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The Probe, Issue 87 - November 1988

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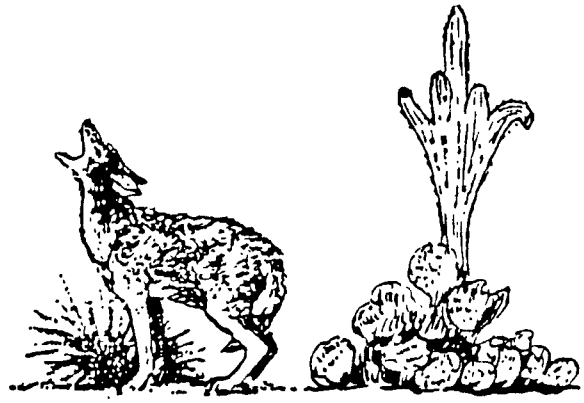
THE PROBE



National Animal Damage Control Association

NOVEMBER 1988 **NUMBER 87**

THANKS, LES CAUSEY!

Les Causey, APHIS, out of Uvalde (TX) sent in his dues for 1989. It is so nice not to have to twist an arm. I hadn't forgotten it was about that time, but have been too busy on other projects. This year I don't have the carrot of a $5 raise in dues to get your contributions coming in, but I sure would appreciate getting everybody who is going to sign up to do it by the first of the year. It makes it so much easier on me before I get the January issue in the mail. Pretty please! send in your fifteen bucks OR MORE and join up for ten more issues of a fun-filled, sexy, highly informative, superbly written, tightly edited, expensively printed, unbiased, and provocative publication. OK. So you'll get THE PROBE instead, but then things are tough all over.

Many a dumb blond is really a smart brunette.

NADCA BORES MEET

On Saturday, December 3, the NADCA Executive Board is going to have a meeting in Albuquerque probably at YE ED's shack. Any NADCA member going to be in the area at the time is cordially invited to attend the sessions. We expect to have a quorum of the Board even though the budget will only support Motel Six accommodations and McDonald's hamburgers. The days of riotous living on Uncle's largess are gone for most of us. This is the first time (outside of our meetings in Yellowstone Park) we haven't met in conjunction with a University-sponsored ADC meeting. So while we are limiting ourselves to a one-day shot, we hope to accomplish much towards deciding the direction NADCA will take from here on. The "good 'ol boys" who started and have run the organization are getting to be "those old fogys" and feel some changes need to be made. We have to decide what direction NADCA should be moving or if it should be disbanded before January 1, 1990 when the current officers' terms expire. Please send in YOUR comments to YE ED in the next mail. We are good for at least 1989.

Many a blonde dyes by her own hand.

PRIORITIES

Like most of us caught in the media's oversell, I was relieved when the two California gray whales escaped from their Arctic ice pack trap, but came back to reality when an announcer casually mentioned that over a million bucks had gone into the effort. Admittedly, whales are an endangered life form, but spending a million on two stupid individual animals who didn't know when to head south is a criminal waste of resources. Think how many of these animals have been caught in this fashion in the past to die unmourned without attracting the attention of TV cameras looking for any relief from the sordid but boring campaign garbage? An Eskimo "activist" in a Toronto newspaper (ALBUQUERQUE TRIBUNE, 10/88) blasted the operation saying the whales should have been eaten instead of freed. This was a bonanza to our Animal Rights friends to

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CONSENSUS OF NADCA MEMBERSHIP OPINION
*IN ALL INSTANCES. *
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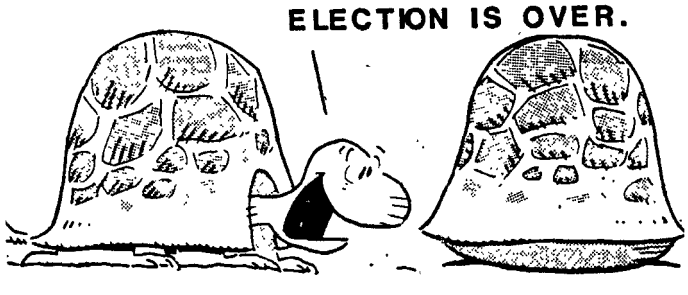
C'MON OUT, ERNIE-



elicit more money from the suckers by stressing individuals rather than populations.

