

20-02-10

Ag Tag Resolution

When deer hunting licenses are sold, a percentage goes to help defray costs to farmers for crop damage. This program needs to address both farmers and hunters. Currently, farmers, or land owners that rent to farmers, can use a rifle in shotgun areas and can harvest deer all but one day a year (so antlerless bucks in late winter/spring and does ready to fawn can be harvested, which sportsmen find unethical). After their tags are filled, they are able to receive more tags, and receive compensation for them on the sportsman's dollar. These are the changes that need to occur to make this a beneficial practice for all involved:

1. If a deer damage permit is granted, only antlerless animals can be harvested off that property, even during hunting seasons.
2. Reasonable time frames are needed to harvest animals (while the crop is standing, from August to December).
3. Use the weapon allowed in that unit (no more rifles in the shotgun areas).
4. If violations occur on permitted properties by the permit holder, permit holder's relation, land owner, land owner's relation, they should lose the permit for a five year period on that land, no matter whose name the property/crop is in. This should include all violations, like shooting on neighboring lands without permission, not wearing blaze orange, baiting tactics, shooting after hours, shooting antlered animals with gun and tagging with bow, or any other violations.

Program changes need to benefit both hunters and farmers.

Vote yes for these changes

Vote no to reject these changes

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