# Spring Deadline March 20th



Kathy Giesen, Editor/Publisher

305 E. 350 N., Ivins, UT 84738 deerassociations@gmail.com

435-817-0150 • Fax: 435-359-5333

Website: deersites.com

(Editorial Provided by Contributing Writers)

### **FEATURED ARTICLES:**



### **IN EACH ISSUE**

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ADA Business Cards
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Lifetime Members
Membership Application
Quarterly Calander Update
Recipe - Venison Chili

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NexGen Animal Health

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Rocky Ridge Whitetails
Straight Shooter Game Fence
Tajada Whitetail Ranch
The Swamp Whitetails
White Mountain Whitetails
Center Spread, Inside Back Cover
Woodard Whitetails

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**Rodney Ragon** 

President. ADA

January 4, 2024

# The Alabama Deer Association is Going Strong

As I enter my fourth year as your association president, I remain excited for all of us in the state of Alabama who make raising deer our passion. It seems like we have new farms starting up all the time. Our membership continues to grow and as we speak, at least 150 farms are active members. We encourage everyone to attend our annual banquet and fundraiser Friday, February 23rd and Saturday, February 24th in Cullman, Alabama. This event is always a great time and very well-attended. From dinner and numerous family activities on Friday night to Saturday lunch at noon followed by our auction at 1 p.m., this event is one not to miss and is free to association members and their guests. Funds raised are used to pay our lobbyists, whose efforts help ensure that our farms continue to successfully operate. There is no deadline to register, and we look forward to seeing you there.

As we look ahead in 2024, I'd like to remind everyone to stay vigilant regarding CWD and any latest happenings that may pertain to us. We are grateful for the opportunity to voice our concerns to The Alabama Department of Conservation regarding potential rule changes, and for their willingness to listen as we work together to keep regulations down and maintain our farms and our livelihoods. As an association, we must continue to strive for understanding and unity. We have made a lot of progress and have a lot to be grateful for.

Rodney Ragon 256-558-8997 rodney@theswampwhitetails.com



# ACCURATION 2024 Species AUGUSTANION 2024 Speci

THE VENUE AT COTTON CREEK 417 Third Ave. Southwest • Cullman, AL 35055

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY ~ FEB. 23, 2024

TBD .....SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

8AM-4PM.....BOOTH SET-UP

5:00 PM ......TRADESHOW OPENS!

.....MEET & GREET

6:00 PM ......CHILI SUPPER (Sponsored by ADA)

6:30 PM ......BINGO (kids can play too)

(must pre-register & deposit required)

# SATURDAY ~ FEB. 24, 2024

8:00 AM.....TRADESHOW OPENS!

9:00 AM.....MINI-GOLF TOURNAMENT

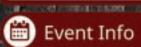
11:30 AM.....LUNCH (Sponsored by ADA)

1:00 PM.....LIVE AUCTION BEGINS











SPORTING CLAY SKEET SHOOT

# ADA 2024 Spring **Auction & Tradeshow** Feb. 23-24, 2024 ~ Friday & Saturday ~ Conference Center THE VENUE AT COTTON CREEK 417 Third Ave Southwest

CONSIGNMENT & DONATION FORM ADA 2024 SPRING AUCTION & TRADESHOW

	- Please Fill out Go	naur in full in case no need	to commit how with threat	MARK -
	Farm Name			
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DEER ASSOCIATION	Phone			DEADLINE
ADA 2024 Spring	Email			Dec. 31
Auction & Tradeshow	CWD Date	TB/Brucellosis_	11 51. C.	
Feb. 23-24, 2024 ~ Friday & Saturday ~	Website	Print & Fill out as many co	oneianment forme as n	paded -
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THE VENUE AT COTTON CREEK 417 Third Ave Southwest	EMAIL: WI	ITETALEMARKETING	SGMAIL.COM · FAX.	Check Box Below.
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Alabama Deer Association 2 Industrial Rd.	Exotic	Stocker/Preserve	Embryo Semen.	# of Straws
Brent, AL 35034 Amy@theswampwhitetalls.com	Species:		. <u> </u>	of Animals:
30 000	0.1			
Auction Catalog Advertisements				MUST HAVE NADR #
Full Page\$400	Sire DNA #:	Dam DNA	#:	on BOTH Animal & Semen Lots NADR Pedigree Charts are also accepted.
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whitetailmarketing@gmail.com	es.			
Booth Space\$500				
to reserve booth contact Amy, 205-928-2906	)	Sire		
		Dam		

