



# 1973 Hunting Report

## Mule Deer Season November 24 through December 9, 1973

During the 1973 deer season, 2202 Terlingua Ranch property owners and their guests harvested a reported 247 mule deer bucks, and 11 white-tailed deer bucks. The hunter success ratio was 11.7% for the 1973 season. In general, the deer were in good physical condition. The heaviest deer field-dressed 170 pounds; the widest antler spread was 27-3/4 inches; and the most antler tines one inch or longer was 13. The 1973 harvest also showed a take of 304 scaled quail and 65 javelina.

## 1973 Mule Deer Harvest on Terlingua Ranch

(N = Number of Bucks)

Age Class	Percent of Harvest	Average Field-Dressed Weight	Average Antlers (both sides)
	(N)		
1½ yrs.	43.7 (107)	64.8	2.3
2½ yrs.	35.6 (87)	86.7	4.6
3½ yrs.	11.0 (27)	116.6	7.3
4½ yrs.	4.5 (11)	140.0	8.1
5½ yrs.	3.6 (9)	142.4	9.8
6½ yrs.	1.2 (3)	155.0	8.3
7½ yrs.	.4 (1)	149.0	12.0

Successful deer hunters were interviewed at the Deer Check Station and several pieces of information were noted from the results:

- 57.8% (148 deer) of the deer were reported to have been taken from hunter owners' private tracts of land; i.e., outside the common-use Hunt Park.
- 133 (52%) of 256 successful hunters had not previously hunted at Terlingua Ranch.
- The most popular rifle caliber used by successful hunters was the .30-06, with 88 deer taken with this caliber. Twenty-two different calibers were reported in taking deer.
- Two hunters were successful enough to take two white-tailed deer bucks each from the rugged Christmas Mountains Hunt Park.

Again, some exceptional trophy mule deer bucks for West Texas were harvested. However, for the second year in succession, the harvest favored the yearling age-class, with 43.7% of the deer checked falling in this age-class. Of the 107 bucks aged as yearlings, 79 were spikes.

In the near future, Terlingua Ranch Hunt Club Area Representatives will be invited to attend a meeting to discuss Terlingua Ranch deer conservation measures that are indicated by this year's harvest results and pre-season deer census data gathered by the Game Biologist. These Area Representatives will be notified by letter as to the time and place of such meeting. Recommendations from this committee will be made available to all Terlingua Ranch owners.

# TERLINGUA SCENE



Assorted Terlingua Ranch hunting pictures.

## No Gas Shortage

For those of you Terlingua Ranchers who are planning to visit the ranch in January and February, we have been notified that there is and will be an adequate supply of gas at Nitaville and at Study Butte.

## Art Classes

Beginning Monday, February 18, 1974, Terlingua Ranchers will be offered art classes. Classes will run 5 or 6 days and cost \$35. Instructor for these classes, Mr. Rene Hughes, a well known art instructor from Ft. Worth, will have some supplies for sale for beginners and as a convenience for all students. There is a maximum enrollment of 18 students, so send your reservations in early. Reduced cabin rates of \$9.00 per

couple will be offered to those attending. Contact the Ranch directly for cabin reservations.

## For Sale

Some used two and three bedroom mobile homes, located at Terlingua Ranch Lodge will soon be available for sale. Up to sixty feet in length. Prices and further particulars will be available by the time you read this.

If you have been thinking about putting housing on your land, check this out.

Contact:  
Bill McNair  
Terramar Corporation  
P.O. Box 896  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403  
(512) 882-8841

## A Hunter's Confession

I've hunted wild game in many a place,  
And followed the hounds on many a chase;  
Yes, enjoyed their voices in many a race.  
I've searched for game without nary a trace-  
Disappointment appeared too on my face,  
And then returned home almost in disgrace.

I've camped for a week at the Big Sandy Springs,  
And expected to kill some kind of big game.

However, instead, I got soaked in the rain.

On other occasions my luck was the same.

Never'less there is always something to gain

From a hunt in the woods: be it big or small game.

There is beauty of nature; seen at a glance.

The sportsman, artist, or poet per chance

Can find adventure or thrill as in a dance.

The wonders of the forest-birth and survival

Will enhance your lore of nature,  
a memory to treasure  
which affords to the hunter an abiding pleasure.

Written by Robert E. Stever, Sr.