In same paper was an article on a court order barring the BLM from selling "unadoptable" wild horses for "commercial exploitation - slaughter or use in a rodeo". What is the taxpayer supposed to do? Fund a Medicare policy for the rest of the natural life of these pests while humans struggle to maintain themselves in the expensive world of health care today?

They say you can't take it with you. I just want it to last until I'm ready to go.

PERSONNEL

RUSTY BIRCHFIELD retired as a troubleshooter for the Texas ADC program after 32 years of service. His abilities will be missed! Best of luck.

Tell some girls their hair looks like a mop. They don't mind. They don't know what a mop looks like.

READIN'

Have been notified of a number of ADC books and articles lately, so will try to clean out my files. Attached is a flyer from THOMSON PUBLICATIONS on a revision of their important AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS BOOK III.

Crowcroft, Peter (1966) MICE ALL OVER, Chicago Zool. Soc., Brookfield, IL 60513, 123pp paperback.
This is a classic little paperback on house mouse biology, psychology, and control written with a dry sense of humor. Dr. Crowcroft is from Tasmania. He worked with the renowned Dr. C. Elton in the UK (Bureau of Animal Population) publishing several papers on house mouse research. Coming to this country, he has gotten away from ADC to become a Director in some of cur foremost zoos, currently the Salisbury Zoological Park. He writes that like most.authors he has a supply of this publication in his attic which he will be glad to part, with for $5.50 postpaid if you write to him at POB 3163, Salisbury, MD 21801. This is a good basic book to understand the house mouse.

Lay-cock, George (1988) THE MOUNTAIN PEN, Stackpole Books, POB 11831, Harrisburg, PA 17105, 308pp hardback, $32.95 postpaid.
I haven't read this one but Laycock is an excellent author and the review states it details the exploits of fur trappers in early 1800s who first explored the Rocky Mountains and beyond in their search for beaver. There are accounts of charmed lives, harrowing escapes, feats of courage and endurance, and violence that were part and parcel of the "mountain man" lifestyle.

Prakash, Ishwar (ed) (1988) RODENT PEST MANAGEMENT, CRC Press, Inc., 2000 Corporate Blvd. NW, Boca Raton, FL

33431. 480pp hardback. $125.00
This is an updated, well-documented book on all aspects of international rodent control with chapters written by such authorities as: Rex Marsh, MIKE FALL, LYN FIEDLER, David E. Davis, BOB TIMM, Mogan Lund, WALTER HOWARD, Adrian Meehan, S. A. Barnett, and even W. D. FITZWATER (Chapter 28: Nonlethal methods in rodent control). Buy it, I need the money.

Wagner, Frederic H. (1988) PREDATOR CONTROL AND THE SHEEP INDUSTRY: THE ROLE OF SCIENCE IN POLICY FORMATION, Regina Books, POB 280, Claremont, CA 91711 hardcover $21.95; paperback $11.95 + postage.
FRED KNOWLTON (NADCA RD II) has promised a review of this book when he gets a copy.

So much for books. Now for some very brief summaries of technical articles I have been sent. Most of these can be obtained from the Library, DWRC, POB 25266, Denver, CO 80225-0266:

Ahmed, M. S., etal (1987) ECONOMIC LOSSES BY RATS ON EXPERIMENTAL RICE FARMS IN PHILIPPINES, Crop Protection, 6 (4) 271-6.
Survey indicated rat damage occurred on 86.0% of 171 field experiments causing complete loss of data in 6.4% and partial loss in 59.1%. Damage was unaffected by season or among plots protected by electrified, non-electrified, or no fence. The complete loss of research data was highest on plots protected by the electrified fence. Losses amounted to US$370,000/year.

Ainsworth, I. (1988) KOMONDOROK: PREDATOR CONTROL IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING, Amer. Kennel Club Gazette, May, pp64-9. (KIRK GUSTAD)
History of Komondor breed with various tales of success in Hungary, U.S.A., Canada, and Africa.

