31.3 ± 2.8	6.2 ± 2.9	1.6 ± 0.7	0.6 ± 0.5	0.3 ± 0.3
Muzzleloader							
Muzzleloader only	223	61.0	30.9	5.4	0.9	0.9	0.0
Muzzleloader and shotgun	52	55.8	36.5	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Muzzleloader and bow	175	63.4	29.1	6.3	0.6	0.6	0.0
All 3 weapons	49	61.2	28.6	4.1	6.1	0.0	0.0
Total	499	60.2 ± 4.4	31.6 ± 4.2	5.9 ± 2.1	1.5 ± 1.1	0.5 ± 0.6	0.3 ± 0.5
Bow							
Bow only	487	66.9	25.5	4.3	2.3	0.8	0.0
Bow and shotgun	452	68.8	21.7	6.2	1.3	0.2	1.5
Bow and muzzleloader	175	63.4	29.1	6.3	0.6	0.6	0.0
All 3 weapons	49	61.2	28.6	4.1	6.1	0.0	0.0
Total	1,163	65.7 ± 2.8	25.8 ± 2.6	5.2 ± 1.3	2.3 ± 0.9	0.5 ± 0.4	0.4 ± 0.4
All Hunters	2,017	62.1 ± 2.2	29.2 ± 2.0	5.8 ± 1.0	1.9 ± 0.6	0.6 ± 0.3	0.3 ± 0.2

^aThe 95% confidence interval.

Table 21. Responses to the following question on the 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey:

21. Are you a member of a sportsmen's organization that represents your deer hunting interest in Illinois?

Type of Hunter	n	Percentage					
		WU ^a	IBHS ^a	IBHA ^a	IWF ^a	ISLC ^a	Other ^b
Shotgun							
Shotgun only	1,373	2.6	0.0	0.1	3.7	1.0	5.6
Shotgun and muzzleloader	109	2.8	0.0	0.9	2.8	0.9	11.0
Shotgun and bow	1,043	6.7	2.8	2.9	3.5	1.2	8.8
All 3 weapons	102	10.8	2.9	3.9	4.9	1.0	10.8
Total	2,627	3.6 ± 0.7 ^c	0.7 ± 0.3	0.8 ± 0.3	2.9 ± 0.7	1.8 ± 0.5	6.4 ± 1.0
Muzzleloader							
Muzzleloader only	566	3.4	0.0	0.4	3.4	0.9	9.7
Muzzleloader and shotgun	109	2.8	0.0	0.9	2.8	0.9	11.0
Muzzleloader and bow	436	5.7	1.8	2.3	2.8	0.2	9.9
All 3 weapons	102	10.8	2.9	3.9	4.9	1.0	10.8
Total	1,213	4.9 ± 1.2	0.8 ± 0.5	1.4 ± 0.7	3.3 ± 1.0	0.8 ± 0.5	10.2 ± 1.7
Bow							
Bow only	1,025	3.5	2.3	2.8	2.1	0.7	8.7
Bow and shotgun	1,043	6.7	2.8	2.9	3.5	1.2	8.8
Bow and muzzleloader	436	5.7	1.8	2.3	2.8	0.2	9.9
All 3 weapons	102	10.8	2.9	3.9	4.9	1.0	10.8
Total	2,606	4.7 ± 0.8	2.5 ± 0.6	2.8 ± 0.6	2.6 ± 0.6	0.9 ± 0.4	8.8 ± 1.1
All Hunters	4,654	4.1 ± 0.6	1.4 ± 0.3	1.6 ± 0.4	2.8 ± 0.5	1.4 ± 0.3	7.5 ± 0.8

^aWU = Whitetails Unlimited, IBHS = Illinois Bow Hunters Society, IBHA = Illinois Bow Hunters Association, IWF = Illinois Wildlife Federation, ISLC = Illinois Sportsmen's Legislative Coalition.

^bIncluded the National Rifle Association, North American Hunting Club, Buckmasters, National Muzzleloading and Rifle Association, and a wide variety of local sportsmen's and archery clubs.

^cThe 95% confidence interval.

ILLINOIS DEER HUNTER SURVEY
(1989)

INSTRUCTIONS

Please answer the questions on the following pages about deer hunting, deer hunting regulations, and deer populations in Illinois.

