

herein provided, the fee therefor being one dollar annually. The stamp shall be adhesively affixed to the back of the current season's hunting license issued such person who shall cancel the same with his initials in ink.

2. Receipts credited to special fund; use and disposition of fund.—The money received from the sale of such special stamp shall be paid to the county treasurer to the credit of a special fund, and the net amount thereof, or so much as is necessary, shall be used for the payment of damages to crops by deer, whenever the damage amounts to ten dollars or more. Any person suffering such damage shall report it promptly to the game warden of the county, whose duty it is to investigate the same at once. The governing body of the county is authorized to provide for the ascertainment of damages in such manner as it deems proper. All claims are to be paid at the regular December meeting of the Board of Supervisors, in the event there are not sufficient funds in said special fund, then all claims will be paid pro rata. Any funds remaining in the treasury, shall remain in the special fund to be used for the conservation of wild life under direction of the governing body.

3.8 Stamps obtained from clerk of court; fee for issuing; penalty; effect on other laws.—The special stamp herein provided for shall be obtained from the clerk of the circuit court of the county or his representative who shall receive from the special fund a fee of ten cents for each stamp so issued. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction punished accordingly. The provisions of this act shall supersede any other provision of law imposing similar license requirements insofar as the same shall be applicable to such counties.

4. Adoption of act by county.—This act shall not take effect and until it shall have been adopted and made effective by the governing body of the county. (1956, c. 288.)

STATUS OF THE RED JUNGLEFOWL IN THE SOUTHEASTERN STATES

BY

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The first Red Junglefowl imported from India as a part of the Foreign Game Introduction Program were received by the states of Alabama, Oklahoma, and Virginia in 1960. Since that time, four other states, Florida, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Tennessee, have initiated work with this species in the Southeastern States.

Data received from these states indicates that success in rearing young junglefowl at the various game farms varies from poor to excellent. Undoubtedly, we in Alabama have had the worst success in trying to raise junglefowl than any of the other states in the past two years. In 1962, only 62 birds were raised in Alabama from 362 birds hatched while in 1963, approximately 75 were reared from 523 birds hatched. This loss was attributed to the fungal disease "Thrush." Most of the birds died when from one to two weeks of age. On the other hand, Oklahoma reports that "egg production for the species is excellent and survival high." Oklahoma raised 762 Junglefowl this year. It is now suspected that the high mortality rate in Alabama junglefowl may stem from some disease originating in the breeding stock. This is being investigated by the Purina Pathology Laboratory, St. Louis, Missouri.

Over 1,000 junglefowl have been raised in the Southeastern States since 1961, with Oklahoma being the most successful. Four states have made trial liberations. Alabama has made two small releases and Oklahoma has made six. Only one large release has been made and this was made in McCurtain County, Oklahoma on February 1, 1963

when 165 junglefowl were released. All other releases have involved 50 or less birds. Other states plan to release some junglefowl later this year. Eglin AFB has just made two releases of approximately 65 birds in each release. Georgia has made one release of approximately 60 birds. The maximum spread reported from the point of release was a distance of 10 miles.

Very little information is known about survival, movement, and reproduction of released Red Junglefowl, since they have not been released long enough or in large enough numbers to make any kind of prediction as to their ultimate success or failure. Oklahoma reports no evidence of reproduction in the wild, while Alabama reports one probable brood.

Red Junglefowl habitat appears to be best the farther south one goes. Due to climatic conditions and habitat type, it appears that Alabama, Florida, and South Carolina probably contain the largest areas of good junglefowl habitat of the states concerned with work on this species. Although the propagation and release of Red Junglefowl has been slower than some of the other exotics, it is apparent that administrators of the states involved think enough of the possibilities of this bird to continue and increase this phase of the exotic bird program.

VARIOUS TECHNIQUES OF EVALUATING EXOTIC GAME BIRD RELEASES

BY

JOE W. HARDY

States cooperating in the Foreign Game Bird Introduction Program have all made attempts to determine success of experimental releases of the exotic species involved. These efforts have included interviewing farmers, loggers, hunters, and residents, direct field observations, and flush, road, nest, and call counts. At the Foreign Game Committee meeting in July, 1963, standard techniques which would allow comparison between states evaluating releases were discussed and recommended for Southeastern states participating in the program.

Call or crowing counts are of major importance with subspecies of true pheasants and possibly in the case of some other species. Kimball, 1949, reports that call counts were the most effective method of sampling a breeding population of Ringneck Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) males, especially when numbers were low and birds dispersed. The crowing count technique is a means of establishing a breeding index only and is not a complete census. This technique when used in conjunction with other population sampling procedures, will provide supporting information as to population size, dispersion, and stability.

The procedures recommended for conducting crowing count surveys on experimental release areas in the Southeast are basically similar to the counting techniques employed in the pheasant states of the Great Plains. The survey must be made during the period of maximum seasonal crowing activity. This time may vary in different parts of the country and with different subspecies of pheasant, therefore, it would be advisable for each state to determine the proper time for each type of bird. Kimball found that the maximum seasonal crowing period for Ringnecks in South Dakota lasted for the entire month of May. In a Washington study, Nelson and others (1962) determined that peak crowing occurred on April 5, 1958 and on April 17, 1959. Virginia and Kentucky workers have found that crowing intensity of the Ringneck-Talisch (*P. c. talischensis*) and Ringneck-Persian (*P. c. persicus*) crosses is at a peak in the third week of April. A study on a Ringneck-Persian release area in Tennessee showed the maximum crowing period to be the last half of April through the first half of May. Hardy (1962). From observing Veriscolor Pheasants (*P. versicolor*) under