Beasom, Sam L. (1988) ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CAESAR KLEBERG FOUNDATION FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION, Texas A&I Univ., Kingsburg, TX 78363
MILT CAROLINE (NADCA RD-IV) sent me a copy of this so I'm not sure of its availability. It outlines research findings for the Foundation that might be of interest to some of you on coyotes, bobcats, ocelots, deer, and grackles.

Bernhardt, G.E., etal (1987) BLACKBIRD AND STARLING FEEDING BEHAVIOR ON RIPENING CORN EARS, Ohio J. Sci. 87 (4) 125-9:
Confined study on attack success by blackbirds on field corn. Redwings and starlings were more aggressive than grackles and cowbirds. Redwings and starlings used gaping to penetrate husks - redwings on side and starlings through silk channel. Grackles pecked thru husk with closed bill. Cowbirds gaped but were less efficient at penetrating. Study suggests increasing thickness and strength of husks and extension of husk beyond ear tip will increase resistance of corn varieties to bird damage.

CAMPBELL, D. L., etal (1987) DEER REPELLED FROM DOUGLAS FIR NEW GROWTH USING BGR-P AND AVERSIVE CONDITIONING, Washington DNR Note #46, 7pp.
Treatments with BIG-GAME REPELLENT-POWDER and flagging with blue or other plastic materials resulted in extended protection of Doug Fir terminals before and after chemical applications.

Clark, L. etal (1987) OLFACTORY DISCRIMINATION OF PLANT VOLATILES BY THE EUROPEAN STARLING, Animal Behavior, 35:227-235.
Tests with starlings suggest they use olfactory clues in discriminating and selecting species of plants to use as nest materials.

Cummings, J.L., etal (1987) DECOY PLANTINGS FOR REDUCING BLACKBIRD DAMAGE TO NEARBY COMMERCIAL SUNFLOWER FIELDS, Crop Protection, 6 (1) 56-60.
Planting of decoy sunflower crops on idle land adjacent to commercial crops resulted in a yearly cost-benefit ratio of 1:2.1 to 1:4.7 (average 1:3.7).

EVANS, J. (1987) EFFICACY AND HAZARDS OF STRYCHNINE BAITING FOR FOREST POCKET GOPHERS, in ANIMAL DAMAGE MANAGEMENT IN PACIFIC NW FORESTS Conf., Washington SU, pp 81-83.
Efficacy of baiting for pocket gophers with 0.5% strychnine-oats varies from

minus 40%-100%. Successful control depends on quality and toxicity of bait, a judicious baiting program, and constant monitoring (points out gophers sometimes plug open holes several feet back from opening thus giving false readings on open-hole assessments.). Secondary hazards appear remote to avian or mammalian predators. Non-target rodents show little long-term adverse effects.

EVANS, J. (1987) IDENTIFICATION OF FOREST ANIMAL DAMAGE IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, (same source as above) pp 25-26.
Greatest impact of wildlife on plantations is generally first 3-5 years after reforestration. Species identification by feeding injury and other sign is necessary.

EVANS, J. (1987) THE PORCUPINE IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, (same source as above), pp 75-78.
Biology of western porcupine, damage caused, and control measures are discussed.

Guo, W., etal (1986) CANINE DISTEMPER VIRUS IN COYOTES: A SEROLOGIC SURVEY, Journ. Amer. Veterinary Med. Assn. 9:1099-1100.
Serum studies of a series of Texas coyotes showed 56% with CDV antibody titers, the incidence being higher in the fall (62%) than in the spring (40%). The disease in enzootic in Texas.

Knittle, C.E., etal (1987) DISPERSAL OF MALE RED-WINGED BLACKBIRDS FROM TWO SPRING ROOSTS IN CENTRAL NORTH AMERICA, J. Field Ornith. 58 (4) 490-8.
Blackbirds migrated from Spring roosts in nw Missouri and se North Dakota to breeding sites to the northwest suggesting control of these roosts might decrease sunflower damage in the breeding site areas.