Your opinions and attitudes about deer hunting, deer hunting regulations, and deer populations in Illinois are important to the Department of Conservation.

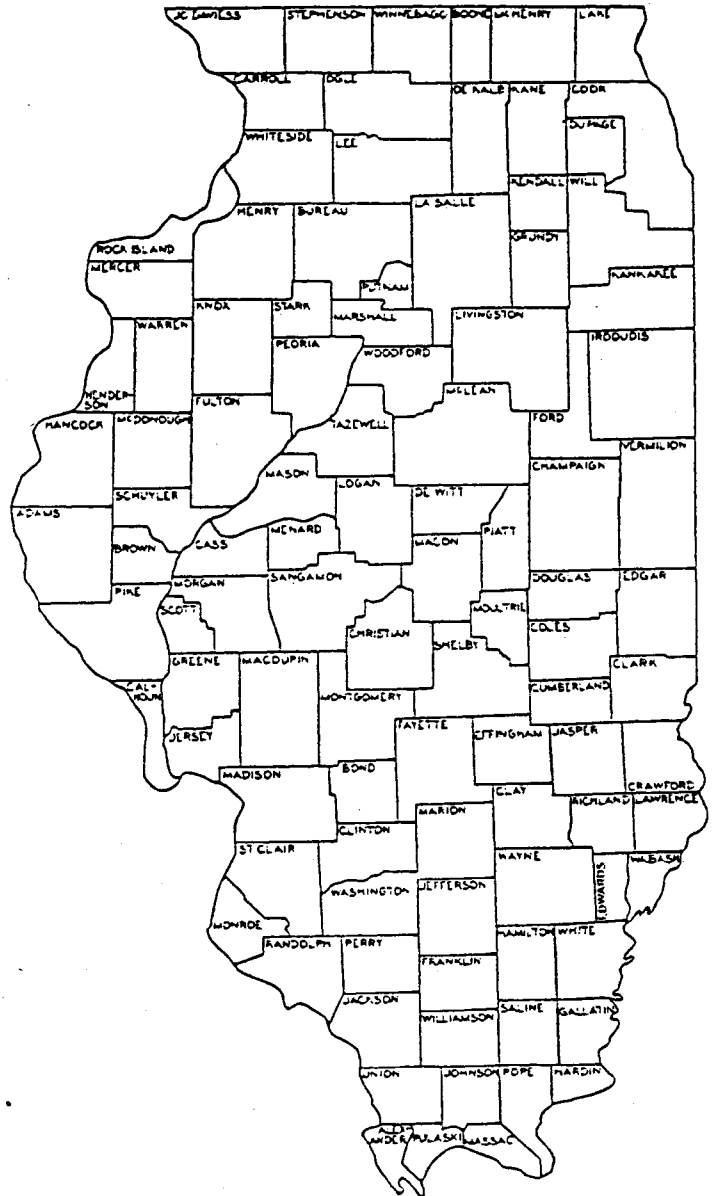
Only you--the deer hunter--can provide this information, which the Department of Conservation needs to properly manage the Illinois deer herd.

Nearly all of the questions are multiple choice. To give your answer, all you have to do is circle a number.

When completed, insert questionnaire into the self-addressed envelope and mail.

POSTAGE IS PREPAID

Note: Your comments are welcome but please write them on a separate sheet of paper to receive proper attention.



Thank you for your cooperation

Figure 1. The 1989 Illinois Deer Hunter Survey questionnaire.

Figure 1 - continued.

ILLINOIS DEER HUNTER SURVEY
(1989)

Numbers at right are for official use only
--

1. How old were you on your last birthday? _____ years 9-10

2. How many permits did you have for hunting deer in Illinois in 1989?
(circle number for appropriate answer for each type of weapon)
 - *For firearms (shotgun or muzzleloader) . . 0 . . . 1 . . . 2 11
 - *For archery (bow) 0 . . . 1 . . . 2 12

3. Did you hunt deer in Illinois during the 1989 season?
(circle number for appropriate answer for each weapon)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
*With shotgun.	1	2	13
*With muzzleloader	1	2	14
*With bow.	1	2	15

4. Did you like or dislike the dates used for the deer hunting seasons in
Illinois in 1989? (circle number for appropriate answer for each season)

