



September 2016

# Antler Addicts

Volume 1, Issue 4

Tell us what you think! Do you like the idea of a monthly e-newsletter?



Scotty with Smokin' Jumbo - 419 6/8 @ 2.

## Scotty Hooper

Scotty Hooper from H & H Farms has owned and operated My-Way Transportation, Inc. for the last 20 years and are located in Cullman, AL. They have 75 trucks operating in 48 states pulling vans and refrigerated trailers. They also own S&L Leasing and Excavating operating approximately 10 pieces of heavy equipment. H&H Farms is also part of Scotty's busy life. He has about 200 head of cattle and about 300 deer. They have 48 blood lines. To put it simply, THEY GROW BONE, typical and non-typical. They have 13 pens on 40 acres. Scotty's Hunting Preserve is located in Perry County five miles southeast of Fawnsdale, Alabama. They have whitetail, fallow deer, as well as bobwhite quail hunts. Scotty and his wife, Karen, have two children Seth Hooper, who is married to Tina and a daughter, Lonna Yearwood, who is married to Tyler. They have four

grandchildren Harlee, Zane, Lucas and Zayden. Scotty and their son, Seth, drag race Nitro Drag Bikes as well as Pro Bracket Cars and Exhibition Wheelstander as a hobby. They also enjoy spending time with family and friends at the lake and riding their boat, visiting friends along the way. A little advice Scotty has for new deer farmers? First, start with the best genetics you can afford. Second, ask lots of questions from people you can trust! Third, don't expect money for the first couple of years. Fourth, don't overcrowd your pens. And Last, build a handling fence.

## Scottie Kelley

Scottie Kelley owns Scottie's Whitetail Deer Farm. They are located at 514 Lane Switch Road, Albertville, AL. Before he started farming deer, he owned a convenience store. He also owned a cattle farm. Scottie has been married to Robin for 25 years. They have 2 children, Jessica and Trevor. His deer herd is mostly northern genetic but for the past few years they have been putting some Texas in the herd. Scottie has about 35 does and 30 bucks in 7 pens about 2 acres large. Scottie and his family have been raising deer for 18 years and like it very much. The only bad luck he has had was the storm of April 27, 2011. The tornado came through and took down more than half of his trees. There was major damage to all of his pens. A few deer got out when the pens came down but after 5 days of day and night watch, they came back. Deer hunting is Scottie's main hobby. When asked if he had any advice for a new deer farmer, he said begin with good genetics and tame does.



Scottie and one of the girls



## A BETTER MOUSE TRAP -

### That 3-letter word... EHD

Antler Addicts asked a few of our members what was the best preventative measure for EHD. This is what they said:

*I feed 20 pounds of garlic in a ton of feed. Also I am fogging every afternoon around 5 to 6 p.m. using a mix of Pursuit 31-67 ULV and ULV mosquitos formulation oil. - Stan Parker of Black Belt Whitetails*

*Cattle rubs or wicking bars. - Rusty Weaver of Weaver Two Whitetails*

*The best thing is to have your deer in the best physical and healthiest shape they can be in. Also I believe in having a good fogging program. Have well drained pens and all around your pens. You can also simply buy Hurricane Creek does. The don't get EHD! ;-)* - Dee Murphy of Hurricane Creek Lodge

*No mud holes. Spray permethrin early a.m. and late p.m. Put lime out around heavy traffic areas. - Scotty Hooper of H&H Farms*

*Where to start...where to start - the list is long.*

*There is no single preventative method. It is a combination of things that at best help.*

- 1) Herd health - a healthy deer with a strong immune system can fight EHD better than we can with chemicals*
- 2) Midge habitat - I would start with drying up your property as much as possible - therefore diminishing midge habitat*
- 3) Contact measures - wicking bars, direct misting and when possible hands on application of insect repellents*
- 4) Know your deer - Each deer's habits, personality and characteristics are unique and you should pay attention to any slight changes, not just extreme changes of foaming at the mouth, swelling and even bleeding. This will help with help with early detection.*
- 5) Medication/Vaccinations - Learn the fine line between under-medication and over-medication.*
- 6) Stress - No, or low, stress is just as helpful as any medication*

*Ricky Spratlin of Rentless Whitetails*

*Vaccinate. Select female genetic lines that have had EHD. Spray and mist. Eliminate midge habitat. - Will Ainsworth of Dream Ranch*

*Having the deer's immune system as strong as possible going into EHD season. I treat animals that show symptoms. I don't fog, mist or anything else. - Troy Zacchini of Troy's Hunt Club*

*First I must say we've been blessed at Southern Yankees because we've only been hit by EHD twice in 30 years of raising whitetails. Manage your habitat. Maintain overgrown grass or weeds by cutting or spraying. Fill low areas to prohibit standing water. Install drains or ditches to remove surface water from pens. I do strongly believe in our preventatibe system. Cattle rubs with permethrin and diesel fuel at the entrance to all enclosed feeding areas in the key. No foggers and no misters. It's my opinion that treating the environment is a big waste of money because of how hard it is to be successful at it. But if you focus on treating the animal(deer) then regardless how many midge flies there are in your environment....they aren't likely to bite your deer. It's very similar to how we as people treat ourselves with OFF before walking through tall grass and or wooded areas. We spray it directly on ourselves not spraying it in the wind, the trees, or grasses. Put the product on your deer and you'll have more deer to live. - Terry Kennedy of Southern Yankees Whitetail Farm*

**Next month's Better Mouse Trap question:**

**Of all of the sires you have used, who has been the best?**

Text or email your answer to Belinda at 256.990.3840 or [belinda@alabamadeer.org](mailto:belinda@alabamadeer.org)





Zayden helping feed fawns at H&H Farms



Lawson Whitetail  
Crossing 2YO\_s out of  
Texas genetics



Scottie's Whitetail  
Deer Farm fawns



O58 from Swords  
Whitetail Farm



Rocky Mount  
Whitetails fawn



Austin& Eli inspecting  
a Southern Yankees  
weaned fawn



Troy Zacchini&  
Terry Kennedy at  
H&H Farms Farm  
Day& Auction



Eddie Murphree&  
Tommy Fishat  
H&H Farms Farm  
Day& Auction



Belinda not so sure about  
this high-ride thing at H&H  
Farms

## Photo Bucket

Send your photos from the farm for the next issue of Antler Addicts to Belinda at [belinda@alabamadeer.org](mailto:belinda@alabamadeer.org) or text them to her at 256.990.3840.



**To H&H Farms, White City Whitetails and S&S Whitetails Galore**

Scotty & Karen Hooper of H&H Whitetail Farms hosted their 1st Annual Farm Day and Auction on Saturday, August 27th. They had farm tours on the high-ride, animals, food, drink, music and Karen's world famous cakes! H&H Farms donated Purple 52, White City Whitetails donated a straw of male-sexed semen from XLT, and S&S Whitetail Galore donated a straw of Jurassic. All in all, there was a total of \$10,050 raised for the Alabama Deer Association Rainy Day fund.

**We can't thank these generous donors enough for their support!**

**Parting Shot -**

*Vegetarians are cool. All I eat are vegetarians - except for the occasional mountain lion steak.*

Ted Nugent, rockstar and avid hunter