

Unusual deer disease reported in East Texas

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department biologists are investigating reports of a suspected occurrence of a blood disease among white-tailed deer in four Northeast Texas counties.

Horace Gore, whitetail program leader, said several hunters reported that deer they harvested had spongy or lost hooves or tiny hemorrhages in their flesh and internal organs.

"These symptoms of epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD)," Gore said, "is an infectious and fatal disease which is fairly rare in Texas, but has caused serious losses of both male and whitetail deer and pronghorn antelope in other parts of North America, including Canada."

The outbreak may have occurred in an area which includes portions of Caddo, Marion, Harrison and Panola counties. These counties form a north-south bow along the Texas-Louisiana border.

Gore said the disease, which is spread by vectors such as biting gnats, ordinarily occurs in summer and early fall, so the animals apparently having the disease may have been survivors of the

infection. Hunters who might have taken deer exhibiting symptoms of this disease during the hunting season are asked to contact a Parks and Wildlife Department biologist or field office.

Biologists are conducting spot surveys in portions of the four counties which have high deer populations in an effort to determine if any reductions in population occurred.

There are portions of Caddo and Marion counties where the deer population is as high per acre as it is in the Edwards Plateau," Gore said.

"This overpopulated condition is conducive to the rapid spread of an infectious disease, and it could lead to a serious die-off." Keeping deer populations within the carrying capacity of the range continues to be a primary problem in Texas, and increasingly so in portions of East Texas, Gore noted.

There currently is no known treatment for the disease. However, it is not transmissible to humans, and there is no evidence that consumption of the meat of an infected animal is harmful.

Conservation assistance

District cooperators Melvin Walker, of the New Ulm area, is constructing a pond.

Kerry Kahlden, a district cooperator of the Weimar area, has completed shaping 13 acres in eroded acreage which will be established to coastal bermudagrass to control erosion.

He will also construct a fence to protect the coastal while it becomes established and also for management purposes.

Vincent Rutledge and Roy Weshub have each constructed a grade stabilization structure and also have reclaimed some areas of critical erosion through the RCD programs of the Soil Conservation Service.

The Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District received 164 essays and 34 posters at entries in the local contests.

The winners of each contest will be honored along with their parents and their teachers at the annual Conservation Awards Banquet in April.

Conservation assistance was provided to A.L. Miller concerning the grass management of an area which Mr. Miller reclaimed and vegetated several years ago. Grass management is excellent and erosion is being held to a minimum.

Conservation assistance was provided to George Miller to locate a site for a new pond.

The regular monthly meeting of the directors of the Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District was held on January 16. Directors attending were Herbert Engstrom, Melvin Albright and Theodore Schultz. Others attending the meeting were Connie Fair, Alfred Vander Stucken and George Cason.

Grand opening at new hospital in Wharton

Gulf Coast Medical Center will hold public grand opening ceremonies on February 9 from 2 p.m. on.

Activities include speakers, tours of the hospital, free champagne and hors d'oeuvres and children's activities. Join us at 1400 U.S. 59 in Wharton.

Precision land leveling has multiple advantages

"Precision land leveling a field does more than allow for easier irrigation," says Ronnie Skala, agricultural engineer with the USDA Soil Conservation Service.

"Many producers hesitate about precision land leveling their fields," he adds, "but they may be able to justify the cost of the practice by weighing its many advantages."

Precision land leveling is accomplished by starting with a field with an uneven surface. Then, using earth moving equipment which is usually laser equipped, alter the surface of the field so that it has a uniform sloping grade across the field surface.

Skala says that precision land leveling to a planned optimum grade will provide the rice farmer with maximum control and flexibility in his water management program. A precision leveled field has straighter and fewer levees, resulting in less water loss through levees because of reduced flood depths. Also, this provides the opportunity to capture and utilize more rainfall. Since levees can be installed straight and parallel, time and money is saved because the levees do not need to be resurveyed each year. Ponding of water in lows is also eliminated during the drainage of the field.

The row crop farmer can also benefit from a precision leveled field. By precision grading a field to a uniform slope, the row crop farmer can irrigate his field by placing a grade of water in the furrows at the high end of the field and letting it flow by gravity to the lower end of the field. The precision graded surface will allow more uniform irrigation with less ponding or dry areas.

If a farmer has a drainage problem, precision land leveling will eliminate the lows and flat areas in the field thereby allowing for better drainage. This means that fields may be worked quicker after a rain and with less rutting by the equipment.

The disadvantage of precision land leveling is that it costs money to put an optimum grade on your field. But by combining the advantages of a precision land leveled field, this may be offset by the money gained from increased yields.

If a farmer is able to irrigate during a drought period, he may be able to prevent drought damage.

Whitewing stamps fund new habitat purchase

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has acquired a new 20-acre tract of white-winged dove habitat in Presidio County in the state's Big Bend region.

The tract was purchased from Richard Hooper of Austin with revenue derived from sales of the \$6 white-winged dove stamps required of whitewing hunters, according to Ron George, whitewing program leader.