Mason, J.R. (1987) CAPSAICIN AND ITS EFFECTS ON OLFACTION AND TRIGEMINAL CHEMORECEPTION, Acta Physiologica Hungarica, 69 (3-4) 469-79.
Capsaicin experiments on rats indicated it has an effect on their olfactory responses, but did not hinder animals in locating buried foods, odor avoidance behavior, or in operant odor detection and discrimination.

Mian, M. Y., etal (1987) SMALL MAMMALS AND STORED FOOD LOSSES IN FARM HOUSEHOLDS IN BANGLADESH, Crop Protection, 6 (3) 200-3.
Using tracking tiles and 3-night trapping, small mammal populations were estimated throughout the year. Species captured were house mice (53%) and Asiatic house shrew (34%); bandicoot and roof rats made up the remainder. The total population varied from 170 in December to 40 (March) and 34 (August) in farmer's households. The population estimated at 8.3 mice and 2.0 rats/household consumed 53 Kg rice per farm family per year. This is a minimum estimate.

NASS, R. D., etal (1987) PREDATION REDUCTION TECHNIQUES OF WESTERN OREGON SHEEPMAN NOT USING ORGANIZED CONTROL PROGRAMS, SID Research Digest, Winter, pp 3-7.
Interview with 49 sheep producers revealed 16% had losses over 4% to coyotes, the rest 0-4%. Predator control on adjacent lands may have benefited some. Increased human activity associated with intensive management is possibly a major benefit towards deterring predation, but it was difficult to determine benefits of specific technics because of the many variables.

Phillips, R.L. (1986) CURRENT ISSUES CONCERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF GOLDEN EAGLES IN WESTERN U.S.A., Birds of Prey Bull. #3, 149-156.
Electrocution, illegal shooting, and poisoning are major causes of golden eagle mortality. Cooperative efforts between government and industry is lessening the first cause. Conservation education and law enforcement is reducing mortality from others. Increased demands for eagle feathers by Indians has posed new problems. Most serious problems are reduction of nesting and hunting environments due to expanding human population.

STONE, C.P. etal (?) CONTROL OF FERAL UNGULATES AND SMALL MAMMALS IN HAWAII'S NATIONAL PARKS: RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT

STRATEGIES, in CONTROL OF MAMMALS IN HAWAII, pp 277-287.
Organized hunts with dogs have reduced feral pigs on national forest lands. Organized drives and hunts and the use of radio-collared "Judas goats" (released to find wild flocks) have reduced feral goat numbers over a large area. Trapping of mongooses and cats has been successful in marginal predator habitat to protect endangered birds. Experiments with toxicants is proceeding against rat spp. and mongoose.

Terrill, C.E. (1988) PREDATOR LOSSES CLIMB NATIONWIDE, National Wool Grower, Oct. pp 32-4.
Predator losses have climbed to $83 million in 1987 over losses of $72 million (1986) and $69 million (1985). While percentage losses are the same (8.8% compared to 10.8% and 10.5% respectively), the value of the sheep and lambs is increasing. Further breakdown on statistics.

We may not imagine how our lives could become more frustrating and complex -- but Congress can.

MEETIN'S

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON TRAPPING WILD FURBEARERS, Nov. 14-16, at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
I just received notice of this meeting so by the time you get this it will be too late to attend. I wish ADC conference organizers would give me sufficient notice. Will try to get a copy of the proceedings, if any, as there are some interesting papers on trap research.

THIRD NATIONAL MOUNTAIN LION WORKSHOP, Dec. 5-8, 1988 at Prescott (AZ). Sessions on current research/management of population monitoring, harvesting, and law enforcement. Contact: Harley Shaw, POB 370, Chino Valley, AZ 86323

SECOND INTERNATIONAL SHORT COURSE IN VERTEBRATE PEST PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, Aug. 14-27, 1989 at Colorado State University. Contact: Dr. Julius Nagy, Dept. Fish. & WIldl.. Biol., CSU, Ft.Collins, CO 80523.

FOURTEENTH VERTEBRATE PEST CONFERENCE, March 6-8, 1990, Sacramento, CA.
Now this is more like it. This grandaddy of U.S. ADC conferences is sending out a first call for papers. A proposed title and abstract should be submitted by 15 Jan. 89 to: Terry Salmon, VPC, Wildlife Ext., Univ. of Calif., Davis, CA 95616.