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256-775-9500

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**Venue WIFI Code: Event 1** 

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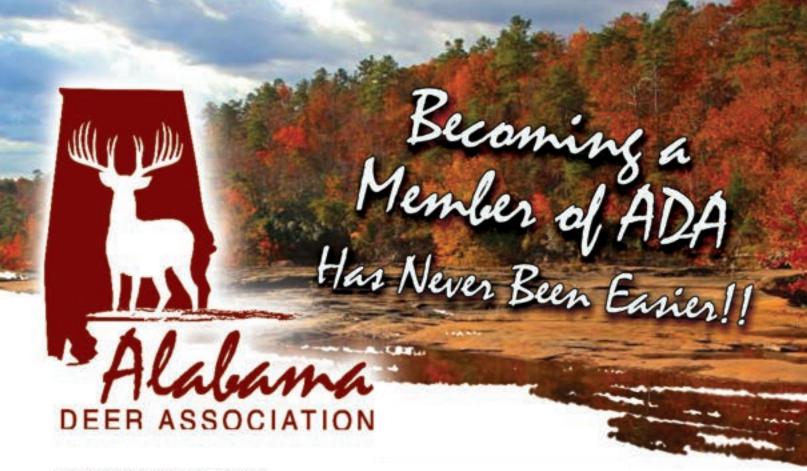
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# **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

### ADA 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Rodney Ragon, Cameron Odom, Billy Norris, Casey Mitchell Troy Zachini, Dane Dorsett, Mat Watts, Chris Wiggly, Jeff Beaver, John Biddle, Chad McMichael, Dustin Reid

Member Name:															
Partner/Spouse:															
Farm or Business Name:															
Address:															
City:							State	:			Zip:				
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- Fawns 1 week to 1 month of age: Feed 24 to 30 oz. of formula daily, divided into 4 feedings.
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- Fawns 2 months to weaning: Gradually decrease formula and number of feedings to approximately 15 oz. of formula once daily until fawn is fully weaned at 12 to 14 weeks of age. Provide a weaning diet and fresh clean water to the fawn.

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DAVID DIVINE Glencoe, AL



**DUSTIN REID** Piedmont, AL



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SCOTT BOUTWELL Phenix City



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SCOTTIE KELLEY Albertville, AL



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TONIO SWORDS Horton, AL



**CHAD TANNER** Davisboro, GA





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MAT WATTS Centerville, AL



**RUSTY WEAVER** Vestavia, AL



# Want to Be Part of the Lifetime Club...

**Amy Murphy** 205-928-2906 Amy@TheSwampWhitetails.com

# LIFETIME MEMBERS

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DARRELL CHAMPION



LEE HULSEY



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**EDWARD MURPHREE** Columbiana, AL



**CAMERON ODOM** Citronelle, AL



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SCOTTY HOOPER Cullman, AL



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MONEY TALKS » SUDDEN EXPRESS » HARDCORE AT 2 YEARS OUD



SEMEN AVAILABLE - BRED DOES - FAWNS - STOCKER BUCKS

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YEARLING

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MONEY TALKS - TRIPLE CROWN - MILLIONAIRE'S DAM (SUDDEN EXPRESS / HARDCORE)

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Silver Dollar 1001 0 10 - 1101# 335175

MONEY TALKS - TRIPLE CROWN - MILLIONAIRE'S DAM (SUDDEN EXPRESS / HARDCORE)



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# WINTER SPOTLIGHT: SAND ROCK RANCH

# WOW and thank you Jereomy Hudson!

We have been blessed by him for what he has provided for our Special needs children.

Jeremy began his Kidz journey in Dec. 2020 with Maddox, taking a giant buck.

In Nov 2021 he took Dawson to Sandrock Ranch and he took one heck of a buck!

In Nov. 2023 he went above and beyond when he invited four or our Kidz in a hunt together. Special thanks to Casey Mitchell for his participation and deer donation to make this amazing hunt possible! These two men proved

their love for God and children.

Ty from Arkansas, "Two Shot Ty" from Mississippi, Bre from Alabama and Easton from Georgia all got their biggest buck at Sandrock Ranch.

Thank you will never be enough!











