

A good survey method is needed to determine if the dove population is up or down—Larry Soilean.

Has the nationwide dove population increased 30 percent according to the call count in the past 7-8 years as call count shows. H. Peters and most attending think so. A die off occurred in 1952.

#### *Bag Checks*

Legler defends bag checks of doves.

The Service is going to explore cooing in mated and unmated doves.

W. Rosene—Female doves water at 2-3 in afternoon. Males water later in day. Females always get drink before relieving males on nest. Could this be a census technique?

#### 8. Public Shooting Areas

Tennessee planted wheat and combined strips every week or so. Had a good population—hunters were happy. Same fields were planted in rows 12 feet apart. (Ref. paper on this attached).

Doves leave Tennessee after first 10 days—Legler.

See Bobbs' letter.

#### 9. Advertise band Returns on Shell Boxes.

Ammo producers have given a non-committal reply to request. Door has not been closed to this possibility however. —E. Carlson.

#### *Uniform Sampling Important*

How about other media of advertisement? This type (shell box adv.) of advertising gets to all hunters. Sportsmen should request this and not a government bureau.

#### 10. Dove Disease

Nothing special says Kiel, as he was told by Patuxent.

#### 11. Report on a Study of Calling Doves

No comments, Va. not present.

#### 12. Dove Kill Survey

Needs improving says Soilean—La. did not conduct one this year.

Legler believes in telephone sampling, thinks field sampling is unsatisfactory.

#### 13. Legality of Hunting on Soil Bank Lands?

Illegal because not a normal practice—farmer must do this by direction of ASC to collect. There were other views also if the grain is volunteer which it would be in nearly all cases. Parker Smith suggests that Bill Davis be contacted for official reading.

In the chairman's report to the Society Section the incoming officers were asked to appoint the new chairman without delay so as to maintain continuity of effort and to allow time for review of past accomplishments and initiate program for the technical meeting in April, 1962.

Copies of prepared reports submitted are appended.

## DOVE DEVELOPMENT IN TENNESSEE

By JAMES W. HAMMOND

This year, as in 1959, wheat was used as the main attraction for doves. The following methods of harvest or planting were used to attract birds.

On the Lock #5 field, approximately forty acres, wheat was planted in rows approximately 12 feet apart. The middles were kept clean by disking and the grain was allowed to fall without further manipulation.

The Hobson field, approximately thirty acres, was planted to wheat in a normal manner in the fall of 1960. During the last week of June two U shaped strips averaging about an acre each were combined. This was done so as to encourage early use of the field and for trapping

purposes. Approximately one-third of the remaining acres in the field were strip combined the third week in July. Approximately another ten acres were strip combined during the third and fourth week of August. This completed the operation in this field.

In the Ramsey field of approximately fifteen acres, five acres were strip combined during the second week in July and another five acres were strip combined during the third week in August. This field was planted in wheat during the fall of 1960 in a normal manner.

The Barton's field of approximately eighteen acres, was handled in near the same manner as the Ramsey field.

The Cairo field was planted in a normal manner in the fall of 1960. This field is about eight acres in size. It was mowed during the third week in July and raked and shocked during the second week in August.

In addition to the fields already mentioned, approximately fifty acres were sharecropped in millet and bean hay. This is the best combination found thus far when it is necessary to sharecrop hay. The millet will normally be over ripe when the beans become sufficiently ripe for baling. This of course results in considerable loss and scattering of millet seed. Due to personnel shortage it was not possible to obtain accurate data on these fields; however, from pre-season observations it was noted that the dove population on these fields was somewhat lower than on the wheat fields.

Two areas were developed for doves near Kentucky Lake. The Camden field of about twenty acres, was sowed in row crop wheat in the fall of 1960 and worked the same as the Lock #5 field on Old Hickory Lake.

The Harmon Creek field was sharecropped entirely. In the fall of 1960 approximately eighteen acres, probably the poorest ground in this project, was selected and deliberately under planted so as to produce about one-half of a normal stand of wheat or less. As this ground was poor very little difficulty was encountered from weed and other undesirable growth. Cattle were allowed to feed in this field from the last of July until near the opening of the season. This particular block of land is between three and four hundred acres in size and other sharecropped small grain and corn will concentrate other additional doves near the end of the first season and during the December season.