IN MEMORIAL

FRANK SESSIONS died recently. He was the District Agent in PARC program in Mississippi from 1956 through the mid-sixties.

LETTERS TO YE ED

HERBIE PULK, Pembroke, ME

You can send me some application forms if you care for the extra work (for a new member, he caught on fast). Do you have shoulder patches, hats, or bumper stickers you sell for extra money for the organization? I don't know about your snow there but we have 5-6' on the level. All our deer concentrate in herds of 1-2 hundred in yards usually around a big cedar swamp with trails through them. Coyotes run these trails. They tell me the southwestern coyote is smaller than ours. Slim Pederson says the Montana coyote are almost identical to ours. I also do some ADC work for the Canadian government - mostly snaring. Not very often do you see a steel trap. At one of their trapper meetings, a trapper ran a very thin copper wire down a pole attached to a Conibear beaver trap and back up again. When he ran his trap line he would check the current down the wire. If he had a broken circuit, he'd chop the trap out to see if he had a beaver. I do a lot of calling in the fall/winter. The black flies and mosquitoes are so bad it is hard to sit still at other times. I had been in touch with Johnny Steward before he died and now with Gerald. We have exchanged ideas on building a new tape deck. We have been using our own remote control unit off a 12-volt battery on FM. It has worked pretty well for us so far. I don't want to bore you but thought you might be interested in some of th ADC, etc. problems in our part of the world.

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Nate Hart, 1880 Dadeyville Rd., Austinberg, OH 44010:
"I am 13 years old and I collect skulls. I have a lot of animals from Ohio but hardly any that live out west. So I wondered when you destroyed the animals if you could send me their skulls. I am not pickv about what kind they are. I like from gophers to black bears and anvthing in between. So if you have any or can get skulls please send them to me." Do *your boy* ***scout*** *good* ***deed for*** *the day.*
****

DALE KAUKEINEN, ICI, Goldsboro, NC
Just got back from a trip to ICI headquarters in England. Imagine my surprise to see T-shirts saying, ''Drink 1080"! I found it was not an English fad of suicidal punk rockers but the name of a new English beer (cider, actually). Why "1080"? Seems that's its specific gravity. Knowledgeable English drinkers inquire about such things and the higher the better. 1080 is equivalent to about 7.2% alcohol, I tried a bottle and I think 3 would knock me on my can. It didn't taste anything like the cider my dad used to make in the cellar. Just a good, smooth, strong ale. Seems pretty much restricted to London area and ADC folks travelling to England should ask for it and try to find the source of the T-shirts. They would make good gifts to your favorite pest animal lover.
****

PAUL EDSTROM, APHIS, Pocatello, ID
Sent a release on the use of guard donkeys to prevent dog depredations on a West Virginia Univ. Farm with a note, "might be better than guard dogs since there are no accounts of donkeys eating sheep. However, if they become as popular as lamas the cost of good ass may go out of sight,"

Those *who know the least,* ***how it the*** *loudest.*

RODENT ROAST

That's the title of an article by Noel Vietmever (INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE, Nov-Dec 88, pp 14-16) sent to me from the California ADC office. This touts rodents as being gourmet. entrees throughout much of the world. They are a convenient and largely uptapped source of protein for many of the world's hungry people. Unlike conventional livestock, these can be "ranched" by the landless poor. In Lima, Peru, many rear guinea pigs in apartments; the patter of little Feet often being the sound of dinner being herded into the kitchen.

When we say "rodents" we think of Norway rats and house mice, but these are only two of about 3,000 species that inhabit the world. While these are filthy animals, most rodents do not live in filth and feed mainly on plants and grains. Many convert vegetation into meat as efficiently as cattle. Even in America, tree squirrels are an important game animal. Europe has an even longer history of eating rodents. The ancient Romans kept dormice in captivity, fattening them up for their orgies. In South America guinea pigs were domesticated for food by the Andean Indians thousands of years ago. Known as "cuv", Peruvians alone consume some 17,000 tons of cuy each year which represents a whole lot, of guinea pigs. In the Cuzco Cathedral a painting of the Last Supper shows a roast guinea pig on the dish before Christ and his Disciples.