# Quarterly Calendar Update Ad Deadlines & Events

Provided by D&K Design, Publisher for State Association Magazines | VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE EVENT DETAILS: DEERSITES.COM

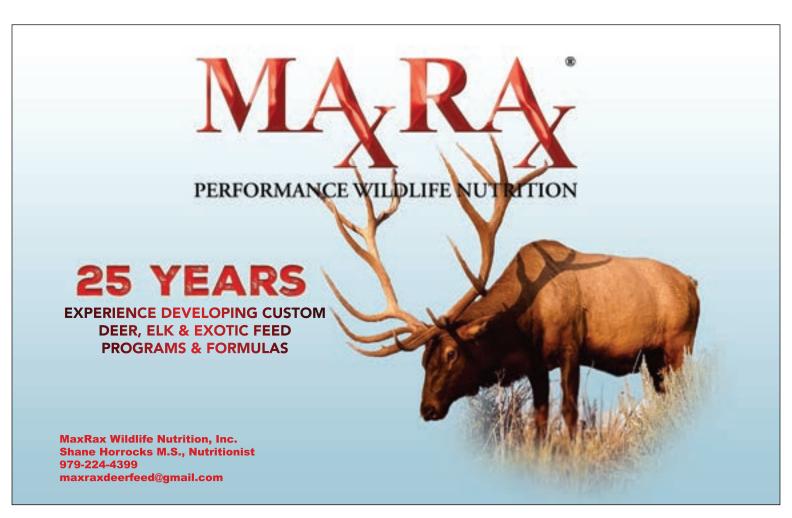
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	HAPPY 1 NEW YEAR!!!	2	Alabama Deer Association Winter Deadline	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	1 7 NOF	18 THERN TOP	<b>30</b>	20
21	22	23	24 Upper Midwest Winter Deadline	25	26	27
28	29	30	3 1 Quest for Michigan's Best Winter Deadline	1	2	3

1	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
   	28	29	30	31	Spring Quarter Begins	OK ANNUAL (	CONVENTION 3
	4	5	6	Southeast Tines Spring Deadline	8	9	10
	11	12	13	1 4 IDEFA Journal Spring Deadline	15	KS ANNUAL CONVENTION	1 7 IA ANNUAL MEETING
	18	19	20	2 1 Pennsylvania Spring Deadline	22	23 Alabama dee Auction & '	
	25	26	27	28	29	1	2

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	31	1	2
					MDFA ANNU	AL BANQUET
3	4	5	Louisiana Spring Deadline	7	UDFOM ANNU	9 AL CONVENTION
10	11	12	13	14	15	1 6 Whitetails of Wisconsin Banquet 8 Fundraiser
17	18	19	Alabama Spring Deadline	21 Nadefa annual	22 Conference and fun	23 Idraiser
24	25	26	27 Kentucky & New York Deadlines	28	29	30
31	1	2	Quest for Michigan's Best Spring Deadline	4	5	ILDFA ANNUAL Convention 8 Fundraiser





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# 2023 Spring Auction & Tradeshow









# **2024 NADEFA IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

# - PROMISES LASTING MEMORIES AND GOOD TIMES



By: Gail Veley • Sponsored by ILDFA

Attending The North American Deer Farmer's Association (NADeFA) national convention could prove to be a game changer for your deer business. "Developing long-lasting business relationships through face-to-face meetings and camaraderie is one of the most important reasons for deer farmers and those who sell products and services to attend NADeFA," offers Kathy Giesen, Editor and Publisher of multiple state deer association magazines, and steadfast convention attendee. "At NADeFA you get a very good mix of state association people. I feel this convention in particular will draw from every state deer association and be very well attended. There will also be a lot of educational and fun activities."

Scheduled for March 20th-23rd 2024 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Springfield Illinois, NADeFA will also feature several guest speakers. "We typically cover a wide variety of topics such as information on starting a deer farm to the latest CWD findings to herd health and management," said NADeFA Executive Director Shawn Schafer. "A sampling of this year's speakers includes Justin Greenlee and Dr. Chris Seabury."