	<u>Liked</u>	<u>Disliked</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>	
*Firearms season	1	2	3	16
*Archery season.	1	2	3	17

5. Would you agree or disagree with changing the firearms deer season in
Illinois from a split 6-day season (3 days in November and 3 days in
December) to a single 9-day season in mid-November? (circle number for
appropriate answer)

Agree.....1	Disagree.....2	No opinion.....3	18
-------------	----------------	------------------	----

6. Do you agree or disagree with the idea of assigning firearms hunters
to a 3-day season in November or to a 4-day season in December, but not
to both seasons? For the 3 days in November, most of the hunters would
receive antlered-only permits. For the 4 days in December, most of the
hunters would receive either-sex permits. (circle number for appropriate
answer)

Agree.....1	Disagree.....2	No opinion.....3	19
-------------	----------------	------------------	----

7. Do you like or dislike the idea of issuing additional permits (i.e., in
addition to county quotas) during the second 3-day firearms season in
Illinois? (circle number for appropriate answer)

Like.....1	Dislike.....2	No opinion.....3	20
------------	---------------	------------------	----

8. Would you agree or disagree with permitting local vendors to issue
unlimited numbers of antlered-only, county-specific permits for the
firearms deer season? (circle number for appropriate answer)

Agree.....1	Disagree.....2	No opinion.....3	21
-------------	----------------	------------------	----

(continued on following page)

9. When deer become excessive in individual counties, would you agree or disagree with the issuance of "antlerless" (doe or fawn only) permits to hunters during the second (December) 3-day firearms season? The "antlerless" permits would be in addition to the county quotas for either-sex permits. (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Agree.....1 Disagree.....2 No opinion.....3
- 22
10. Deer depredation on soybeans, orchards, nursery stock, and other crops are serious problems on some areas in Illinois. With this in mind, do you agree or disagree that the Department of Conservation should issue additional firearms permits (i.e., in addition to county quotas) to the landowner or farmer to help control local deer populations? The permits would be farm-specific, and the landowner or farmer could distribute (including selling) the permits as he wishes. (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Agree.....1 Disagree.....2 No opinion.....3
- 23
11. Do you think that pistols (designated calibers only) should be legal or illegal for deer hunting in Illinois? (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Legal.....1 Illegal.....2 No opinion.....3
- 24
12. Do you think that crossbows should be legal or illegal for deer hunting in Illinois? (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Legal.....1 Illegal.....2 No opinion.....3
- 25
13. Do you agree or disagree with the idea of establishing a muzzleloader deer season in Illinois during the 3 days (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) of Thanksgiving weekend? If such a season is established, participating hunters must be unsuccessful during the first 3-day firearms season, must use muzzleloaders only during the first 3-day firearms season, and would not be allowed to hunt during the second (December) 3-day firearms season. (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Agree.....1 Disagree.....2 No opinion.....3
- 26
14. If a muzzleloader season is established during Thanksgiving weekend, bow hunting would continue during these 3 days. What is your attitude toward requiring bow hunters to wear caps and upper garments of solid blaze orange during this time period? (circle number for appropriate answer)
- *Should wear blaze orange at all times 1
 - *Should wear blaze orange at all times except when in an elevated tree stand. 2
 - *There should be no requirements to wear blaze orange. 3
 - *No opinion. 4
- 27
15. It has also been suggested that an entirely new deer season could be created for muzzleloaders only. This season would be in addition to the regular firearms season, and it would be open to anyone who applied for and received a permit. If created, would you participate in this new muzzleloader season? (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Yes.....1 No.....2 Undecided.....3
- 28

(continued on following page)

