

**REPORT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS
IPM Project FY 2001/2002
CLEMSON UNIVERSITY**

**Techniques for Reducing Deer and Other Wildlife Damage to Agricultural Crops,
Gardens and Ornamental Plants**

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Phase 1 - Field Testing

An undergraduate student was hired during the summer to accomplish the in-the-field portion of the project. This phase of the project focused on identifying potential sites to illustrate techniques to reduce agricultural and ornamental damage by deer. Several techniques were examined, and it was determined from past studies that a temporary and semi-permanent electric fence design would be the most effective deterrent to test to reduce deer damage in agricultural and garden settings. The student surveyed the Pee Dee REC, with input from staff, and selected several soybean fields to illustrate and test two fencing designs. The two fencing designs are below:

1. Max Flex Temporary Electric Fence - The Max Flex fence is a two strand webbing which is supported by fiber glass poles electrified with a battery-powered Maxim charger. The fence was placed around a 5-acre soybean field. The fence was easy to establish with minimum effort and took about 3 hours to put in place. Maintenance on the fence was minimal. The fence was very effective in reducing deer browsing on soybean plants within the enclosure.
2. High Tensile Wire Temporary Fence - A 3-wire offset high fence was also established around a 5-acre soybean field and electrified with a battery powered Zareba charger. The fence was difficult to establish (took more than a day) but yielded similar results as the Max Flex in reducing deer damage to soybeans with the enclosed area. Like the Max Flex fence, the high tensile wire fence is was easy to maintain.

Comparisons of both fencing designs showed that each were effective in reducing deer damage to soybeans. The Max Flex fence was easier to establish but was approximately 3 times the cost in materials and estimated labor. Although the high tensile wire fence was more difficult to establish, it yielded similar results at about 1/3 the cost of the Max Flex fence. The tradeoff between the 2 fence designs is ease of establishment versus cost.

Phase II - 3- Wildlife Damage Management Workshop

Planning for a 3-day wildlife damage management workshop took place during the project and will be held at the Pee Dee REC in March 2003. A description of the workshop is below:

**Nuisance Wildlife Management
Workshop and In-Service Training
March 2003
Pee Dee Research and Education Center**

**Supported by IPM Program
Clemson University**

About the Workshop

The Nuisance Wildlife Management Workshop and In-Service Training is designed to provide the most up-to-date and comprehensive training for individuals who are responsible for handling and resolving nuisance wildlife problems. Participants who will benefit from attending the workshop include natural resource professionals, pest control operators, trappers, animal control operators, city and county municipality personnel, public health officials, county Extension staff, select government agency personnel, and farmers and forest owners who are experiencing wildlife damage. Session topics include an overview of wildlife-human conflicts, detailed illustrations of methods for reducing and controlling common nuisance wildlife problems, disease and health implications, regulatory aspects, and resources for addressing nuisance wildlife problems. As part of the registration fee, participants will also receive the comprehensive reference manual *Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage*, the most complete reference for nuisance wildlife problems.

Continuing Education Credit

Participants attending the entire workshop will receive a certificate of attendance at the conclusion of the workshop and are eligible for approximately 10 contact hours of Category I professional development credits from the Wildlife Society and the Society of American Foresters.

Dates

March, 2003

Location

Auditorium and Field Sites, Pee Dee Research and Education Center

AGENDA

Day 1

8:30 a.m.	Registration and Coffee
9:00 a.m.	Case Study Exercise: Deer Deer Everywhere
11:00 p.m.	Why Do We Have Nuisance Wildlife Problems? Principals and Philosophy of Wildlife Damage Management
11:30 p.m.	Common Nuisance Wildlife Problems and Control Methods
Noon	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Regulatory, Health, and Safety Concerns
1:45 p.m.	Break
2:00 p.m.	Biology and Control of Deer Damage
4:00 p.m.	Adjourn for the day

Day 2

8:30 a.m. Biology and Control of Commensal Rodents (mice & rats)
9:30 a.m. Biology and Control of Pine and Meadow Voles
10:00 a.m. Biology and Control of Moles in Lawns and Landscaped Communities
10:45 a.m. Biology and Control of Squirrels, Chipmunks and Groundhogs
11:30 a.m. Biology and Control of Beavers
Noon Lunch
1:00 p.m - Field Tour
5:00 p.m.

Day 3

8:00 a.m. Biology and Control of Bats in Homes, Warehouses and Old Buildings
8:30 a.m. Biology and Control of Geese
9:00 a.m. Biology and Control of Woodpeckers
9:30 a.m. Biology and Control of Pigeons
10:00 a.m. Break
10:30 a.m. Biology and Control of Reptiles and Amphibians (alligators, snakes, frogs, and salamanders)
11:00 a.m. How to Handle Requests for Nuisance Wildlife Calls: Sources of Assistance
11:45 a.m. Evaluations and Closing Remarks
12:00 a.m. Adjourn