Board members for The Illinois Deer Farming Association (ILDFA) are pleased that Springfield, the capital of Illinois, will serve as the host city for this always much-

anticipated event. Springfield, a city known for being home to President Abraham Lincoln, the invention of the corn dog and horseshoe sandwich as well as Springfield Lake, a beautiful and popular reservoir, is also rich in culture. In 1812, Explorer John Kelly built the first cabin in Springfield, noting the area's vast abundance of wild deer and game. Today, among the city's grid structured streets is The Abraham Lincoln President Library and Museum, a mere 12 minutes from the convention. NADeFA attendees will receive a special admission rate of only \$10 if they visit the museum during the convention, which is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ILDFA Vice President Chase Baker and Board Member Dr. Clifford Shipley believe that Illinois, a state with a very good reputation for raising deer, is a perfect choice and central location for hosting NADeFA. "Springfield is a good city with easy access from the interstate and airport to the hotel," Dr. Shipley said. In addition, ILDFA members hope Illinois "gains the exposure it deserves in being a great state to be a deer farmer," Baker added. "We see it continuing to be that way in the future."

As bright as the future is for Illinois deer farmers, is the prospect for new NADeFA attendees to make life-long friends and business partners, and for more

seasoned attendees to strengthen and deepen existing relationships. In addition to events such as the anticipated Antler Competition, Silent Auction, Benefit Auction, Consignment Auction, Dart Gun Competition, Coloring and Photo contest is the convention hall itself, featuring booths from deer farms as well as those promoting various products and services geared toward helping a deer farmer succeed.

"There are approximately 2,500 members reached through our publications with the various state deer associations," Giesen emphasized. "Therefore, I feel there should be at least 2,500 people that attend NADeFA. Many deer farmers have never been to a national convention. Everyone owes it to themselves to go. Sponsorships, and the recognition that comes with that, are also available for anyone who wishes to sponsor a meal or an event."

To register for NADeFA or to have a booth, visit the NADeFA website under NADeFA 2024. "We are expecting a good size crowd," Schafer said. "This is an event the whole family will enjoy. Plan on attending. You will really have a great time."

For more information:

www.nadefa.org

Phone: 330.454.3944 • Fax: 330.454.3950

Email: info@nadefa.org





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# QUALIFYING FOR A CONSIGNMENT SALE WHAT EVERY DEER FARMER SHOULD KNOW

By: Gail Veley • Sponsored by IDEFA

Building your farm name through consignment sale participation is one of the smartest moves a deer farmer can make, offers Chris Ezell, co-owner of Whitetail Sales Auction LLC based out of Urich, Missouri. Although some consignment sales such as Top 30 (North and South) may be more exclusive and feature only the country's top 30 breeders for that particular area, others such as Chupp auctions and NADeFA's annual consignment auction offer opportunities for quality livestock or valuable and useful items to be featured and sold from a wider pool of consigners.

As with every auction, programs are distributed describing each auction lot. "What deer farmers need to realize is what a great advertising opportunity it is to be in the program," said Kristy Schwartz, President of Whitetail Marketing Inc., and Graphics/Catalog Designer for Whitetail Sales Auction LLC. "Even if you aren't participating as a consignor, you can still advertise. Placing an ad allows people to identify with your brand. Coming to the auctions also allows you to gain insight and guidance from others and make goals for your future. It also helps your state." Since the early 2000's, Schwartz, 39, has been at the forefront of creating auction programs and working hand-inhand with each consignor to make sure

every detail is correct. Dates, times and places for every annual deer auction (as well as all advertising deadlines) can be found by visiting https://www.whitetailsalesauctionllc.com.

Perhaps it could be seen as every deer farmer's dream to be among the 30 breeders chosen for the Top 30 North or South auction, and to enjoy the prestige that goes along with that. "It all depends on the genetics you have on your farm," Ezell said. "It might be tougher for a new farmer to initially get in, but possible after some dedication and hard work. It's a great goal to shoot for."

The Chupp Auction, always held in Shipshewana, Indiana, generally features consignors from Indiana and closer surrounding areas. Ensuring that the quality of each auction lot falls within certain accepted parameters is in the hands of Ezell and Lester Eicher, who with Ezell, are at the helm of Whitetail Sales Auction LLC. Along with the Chupp Auction is a guaranteed good time with catered food, the unmatched hospitality of the Amish and the charm and culture of Shipshewana itself, a city with an Amish population of close to 90 percent. "If you haven't been to this auction, you definitely need to come," Ezell said.

The NADeFA auction, always held during the annual spring NADeFA convention, offers a chance to bring a wider variety of auction lots and showcase your best animal or most useful or well-crafted item such as a picnic bench (or even a magazine advertisement and article in your own quarterly deer association magazine.) NADeFA, which always draws a sizable and vast crowd from every state that raises deer, also offers a unique and interesting trade show as well as educational classes and the chance to mingle with some of the best producers in the deer industry.