The new tract and an adjoining 1,820-acre tract purchased by the department in March 1985 have been designated the Ocotillo Unit Wildlife Management Area.

The Ocotillo Unit is located on the Rio Grande one mile north of Ruidosa. It is within a region identified as important breeding

habitat for the Upper Bend whitewing dove, a large and distinct subspecies for whitewing.

The unit is a diverse area consisting of irrigated cropland, pasture, saltwater nesting cover, wetlands and upland desert. George said much of the Hooper tract consists of upland desert hills and canyons that support leathertier, cotton, ocotillo and other wildlife food plants. A permanent spring provides water for whitewings and other wildlife species in this region of Texas.

The Las Palomas WMA has 12 other units totaling 1,313 acres in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. In Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr and Willacy counties. All are owned and managed by the department for whitewing dove habitat.

4-H leadership, strength for the future

By Veronica Hundt
County Extension Agent

4-H is designed to foster leadership, to help give direction to the lives of young boys and girls. The 4-H leadership program takes that charge a step further.

4-Hers in the leadership program learn to develop their personal skills and talents so as to lay the groundwork for the future.

In the 4-H leadership program, youth learn to:

• Identify and understand roles, attitudes, tasks and functions necessary for effective leadership.

• Seek guidance in leadership development, which will provide opportunities to develop self-confidence.

• Strengthen local 4-H units by becoming involved in leadership responsibilities and encouraging other youth to do so.

• Actively participate in program planning, development and implementation, and help recruit new members and leaders.

The 4-H leadership program is supported by Reader's Digest, which provides numerous awards to top individuals. These include medals of honor, an expense-paid trip to the National 4-H Congress in Chicago each fall to one member per state, and nine

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

habitat for the Upper Bend whitewing dove, a large and distinct subspecies for whitewing.

The unit is a diverse area consisting of irrigated cropland, pasture, saltwater nesting cover, wetlands and upland desert. George said much of the Hooper tract consists of upland desert hills and canyons that support leathertier, cotton, ocotillo and other wildlife food plants. A permanent spring provides water for whitewings and other wildlife species in this region of Texas.

The Las Palomas WMA has 12 other units totaling 1,313 acres in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. In Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr and Willacy counties. All are owned and managed by the department for whitewing dove habitat.

4-H leadership, strength for the future

By Veronica Hundt
County Extension Agent

4-H is designed to foster leadership, to help give direction to the lives of young boys and girls. The 4-H leadership program takes that charge a step further.

4-Hers in the leadership program learn to develop their personal skills and talents so as to lay the groundwork for the future.

In the 4-H leadership program, youth learn to:

• Identify and understand roles, attitudes, tasks and functions necessary for effective leadership.

• Seek guidance in leadership development, which will provide opportunities to develop self-confidence.

• Strengthen local 4-H units by becoming involved in leadership responsibilities and encouraging other youth to do so.

• Actively participate in program planning, development and implementation, and help recruit new members and leaders.

The 4-H leadership program is supported by Reader's Digest, which provides numerous awards to top individuals. These include medals of honor, an expense-paid trip to the National 4-H Congress in Chicago each fall to one member per state, and nine

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

habitat for the Upper Bend whitewing dove, a large and distinct subspecies for whitewing.

The unit is a diverse area consisting of irrigated cropland, pasture, saltwater nesting cover, wetlands and upland desert. George said much of the Hooper tract consists of upland desert hills and canyons that support leathertier, cotton, ocotillo and other wildlife food plants. A permanent spring provides water for whitewings and other wildlife species in this region of Texas.

The Las Palomas WMA has 12 other units totaling 1,313 acres in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. In Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr and Willacy counties. All are owned and managed by the department for whitewing dove habitat.

4-H leadership, strength for the future

By Veronica Hundt
County Extension Agent

4-H is designed to foster leadership, to help give direction to the lives of young boys and girls. The 4-H leadership program takes that charge a step further.

4-Hers in the leadership program learn to develop their personal skills and talents so as to lay the groundwork for the future.

In the 4-H leadership program, youth learn to:

• Identify and understand roles, attitudes, tasks and functions necessary for effective leadership.

• Seek guidance in leadership development, which will provide opportunities to develop self-confidence.

• Strengthen local 4-H units by becoming involved in leadership responsibilities and encouraging other youth to do so.

• Actively participate in program planning, development and implementation, and help recruit new members and leaders.

The 4-H leadership program is supported by Reader's Digest, which provides numerous awards to top individuals. These include medals of honor, an expense-paid trip to the National 4-H Congress in Chicago each fall to one member per state, and nine

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Monday, February 10: Breakfast, donut or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, hamburger, French fries, pinto beans, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, milk.

Tuesday, February 11: Breakfast, sausage patty with biscuit, jelly, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, burrito with chili and cheese, corn salad, fruit, cinnamon roll, milk.