The capybara, world's largest rodent, is widely eaten in South AMerica. While there is no shortage of wild animals, on one Venezuela ranch where both cattle and capybara are raised, the net cash return for both is about equal. There are some rodents that have become rare or even extinct because they were so tasty, such as, the hutias. Columbus's first taste of fresh meat in the New World was supposedly a hutia. Hutias are hunted today despite laws to protect them. The paca is a 25-pound rodent whose popularity has made it endangered in Costa Rica and nearby countries. Plans to domesticate it have had setbacks as it is fiercelv territorial, but research is altering behavior by imprinting new born pacas with humans or docile adults. The hope is that eventually pacas can be raised on a

scale to compete economically with raising cattle.

Care must be taken when using rodents for food, as some species carry diseases that can be transmitted to humans. In West Africa, people can catch the deadly Lassa fever by eating mouselike rodents, but most are no more dangerous than other meat sources.

He who fishes for compliments can expect to be handed a line.

BOTULINUS

Had an interesting note from Rex Marsh (Univ. of Calif.-Davis) about how history repeats itself. HOWDY HOWARD had brought back a paper on the use of botulinus organism for controlling pikas in China (Shen Shiyin, A PRELIMINARY STUDY ON BOTULIN MODEL C FOR KILLING PIKA in Acta Theriologica Sinica (1987) 7 (2) 147-153). This paper points out that the bacteria has a high virulence to the pika but loses its virulence rapidly in the environment and target species. Rex pointed out that D. Gooding in 1958 was suggesting the possibility of the same toxin in kangaroo control (THE USE OF BOTULINUS TOXIN AS A POISON FOR KANGAROO (MARLOO) CONTROL IN W.A. - J. Australian Inst. Agric. Sci., June, 1959 p141-3). I don't know that this ever got acceptance because despite safeguards against environmental contamination, it required inoculation of all livestock with a preventative vaccine and involved the treatment of stock watering tanks with the organism.

Income is something you cannot live without or within.

BOOORING

RICK GRIFFITHS, ED SHAFER, and GUY CONNOLLY keep sending me FEDERAL REGISTER notices which I generally force myself to read after it is too late to use them, but one of interest (12 Oct. 88) is the notice of EPA to cancel registration of the Tull Chemical Co. for the production of 1080. This is the only domestic producer of 1080 so it looks like a typical EPA end run - if they can't do it one way they'll do it another. Apparently 1080 is still a valid use for the toxic collar *(to EPA's disgust)*. The net result will be to eliminate the few other existing 1080 uses in this country mostly for field rodent baits that EPA has been unsuccessful to ban outright.

I also hope to have more information on the current status of strychnine from STEVE PALMATEER (EPA) in the next issue. This maligned toxicant is suffering in the hands of Judge Murphy who is trying to rewrite the law so ANY risk is illegal. These female federal judges are a pain!

EPA has decided the claims for efficacy of Sonitron ultrasonic devices for ridding premises of house mice, deer mice, or wild Norway rats are unsubstantiated.

Life isn't fair. Earnings are minus tax, and bills are plus tax.

NOT EVERYBODY HATES US

The USFWS field office in Laguna Niguel (CA) has requested help in removing red fox that are decimating colonies of endangered bird species (California least terns and light-footed clapper rails) in Orange County (CA).

California ADC also got a nice letter from the one-star commandant at the Pendleton Marine Base commending trapper personnel for removing seven coyotes who were harassing the commandant's family and dog.

Show me a moronic seamstress and I'll show you a silly sew-and-sew.