A percentage of profits from auctions often end up being donated to a worthy cause such as nonprofit organizations that support hunting and conservation, various deer associations and even individuals within the deer industry in need of additional support for personal reasons. "The deer industry is full of generous people willing to help others," Ezell said. "Every deer farmer should make an effort to be a part of these auctions." Interested auction attendees or participants should contact Ezell or Eicher if they have questions or need more information about deadlines.



# THE NORTH AMERICAN DEER REGISTRY (NADR)

# OFFERING MORE SERVICES AND INNOVATION FOR BREEDING AND MANAGING DEER



By: Gail Veley • Sponsored by IWDA

Deer farmers, through the unwavering innovations of NADR, can now know exactly which GEBV markers and codons their deer possess, along with standard DNA parentage markers. "Our recently upgraded technology is allowing us to include GEBV markers and codon information with our standard parentage testing," said NADR Executive Director Gary Cook. "This information allows breeders to maximize the reduction risk regarding CWD. The science allows them to genetically reconstruct their herds, making them less likely for CWD to occur, by virtually layering genetics from animals that are less susceptible to CWD. This will greatly influence breeding decisions as well as the future of the deer industry."

Established in 2007 as an independent agency to help validate the deer industry, NADR has also recently purchased Game Management Solutions (GMS) software from NADeFA. "Our goal is to reinvent it so it can be opened from a phone and utilized in web-based applications," Cook said. "We've been spending considerable time and effort revamping it to make it a much more powerful tool." GMS, a tracking system designed to help manage every aspect of deer farming, will be available on a subscription basis in late winter or early spring, depending on when NADR is ready to introduce it. Currently, NADR maintains a DNA registry for whitetail, fallow and mule deer and as such, has tested almost 400,000 tissue samples. In addition, NADR is working on adding SNP markers for axis deer that will be available in 2024. Deer farmers looking to sell, breed or participate in consignment sales are strongly encouraged to register their deer with NADR, through the submission of tissue samples. Sample submission options include an excel spreadsheet,

GMS software or manually. Samples could include pulled (not shaved) hair between 30-50 millimeters long from the underside of the tail, an antler core from the base of a shed antler, semen straws or used semen straws with the cotton plug still intact. However, AllFlex tissue tubes can be handled much quicker through an automated process versus hair or blood, explained Lindsey Kogut, NADR Senior Lead Scientist. "We need to constantly remind people that we've grown, and samples can take weeks to process," she said. "The earlier you get them to us the better. We will keep you informed and let you know when it's in process." One of the advantages of the revamped GMS software will be the ability to notify breeders when samples are in process and when results are available.

As a more recent staff edition, Kogut, is responsible for ensuring parentage and GEBV results are reviewed and released to the breeders in an accurate and timely manner. Drawing from the extensive research conducted by Dr. Christopher Seabury, Kogut spends a considerable amount of time talking with deer farmers in an effort to explain

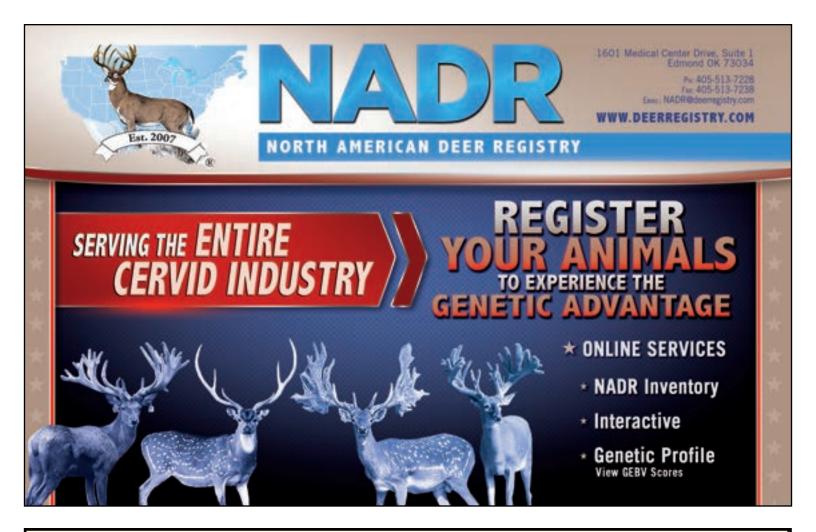
the latest CWD research and how GEBV's and codons influence resistance. "Genetic improvement for reduced CWD susceptibility is not a single step process. It is a work in progress and is a standard practice in commercial/production livestock species as well," Kogut said. "This information takes the guess work out of it and can provide an immense level of comfort to deer farmers. I cannot imagine where the deer breeding industry would be without the efforts of NADR."

