

Louisiana Wildlife News



SURVEY

Feral hogs continue to be major problem in Louisiana:

Landowners around the state are experiencing increasing problems with feral hogs on lands that they own, manage or lease. To collect data on the scope of the problem in Louisiana, the following Feral Hog Population Assessment survey was developed in a joint effort between the LSU AgCenter and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Anyone who has been impacted by the activities of feral hogs is asked to please complete the survey by no later than March 1, 2008. There are two methods by which this survey may be taken:

1. Respondents may download, copy, and mail the completed document to Dr. Michael Kaller, School of Renewable Natural Resources, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, La. 70803.
2. The survey may be completed using an on-line survey program. This program can be accessed at the following address <http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB227D3TF6Y75>

The results obtained from the survey will be used to document the damage caused by feral hogs and also guide research needs to address the problem. An upcoming issue of Louisiana Wildlife News will summarize these results.

Louisiana Feral Hog Population Assessment

1. Please list:

Parishes where you **own** land:

Total acres **owned**

Approximate number of years **owned**

Parishes where you **lease** land:

Total acres **leased**

Approximate number of years **leased**

2. What is the primary use for this land? Select one.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ranch/livestock | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational (non-hunting) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Row Crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber production | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Use (no one use is more than 50% of acreage) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | | |

3. What is the primary use of **neighboring property**? Select one.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ranch/livestock | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational (non-hunting) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Row Crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber production | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Use (no one use is more than 50% of acreage) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | | |

4. Are feral hogs present on this land? Circle one. YES NO

If YES, please continue. If NO, please go to question 16.

Where do you believe the feral hogs came from? Select one.

- Unknown
- Lost livestock/free-ranged hogs
- Neighboring property
- Intentional release for hunting or hog dogs
- Other (please specify) _____

5. Have the hogs ever caused any type of damage to this land? Circle one.

YES NO

If YES, please continue. If NO, go to question 7.

What types of damage have you had? Select all that apply.

- Cash crop (non-timber) Timber Landscape (e.g. personal garden)
- Physical property damage Food plot Livestock (e.g. theft of feed grain)
- Pets Other (please specify) _____

Which type of damage that you experienced was **most** important to you? Select one.

- Cash crop (non-timber) Timber Landscape (e.g. personal garden)
- Physical property damage Food plot Livestock (e.g. theft of feed grain)
- Pets Other (please specify) _____

Including damage, what are the most significant problems you have encountered with feral hogs? Select all that apply.

- Loss of farm income General nuisance
- Concerns over disease Loss of hunting income
- Loss of hunting or recreational opportunities None
- Other (please specify) _____

Please estimate:

Number of feral hogs on this land _____

Damage costs _____

Control costs _____

6. When you have had damage, did you seek outside help? Circle one.

YES NO

If YES, who did you contact for help? _____

Did the outside help make a difference? YES NO

Would you seek outside help again from this source? YES NO

Would you seek help from another source? YES NO

7. Based on your knowledge, who currently offers assistance for feral hog management on private lands? Please be specific and include previous sources.
8. Again, based on your knowledge, who else **should be** offering assistance for feral hog management in Louisiana? Please be specific.
9. Do feral hogs provide any benefit to you?
- No Yes
 No opinion Yes, hunting or hog dog related
10. If feral hogs are/were benefitting you and were not benefitting your neighbor, would you remove the hogs?
- YES NO
11. If your neighbor was benefitting from hogs and you were not benefitting, would you expect your neighbor to remove the hogs? YES NO
12. Considering the current population of feral hogs on this land, how has the population changed in the following time spans? (Please circle one in each row.)
- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|------|------------|
| Compared to last year | Higher | Lower | Same | Don't know |
| Compared to 5 years ago | Higher | Lower | Same | Don't know |
| Compared to 10 years ago | Higher | Lower | Same | Don't know |
13. If feral hogs are increasing, what do you think is/are the reason(s)? Check all that apply.
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbor's management practices | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting clubs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic producers | <input type="checkbox"/> Stock laws |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natural causes | <input type="checkbox"/> LDWF policies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local government | <input type="checkbox"/> CRP/WRP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Illegal transfers | <input type="checkbox"/> Timber management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ | |
14. When did you first notice feral hogs on this property?
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> This year | <input type="checkbox"/> Within the last 5 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Within the last 10 years | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years ago |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More than 20 years ago | |
15. Have you noticed a decline in other wildlife? YES NO
- If YES, do you believe that the declines in wildlife are related to feral hogs? YES NO
- Have these declines in wildlife decreased income? YES NO
- Have these declines in wildlife decreased enjoyment? YES NO

16. Which control measures are you taking regarding feral hogs on this property? List all or write "none".

In your opinion, which control measures work? List all or write "none".

In your opinion which control measures don't work? List all or write "none".

17. Please give us any suggestions you have for avenues of feral hog management and/or research.

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Wildlife News

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Visit our Web site:
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