It should be pointed out that on both the Old Hickory and Kentucky Lake projects only two, and in some cases three, days of intensive check is included in this report. Hunting was in considerable evidence throughout the first week of the season and scattered hunting can be found on these areas throughout the season. The results of this check are attached.

On the Old Hickory Lake project it is felt that the same number of birds can be concentrated in fewer fields, although by increasing the number of fields it has been possible to accommodate additional hunters.

#### OLD HICKORY LAKE PROJECT

<i>Area</i>	<i>Date September</i>	<i>No. Hunters</i>	<i>No. Birds</i>	<i>Kill per Hour</i>
Lock 5	1	52	318	1.00
Hobson	1-2	196	533	.87
Ramsey	1-2	102	512	1.33
Barton's	1-2	79	219	.80
Cairo	1-2	102	599	1.67
TOTAL		531	2181	1.12

#### KENTUCKY LAKE PROJECT

<i>Area</i>	<i>Date September</i>	<i>No. Hunters</i>	<i>No. Birds</i>	<i>Kill per Hour</i>
Camden	1-2-4	82	289	1.13
Harmon Creek	1-2-4	43	274	1.84
TOTAL		125	563	1.39

# TENNESSEE SURVEY OF HUNTING AND FISHING ACTIVITIES

By EUGENE LEGLER

Tenn. Game and Fish Commission

## Objectives

1. Testing of state-wide telephone sampling frame.
2. Distribution of hunting and fishing activities.
  - a. Types of hunting and fishing
  - b. Species involved (Doves included)
  - c. Specific locality involved
3. Frequency of activity.
4. Expenditures by activity.
5. Harvest by activity.

The plans call for screening 6,050 residential telephone subscribers located as follows:

City	No. of Subscribers	City	No. of Subscribers
Memphis	1,000	Clarksville	300
Nashville	750	Crossville	300
Chattanooga	500	Lebanon	300
Knoxville	500	Winchester	300
Kingsport	300	Jackson	300
Bristol	300	Dyersburg	300
Athens	300	Ripley	300
Sweetwater	300		

A total of 17 ladies (former telephone company employees) will be employed and each assigned from 300 to 500 telephone interviews. These part time employees will contact each subscriber and ask if they or any other member of the household hunted or fished during 1961. This first phase of the study will take place during the period of January 26-February 3, 1962.

Game and Fish biologists will screen and interview a sample of 10 subscribers from 46 small telephone exchanges located throughout the State. This is intended to strengthen the sample not covered by the above exchanges. This will be done from January 26-February 3, 1962.

The entire study has been "cut to the bone", therefore, it would be desirable to interview all residential telephone respondents that hunted or fished during 1961. Interviews with a sub-sample of these respondents will decrease the desired accuracy. The exact number of interviews necessary to complete the second phase of the study will remain unknown until after the screening by part time employees has been completed. The interviewing has been tentatively set to begin on February 19, 1962.

## MISSISSIPPI REPORT TO DOVE COMMITTEE

By HENRY BOBBS, JR.

This year banding by Game and Fish Commission personnel has been limited to nestling banding. A total of 468 nestlings were banded by Sam R. Danna, a summer employee, and myself. Doves were banded in Coahoma, Bolivar, and Sunflower Counties. The major portion was banded on Parchman (State Penitentiary) in Sunflower County. Regular visits were made during June, July, and August to Parchman for banding purposes. Colony type nesting occurs in large peach orchards located on this area, and doves were banded when 7 to 10 days of age. Band size 2A was used.

A controlled dove hunt was held during the first season, September 9 through October 3, 1961, on the Copiah County Game Area. This area is approximately 6500 acres in size and owned by the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission. Browntop millet was planted to attract and hold doves. Public hunting was allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays during the season. Hunters were required to check out and report their kill when leaving the area. A total of 1074 doves were bagged by 314 hunters in 11 hunts with an average of 3.4 birds per hunter effort.