Wednesday, February 12: Breakfast, cinnamon roll or cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

sticks, French fries, mixed vegetables, salad, fruit, brownie, milk.

Thursday, February 13: Breakfast, French toast with breakfast sausage, syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, baked ham, parsley potatoes, broccoli or peas, fruit, homemade bread, milk.

Friday, February 14: Breakfast, pancakes with syrup, or cereal, juice, milk; Lunch, bean chulapas, corn, lettuce, tomato, cheese, cereal, fruit, milk; Lunch, fish

Area students on SHSU dean's list

Students from the Garwood area on the dean's list for fall semester State University for fall semester 1985 include:

John Paul Schneider, senior, agriculture business; Karen Marie Schneider, senior, advertising and graphics; and David Leo Seifert, junior, agriculture.

Other area students on the dean's list include: Janice Ann Abtschlag, junior, criminology and corrections; Elena Brune Holub, senior, music; and Pamela Sue Ostroff, senior, elementary education, all of Columbus; Diane Droke, senior, mathematics; Mary Elizabeth Neville, senior, mathematics; Warren Gunnison Neville, senior, elementary education, all of Wallis.

The dean's list at Sam Houston consists of all full-time students having grade point averages of 3.5 and above.

Alpha Delta Phi met at Sportsman's

The members of Alpha Delta Phi met for their regular meeting on January 20 at Sportsman's Restaurant. Vicki Powers had the program and gave the members a review on the purpose and establishment of Beta Sigma Phi.

After Melody Grigar, president, called for reading of the minutes, she read a letter from Cindy Fink requesting a member-at-large status in the sorority.

Committee reports were then given with social chairpersons Debbie Christ and Charlene Rodgers reporting on the progress

of the Western Dance to be held on February 15.

Service chairperson Carol Edwards reported Connie Gerton and Sylvia Rucka would be doing the hospital tray favors for February.

Program chairperson Vicki Powers reminded members the next meeting would be at Candy McCreary's home with Candy also having the program.

Gail Guthman, chairperson of the membership committee, then asked the chairman of each committee report on their duties for the benefit of the new pledges.

The Dilie Rose Harris chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas held their first meeting on the Texas sesquicentennial year in the home of Mrs. Catherine Gunn in Weimar January 23.

The president, Mrs. Millycent Crane, called the meeting to order. Mrs. Marguerite Fitzpatrick gave the invocation; Mrs. Gunn led the pledge to the flag of the United States and Mrs. Susan Rogers the salute to the Texas flag. The group then sang the official state song "Texas our Texas."

The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer gave her report.

Mrs. Crane reported that there are 92 chapters of the DRT. To be eligible to join the organization, one must prove that they had one or more ancestors residing in Texas before the cut off date of February 19, 1846.

The Dilie Rose Harris chapter is sponsoring an essay contest for the seventh grade Texas history students in Colorado County entitled "Victory at San Jacinto".

The writer of the best essay in each participating school will receive a certificate of merit. The student whose essay is judged the best countywide will receive a

prize of ten dollars and their essay will be sent to DRT District VI and if it wins there, it will be sent to statewide competition and the state winner will be awarded a silver bowl.

On January 26, the chapter honored Mirabeau B. Lamar, the second-elected president of the Republic of Texas. He obtained and passed the education act on January 26, 1839 that laid the foundation for public education in Texas.

Observance, the DRT placed a display in the Nesbitt Memorial Library; had an announcement made on the local radio station and flew their Texas flags.

Mrs. Julia Collins reported that there have been 144 Texas flags and 11 United States flags sold and more have been ordered. She also reported that five members of the local chapter had attended the formal chartering ceremony for the Monument Hill chapter in La Grange January 19.

Plans have been made to place sesquicentennial markers at the grave of Dilie Rose Harris in the City Cemetery in Columbus on April 27 at 2 p.m. and on Dr. Charles William Tait's grave, located on the Tait Ranch, at 3 p.m.

The Dilie Rose Harris chapter is sponsoring an essay contest for the seventh grade Texas history students in Colorado County entitled "Victory at San Jacinto".

The writer of the best essay in each participating school will receive a certificate of merit. The student whose essay is judged the best countywide will receive a

prize of ten dollars and their essay will be sent to DRT District VI and if it wins there, it will be sent to statewide competition and the state winner will be awarded a silver bowl.

On January 26, the chapter honored Mirabeau B. Lamar, the second-elected president of the Republic of Texas. He obtained and passed the education act on January 26, 1839 that laid the foundation for public education in Texas.

Observance, the DRT placed a display in the Nesbitt Memorial Library; had an announcement made on the local radio station and flew their Texas flags.

Mrs. Julia Collins reported that there have been 144 Texas flags and 11 United States flags sold and more have been ordered. She also reported that five members of the local chapter had attended the formal chartering ceremony for the Monument Hill chapter in La Grange January 19.

Plans have been made to place sesquicentennial markers at the grave of Dilie Rose Harris in the City Cemetery in Columbus on April 27 at 2