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S PRINT TO FIT

From the Cincinnati garden show personality who made mole control with Juicy Fruit chewing gum famous comes another 'unusual' *(I'm being polite)* remedy for these animals. This is based on the ancient belief that the castor bean plant is repellent to moles. The recipe is to whip together 1/4 cup castor oil U.S.P. and 2 tbl. liquid detergent in a blender to the consistency of shaving cream. Add 3 tbl. water and whip again. Fill a

regular garden sprinkling can with warm water and add 2 tbl. of the oil mixture. Sprinkle this over the area of greatest mole damage after a rain or thorough watering. STEVE KINCAID/HARVEY SCHULTZ (THE NORTHDIV GOTCHA, Navy Applied Biology NL #40) point out that after you are through, the blender should be buried in an EPA-approved landfill.

*****

An effective pigeon control program was discontinued because of poor timing. A Twin Falls courthouse maintenance man, "Corky" Pyle, who was an expert marksman during Vietnam had cut the pigeon population on the courthouse from 80 to just a few with his pellet gun over a 3-year period. On the fateful day two pigeons on a ledge above the southeast entrance just missed him which made him so mad he got his gun and dropped the first one, but he only wounded the second one which wobbled around the ledge in front of the courthouse - and some 50 voters. Corky, as "he didn't want the bird to suffer", delivered the fatal shot right in front of the crowd and the commissioners. Needless to say the commissioners are turning over the pigeon control problem to the Univ. of Idaho's pest-control crew. Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY (NADCA RD III) and TIMES-NEWS (Twin Falls, ID, 9/8/88.

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Migrating waterfowl are being repelled from getting their feet wet in a Montana pond polluted with cyanide from a gold mine by playing heavy metal rock music like the Twisted Sister, Motley Crue, Scorpions, and other charming name bands. According to mine superintendent, they use propane cannons, guards with shotguns, and colored balloons, but the rock music is still the best they've got. Thanx to MILT CAROLINE (NADCA RD IV) and SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS 9/6/88.

*****

Thanx also to MILT for a column by Dan Klepper in the same paper. He tells of the efforts of Priscilla Feral, the President of FRIENDS OF ANIMALS, to disrupt hunters this fall. She suggests looking for caches of apples that hunters use to lure deer and treating them with repellents like "Deer Away" and "Big Game Repellent" which he felt might be slightly less repellent than FoA members running through the brush naked *(I wonder if he knows something I don't. I'd love to see what a dame with the name "Priscilla Feral" looks like. I have my own image but this is a family newsletter.)*.

Their other suggestion of playing tapes of wolf howls before the season starts doesn't seem too practical as they haven't been heard in the neighborhood for many a moon. Strolling through the woods with a loud radio might work in reverse as some of the music played by local stations might not affect the deer but would run the hunters out.

Collecting human hair from a barber shop and spreading along deer tracks to alert them that humans are in the area would not be effective as Klepper admits the deer knew he was in the area long before he ever knew if any of them were there. As far as the suggestion of foiling duck hunters by smearing rotten eggs in their blinds to make them uncomfortable and irritable thus affecting their shooting, Klepper admits it might work for the first day of season, but after that the only thing hunters can smell is each other.

It looks like FoA should hire a good ADC consultant if they want to know the best methods.

*****

The NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ASSOCIATION (NWRA) on which GEORGE ROST patterned NADCA rules of incorporation is dedicated to the the welfare of the Refuge system as we are to ADC. At a meeting of conservation organizations in which John Grandy (Humane Society of the US) was pushing a bill (H.R. 2724) to limit the killing of wildlife on the National Wildlife Refuges, it is notable that only NWRA, Sierra Club, & Defenders of Wildlife abstained from endorsing the bill. Thanx to WES JONES (NADCA Treas.) and BLUE GOOSE FLYER (NWRA NL v14 n4 1988).

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It took patience and ingenuity, but the crime lab in Angleton (TX) has finally stopped the thieves who were pilfering the county's stash of confiscated marijuana. The measures - a combination of poisoned marijuana, poisoned water, and killer traps - appear a

little drastic but they did finally bring all the culprits to justice. The fact that the drug had given them a false sense of security so they would sit and stare at the workers rather than scurry from the light when the door to the vault was opened also helped in breaking up as hardened a gang of mice as you could find anywhere. (ALBUQUERQUE TRIBUNE 11/9/88)

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Ever since I put grease on my head, everything slips my mind.