16. The Department of Conservation has traditionally operated county check stations to collect biological data from deer harvested during the firearms season in Illinois. Do you feel that the requirement to bring deer to check stations is a reasonable or an unreasonable demand of hunters? (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Reasonable...1 Unreasonable...2 No opinion...3 29
17. Do you think that bow hunters should or should not be required to bring deer to check stations. (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Should.....1 Should not.....2 No opinion...3 30
18. The Department of Conservation has traditionally issued pins to successful deer hunters. How important is this pin to your overall deer hunting experience? (circle number for appropriate answer)
- Very important....1 Moderately important...2 Not important...3 31
19. Did you pay a landowner in Illinois for the right to hunt deer in 1989? (circle number for appropriate answer for each weapon)
- | | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------|----|
| *With shotgun. | 1 | 2 | 32 |
| *With muzzleloader | 1 | 2 | 33 |
| *With bow. | 1 | 2 | 34 |
20. Would you be willing to pay a landowner in Illinois for the right to hunt deer? (circle number for appropriate answer for each weapon you use)
- | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|----|
| *With shotgun. | 1 | 2 | 35 |
| *With muzzleloader | 1 | 2 | 36 |
| *With bow. | 1 | 2 | 37 |
- If "yes", about how much would you be willing to pay per day?
(circle number for appropriate answer)
- | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------------|----|
| Less than \$20.....1 | \$40.....3 | \$80.....5 | More than \$100.....7 | |
| \$20.....2 | \$60.....4 | \$100.....6 | | 38 |
21. Are you a member of a sportsmen's organization that represents your deer hunting interest in Illinois? (circle number for appropriate answer for each organization listed below)
- | | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | |
|---|------------|-----------|----|
| *Whitetails Unlimited | 1 | 2 | 39 |
| *Illinois Bow Hunters Society | 1 | 2 | 40 |
| *Illinois Bow Hunters Association | 1 | 2 | 41 |
| *Illinois Wildlife Federation | 1 | 2 | 42 |
| *Illinois Sportsmen's Legislative Coalition | 1 | 2 | 43 |
| *Other (write in) _____ | | | |

Thank you for your cooperation



LINCOLN TOWER PLAZA • 524 SOUTH SECOND STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62701-1787
CHICAGO OFFICE • ROOM 4-300 • 100 WEST RANDOLPH 60601
MARK FRECH, DIRECTOR

Dear Fellow Sportsman:

You are one of a select group of Illinoisans asked to express your opinions of deer hunting, deer hunting regulations, and deer populations in Illinois.

The information supplied by you and other selected hunters is vital to the management of the Illinois deer herd. Our goals are to safeguard deer populations, to grant maximum deer hunting opportunity to licensed deer hunters, and to maintain an attractive level of hunter success.

The information you provide will help in the development of deer hunting regulations that satisfy the needs of our hunters. It also will help us understand how deer hunters view their sport.

Your reply is very important, even if you did not hunt deer or were not successful. Only a limited number of deer hunters can be contacted, therefore, your response is urgently needed.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the enclosed questionnaire. Most of the questions are multiple choice and can be quickly answered.

Drop the completed questionnaire in the mail. Postage is prepaid.

Sincerely,

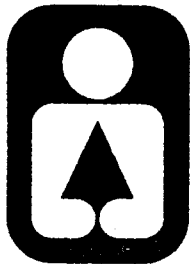
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Frech".

Mark Frech
Director

Enclosure

Figure 2. The letter that accompanied the first mailing of the questionnaire.

Illinois



Department of Conservation

life and land together

LINCOLN TOWER PLAZA • 524 SOUTH SECOND STREET • SPRINGFIELD 62701-1787
CHICAGO OFFICE • ROOM 4-300 • 100 WEST RANDOLPH 60601
MARK FRECH, DIRECTOR

Dear Fellow Sportsman:

Recently we mailed you a deer hunter questionnaire, and requested that you fill it out and return it as soon as possible. We have not received your questionnaire at this time. Perhaps you have misplaced it or haven't found time to complete it.

We are enclosing another questionnaire which we hope you will complete and return to us. If you have already returned a questionnaire, please discard this one. The information supplied by you and other deer hunters being sampled will be of great value to the Department of Conservation in better directing the management of our whitetail deer resources.

Please fill out the questionnaire completely and return it even if you did not hunt deer or were not successful.

Please drop the completed questionnaire in the mail. Postage is prepaid. Your prompt attention will be sincerely appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Frech".

Mark Frech
Director

Enclosure

The Illinois Department of Conservation uses Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (Pittman-Robertson or P-R) Program funds for wildlife research, surveys, habitat enhancement and land acquisition. Because the state uses these federal funds, it must comply with federal anti-discrimination law. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the federal government prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility using P-R funds, please write the Office of U.S. Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

State law also prohibits discrimination the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age or handicap in admission to or treatment or employment in programs or activities in compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act and the Illinois Constitution. The Equal Opportunity Officer is responsible for compliance and may be reached at (217)782-7616.

