

Wildlife Afield



BY JIM DEAN

There is still one problem that persists in the N. C. Wildlife Resources Commission's Game Land program. A fellow I know who lives in the mountains stated it as well as anyone.

Back when this area around here was under the old Management Area concept, we had Wildlife Managers actually living in the refuge, he said. Now, that they've moved out and mobilized into teams, we don't know where to find them.

"Used to be, when I saw somebody poaching a deer or illegally fishing a trout stream, I could drive up to the refuge protector's house and tell him about it, now, I don't really know how to get in touch with these fellows."

That's the problem, in a nutshell. Of course, not every outdoorsman will report game and fish violations when he sees them but the really concerned sportsmen will. And they have been a big help in maintaining the quality of these areas. In order to continue to help, they've got to have a contact.

Now, the Wildlife Commission is organizing a campaign to help the sportsmen help themselves by tapping into the wildlife protection telephone and radio network.

Five "Hotline" telephone numbers: one for Morganton (704-437-9131) — one for Jonesville (919-935-9426), for Waynesville (704-456-9292), for Haw River (919-578-1648) and for China Grove (704-857-9188) have been set up. These are Wildlife Commission base stations and they are in contact, by radio, with all the Wildlife Protectors in that area.

If a hunter sees someone shoot a deer out of season on some lonely backwoods road in the mountains, he doesn't have to go to a Wildlife Protector's home or go field

him somewhere in the middle of 50,000 acres of wilderness. Instead, he can call the nearest of these five "hotline" numbers and the news will be relayed to Wildlife Protectors who will then check it out.

It would be a good idea to jot down these phone numbers on the back of your hunting license right now. But, in case you forget, be on the lookout for a new Wildlife Commission sign which will furnish these telephone numbers.

Several thousand of these signs are being posted right now throughout the deer hunting territory from Butler to Uwharris and the western mountains.

Basically, they tell you where to call to get help if you see a violation or know of one.

Also, at 21 strategic points — locations to be announced shortly — Wildlife Game Land personnel will be stationed in trucks equipped with radios.

The agents manning these trucks will be at these locations throughout the deer season primarily so that sportsmen can report violations. These men will also serve as Wildlife Cooperators Agents during the deer season.

As with the telephone network, once a report is received, the information will be relayed to the Wildlife Protectors patrolling the area.



"Ask most any southern bird hunter if pheasant will ruin a quail dog, and he'll raise his eyebrows, puff out his cheeks and swear up and down that pheasant are the worst ruiners of good bird dogs ever created," says Gurd Dogs Editor Jerome B. Robinson in *Sports Afield*.

The idea is that pheasant, particularly wily old roosters, will habitually run away from points and ruin a good quail-dog's staunchness on game. But if you live in an area where both quail and pheasant reproduce naturally, it seems that the tail is wagging the dog when bird-dog owners let a theoretical argument prevent them from fully enjoying the natural bird hunting which could be theirs.

Jack Roche of Neosho Falls, Kansas, agrees. "That's just some scaredy-cat theory that was probably spread by hunters who did more of their hunting in books than in the field," he says. "A good bird dog is good on whatever game he has had enough experience on. Quail and pheasant, pheasant and quail, it doesn't matter, the dog can smell 'em, and he knows what he's got ahead of him, if he's been trained on both birds, he knows how to handle either one."

The point is a good one, and Jack Roche puts his money where his mouth is. "My dogs go back and forth between quail and pheasant all day long, and I'll guarantee I've never seen a running pheasant make them forget how to handle a covey of quail. Come out and have a look."

Kansas is fantastic bird country. Booming populations of pheasant reproduce naturally everywhere but in the southeast corner of the state, and quail country is statewide. A Kansas bird dog that could not properly handle both species of birds would be giving his owner only half a job, no matter how good he might be on that half.

Furthermore, Kansas is

dotted with public-hunting and game-management areas totaling over 300,000 acres, on which pheasant and quail live side by side. Consequently a man who tries to keep his quail dog off pheasant in Kansas would not only be missing a lot of good sport, but would have to avoid a large part of every piece of cover he hunted.

"It's all simply a matter of training," Jack Roche says. "I train my dogs on both pheasant and quail from the time they're pups."

Details on how to do this are given in Jerome B. Robinson's article entitled "Will Pheasant Hunting Wreck A Quail Dog? No Way!" in the October issue of *Sports Afield*.

A 117-pound blue catfish taken from the Ouga River in Missouri, in 1964, is the world record for that species. There are, however, records of blue cats weighing well over 200 pounds that were caught in the state around the turn of the century. —SPORTS AFIELD

One out of every 15 licensed hunters in the United States today is a bowhunter. —SPORTS AFIELD

A pair of monk parakeets can produce 40 young a year. They are aggressive and seem able to adapt to a great variety of climates. Small wonder game officials are alarmed at their rapid spread through the United States. —SPORTS AFIELD

An old weather proverb states that when you see an unusual number of crows flying in the autumn, there will be a hard winter. —SPORTS AFIELD

BEEF CHART

MEAT CUTS OF BEEF—SHOWING THEIR CORRECT NAMES AND HOW TO COOK THEM

CHUCK Beef Steer or Heifer	BRISKET Beef Steer or Heifer	SHOULDER Beef Steer or Heifer	FLANK Beef Steer or Heifer	TOP Beef Steer or Heifer
Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket	Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket	Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket	Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket	Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket Beef Brisket

This chart approved by National Live Stock and Meat Board

Washington—(HK)—The meat industry has instituted a new standardized identification labeling program designed to reduce shopper confusion and help consumers make wiser, more economical decisions.

President David H. Stroud of the National Live Stock and Meat Board said the new program promises benefits for the marketer as well as the consumer. The names for various cuts of beef, pork and lamb sold in U.S. food stores have been reduced from more than 1,000 to about 300.

Fanciful, strictly regional or potentially misleading names have been replaced by others with more specific meaning to the average shopper. The program also includes descriptive labels for the primary retail purchase materials, and special

booklets for distribution through retail meat outlets.

The National Live Stock and Meat Board, an industry association, coordinated the voluntary 16-month project among producers and retailers. Stroud said that "the new nationwide system may be the most significant meat counter improvement since the introduction of self-service nearly four decades ago."

Consumer Benefits

Among consumer benefits expected from the new system is a guarantee that such vaguely named or misnamed meat cuts as "London Broil," "Paradise Roast" and "Patio Roast" will be happily lost.

Stroud said participating retailers are in the process of phasing out the often confusing array of names by which many meats

are called. "The name list seemed endless," Stroud added. "It has proliferated to awesome proportions, particularly since the end of World War II. The merchandising ingenuity of the extremely competitive meat retailing business is partly responsible."

"But once this new system gets into full operation, each cut will carry the same name wherever you buy it in the country."

Not only will the names on the meat package labels be uniform throughout the U.S., but most stores participating in the program will display illustrated identification charts, plus other descriptive material on the new meat labeling system. The charts show the carcass, primal cuts and location and names of meat cuts, along with cooking recommendations.

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