"We continue to work hard to provide the very best tools and the most valuable information in a genetic registry," Cook said. "NADR is ever continuing to seek ways to use technology to provide knowledge and state of the art services to our customers."

You may reach NADR staff by calling 405-513-7228, faxing them at 405-513-7238, sending an email to nadr@deerregistry.com or visiting their website at www:deerregistry.com. NADR is located at 1601 Medical Center Drive, Suite 1, Edmond, OK, 73034.



Watch online at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9mcoEMtacA&t=768s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9mcoEMtacA&t=768s</a>





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# **VENISON CHILI**

# **INGREDIENTS**

- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 2 green bell peppers, diced
- 1 lb. ground venison
- 4–5 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 Tbsp. chili powder
- 1 Tbsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. paprika
- ½ tsp. cinnamon (optional)
- 1 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 3 Tbsp. tomato paste
- 1 tsp. Worchestershire sauce
- 1 orange, juiced
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1 and 1/2 cups venison or beef stock\*
- · 28 oz. diced tomatoes, drained
- 15 oz. black beans, drained and rinsed
- 15 oz. kidney beans, drained and rinsed



Serves 8	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories	304
	. Daily Value
Total Fat 7.5g	10%
Cholesterol 45,4mg	15%
Sodium 1233.6mg	54%
Total Carbohydrate 38.4g	14%
Sugars 10.6g	
Protein 23.9g	48%

# Instructions

- 1. Begin by heating the olive oil in a large pot over medium heat.
- 2. Add the onion and peppers and cook until the onions start to brown on the edges, about 5-7 minutes. Then, add the venison and brown.
- 3. Once the venison is browned add the garlic, chili powder, cumin, paprika, cinnamon, salt, and pepper. Saute for 1-2 minutes and then add the tomato paste. Cook for an additional minute, incorporating the tomato paste.
- 4. Then, deglaze the pot with Worchestershire sauce, orange juice, and lime juice. Scrape the bottom of the pot and add the stock, tomatoes, and beans.
- 5. Stir well and bring the chili to a boil. Once boiling, reduce the heat to low, cover partially with a lid and let the pot simmer for at least 30 minutes but up to all day. If you're cooking longer than an hour, be sure to cover the chili fully with a lid so all of the liquid doesn't evaporate.
- 6. Ladle up generous portions, top with your favorite chili toppings, and serve.

Have a great recipe to share? Email to deerassociations@gmail.com or mail to: Samantha Uchytil 19291 59th St NE, New London, MN 56273





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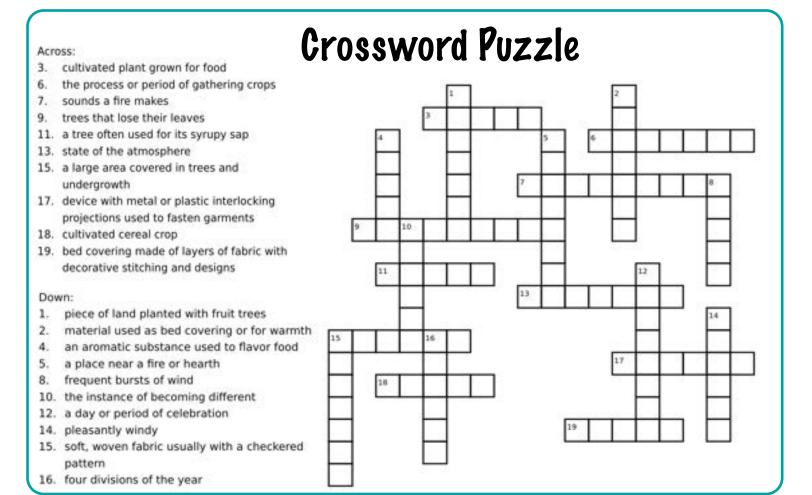
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