



Health Beat

As I traveled around the midwest the last couple of months, I saw lots of deer and deer farmers. One thing for sure, this industry is busy and growing at this time. To continue, we need to be very vigilant and proactive. Get involved and make sure that everything you do is above reproach and in the best interest of everyone involved. Nuff said on that!

I am still getting EHD questions and issues. Some deer that were affected didn't recover well or had other issues after recovering. I still get questions about the vaccine as well. We have it here at the UI. It is EHD type 2. That is the ONLY serotype that I have been able to isolate in the last 4 years here in Illinois. It is also the serotype that caused all the problems nationwide this last year. There is probably some cross protection between type 1 and 2. Probably no protection for Bluetongue, but that has not been a problem here. In some other states yes, but not here. I believe that you need to vaccinate at least twice with the vaccine and a booster at least once a year. With the price of deer, overvaccination shouldn't be a concern. Call if you have questions, but do vaccinate. Come up with some sort of plan to get your deer vaccinated. Work with your local vet or call me.

Breeding should be over with but continue to watch for buck activity. Some of the doe fawns may be cycling and bred late. Also if you AI'd, the does will recycle in 22-26 days or so if they didn't stick. Watch for that activity to give you some idea of how your breeding program worked. I know one of mine recycled! 25 days! Oh well, I can't even get all my own deer to stick!

If you haven't given it any thought, think about starting to TB and Brucellosis test. If you are going to be in the business long term, you probably need to get on the program now. It will help you in marketing and movement. Just make sure that you follow all the rules and regulations. They can be confusing, so work with your veterinarian and the state and federal veterinarians to make sure it's done correctly!

Clifford F. Shipley DVM, DACT

University of Illinois, College of Veterinary Medicine, 1008 West Hazelwood Drive, Urbana, IL 61802,
217-333-2000 clinic, 217-333-2479 office, 217-333-7126 fax

cshipley@uiuc.edu

Info from NADeFA

I received a call asking if it is allowed to transport deer across Alabama. The information I have received said "No", but they are willing to look at each case individually and make exceptions. We are still trying to correct the interstate travel issue in Kentucky and Maryland as well. Please do not cross these states while transporting deer with out contacting them in advance. If you need contact information, contact the NADeFA office.

Shawn Schafer

Executive Director

North American Deer Farmers Association