

# DATA COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

The following data must be collected from all harvested deer and recorded on the jawbone cards and data sheets

- Hunter's name (record this in the comments field on the green sheet)
- Deer number (Numbers and data on jawbone cards must correspond with those on data sheets and remain in harvest order.)
- Harvest date - month and day.
- Sex - check buck or doe.
- Weight - record live or dressed weight in the correct column (dressed weight is preferred).
- Milk present – ALL female deer must be checked for evidence of lactation.
  - Strip a nipple first. If milk (any fluid - white, brown or clear) comes out of the nipples, mark YES in the Milk Present column on the data sheet.
  - If no fluid can be squeezed from the nipples, then, cut the udder (bag) with a knife. If any color fluid (other than blood) comes out, mark YES in the Milk Present column.
  - If no fluid is found in the udder using either method mark NO in the Milk Present column. DOES ONLY!
- Sloughing hoofs - record if the deer's hoofs appear to be coming off or sloughing at the ends. Sloughing hoofs are evidence the deer contracted either blue-tongue or epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) during the previous several months (Figure 1). Neither of these diseases is dangerous to humans and the meat is safe for human consumption
- Antler measurements (bucks only) - all antler measurements should be taken to the nearest 1/8 inch.
  - Number of points - points must be 1 inch or longer to qualify (Figure 2).
  - Main beam length - start at the burr and measure along the outside curve of the mainbeam to the tip (left and right antler) (Figure 2).
  - Beam circumference should be taken at the smallest point between the burr and first point. If the first point, often called the brow tine, is not present then take the measurement approximately 1 inch above the burr (left and right antler) (Figure 3).
  - Inside spread between the mainbeams - taken at a right angle to the centerline of the skull (Figure 3).

## JAWBONE CARD

(use pencil only)

**MISSISSIPPI DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Hunter Name \_\_\_\_\_ Deer Number \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Date Harvested \_\_\_\_\_

Sex:  Buck  Doe

Live Wt.: \_\_\_\_\_ Dressed Wt.: \_\_\_\_\_

Milk Present?  Yes  No Hoof Sloughing?  Yes  No

Number of Points: \_\_\_\_\_

Beam Circumference: Left \_\_\_\_\_ in. Right \_\_\_\_\_ in.

Beam Length: Left \_\_\_\_\_ in. Right \_\_\_\_\_ in.

Inside Spread: \_\_\_\_\_ in. Age \_\_\_\_\_



Figure 1. Sloughing hoofs caused by blue-tongued or epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD).

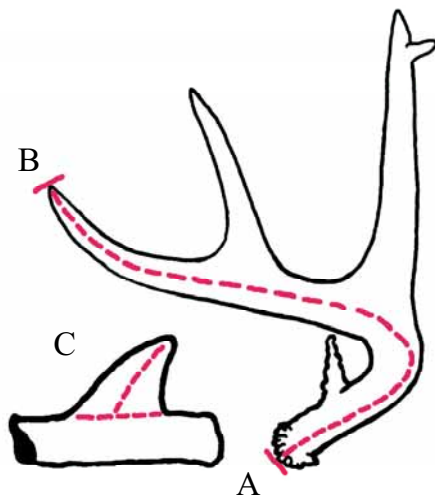


Figure 2. (A) The mainbeam is measured from the burr along the outside curve of the mainbeam to the tip (B). (C) Points are measured from a line formed by the base of the point to the tip.

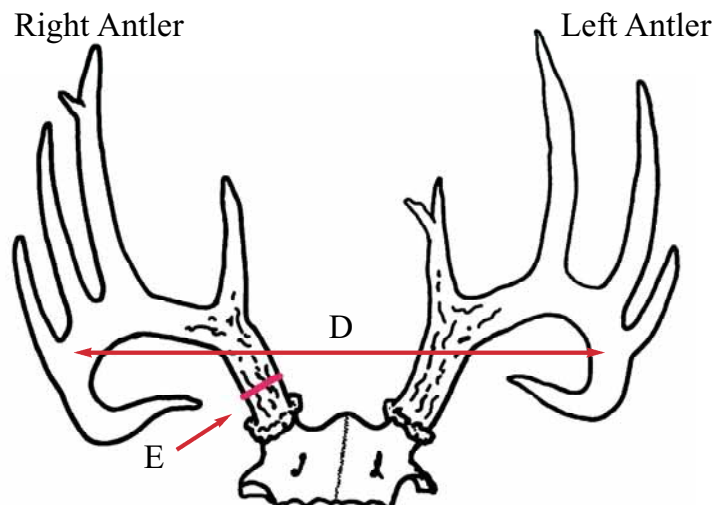


Figure 3. (D) Inside spread is measured at a 90° angle to the skull at the widest point between the mainbeams. (E) Circumference measurements are taken at the smallest area between the burr and the first point.