NEW PRODUCTS

STUF-FIT is an interlocked series of loops of copper wire. It is flexible, noncorrosive, and adaptable to many situations to prevent access by rodents, birds, or bats. It can be cut with ordinary scissors and stuffed, stapled, or nailed in place. It comes in 100 and 400 foot rolls ranging in price from $16.80 to $21.50 (100-ft.) and $60 to $72 (400-ft.). Allen Special Products, Inc., POB 605, Montgomeryville, PA 18936.

SONIC SPOOK is a battery-operated collar that goes around a sheep's neck. It is activated when sheep jump up or run and sets off strobe lights, audible, and high frequency sounds to repel predators. Harbor Stanton, RR1, POB 232, Ferryville, WI $625 for set of 5 collars.

BIRD SCARE-EYE is an imported plastic balloon with eyes painted on their brightly-colored surfaces. Cost around $10. J. M. Tepoorten, 1240 Josephine Road, Roseville, MN 55113.

TMAD COYOTE LURE is being put on the market by J.T.Eaton & Co. (1393 E. Highland Rd., Twinsburg, OH 44087) according to a letter from MIKE GODFREY.

SERIES AVA DIGITAL is a new sonic bird scare device that has a microprocessor as the heart of the system. Developed by Av-Alarm Corp., 675-D Conger St., Eugene, OR 97402 the estimated cost will be around $350.

The above are products that have recently come to my attention. I have no knowledge of their efficacy so would like to hear of any experiences you may have with these materials to pass on to others.

I like to run my fingers through my hair but I can't remember where I left it.

NOW HEAR THIS!

Florida researchers working on armadillos in leprosy studies (only nonhuman species known to contract the disease) found that females could delay births up to two years even though the normal gestation period is eight-nine months. They observed that under stress, hormones develop preventing the embryo from implanting itself on the uterine wall and it remains in limbo for over twice the normal gestation. When they tried to publish this, journals claimed that a male had slipped in somehow until other labs observed the same phenomenon.

In 1975 the Branch of Predator Studies developed a computer storage system for predator-related information. The present update (7/87) contains 10,641 references. Printouts of citations can be obtained on an overnight basis from the Librarian, DWRC, POB 25266, Bldg. 16, Denver Federal Ctr., Denver, CO 80225-0266. At this time searches for APHIS personnel can be made at no charge. As there is no way of determining charges for non-APHIS personnel, these requests will depend upon the Center's ability to absorb such costs. The Library has about 20% of the citations listed on the file; these being designated with a "PR--" prefix.

This is a camel's hair brush ? It must take a long time to brush himself.

EDITORIAL COLUMN

WES JONES (NADCA Treas.) suggested that I copy the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY CHAPTER newsletter that he sends out by including a membership application. I hate to see my child mutilated but this is another reminder to get your dues in.

Had a very nice trip to Costa Rica in

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NATIONAL
ANIMAL
DAMAGE
CONTROL
ASSOCIATION

YES, I'D LIKE TO JOIN.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

INTEREST/OCCUPATION:

ACTIVE $15 SPONSOR $30

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO NADCA

NADCA, 3919 Altamonte NE,
Albuquerque, NM 87110

October, but were frustrated when we came out of the jungle where we had had no news for about five days to learn that we couldn't take the 'jungle train' to the east coast as hurricane Joan was sitting off shore and they wer evacuating Port Limon. Reluctantly came home as I still had a few rolls of film left. Very beautiful country, but being a photographer in New Mexico spoils one for the overcast skies elsewhere.

LATE FLASH

GUY CONNOLLY just sent me announcements on two job openings in APHIS: Wildlife Specialist/ADC. Contact: Dr. Donald Progulske, Dept. Forestry/Wildlife, Univ. Mass., Amherst, MA 01003 Asst. Mgr. ADC Supply Depot. Contact: Paul Edstrom, 238 E. Dillon, Pocatello, ID 83201

When Ann found her first gray hair, she thought she had nothing to live for, so she dyed.

YE ED
William D. Fitzwater

Adios,
Fitz

National Animal Damage Control Association

3919 Alta Monte, NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

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