

Results from Landowners Pre-Baiting



NATCHITOCHEES SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Pre-Baiting for Feral Hogs



Results from Pre-Baiting. This trap was out one night and 27 hogs were caught, 24 of them were females.

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Working with Landowner on Pre-Baiting Feral Hogs for Trapping & Aerial Gunning



Feral hogs are increasing at an alarming rate causing harm to water quality, landscapes, gardens and extensive damage to agricultural crops. Control of feral hogs is difficult and entails countless man hours and expense to landowners. **Two keys to success in managing feral hogs are trap placement and pre-baiting.**

Landowners should scout their property for hog signs such as wallows, trails, rubs and hog damage. Landowners should place traps in proper locations to increase their success. Traps should be placed on or along hog trails linked to resources such as food, cover and water. Feral hogs often travel along creeks, roads and overgrown fence lines.

Enticing feral hogs to enter a trap is sometimes relatively easy. However, one of the **most common mistake made by first times hog trappers is they will purchase or build a trap, throwing bait in it and set the trigger. This practice will catch few hogs while making the other hogs trap shy.** Landowners that pre-bait their traps and have patience will be more successful.

Adult boars and sows are cautious. They are usually the last hogs to enter a new trap. Landowners who don't pre-bait their traps usually catch only juvenile hogs and not the adults. Since the adult sows drop piglets twice a year, it is very important to catch these adults to have any chance to reduce the population.

Pre-baiting of feral hog traps is not a complex job. The landowners can place shelled or sour corn on the ground in areas with hog signs. When hogs start coming to the baited area, it is time to erect the hog trap. The door to the trap should be open and tied until you observe multiple hogs entering the trap. When multiple hogs are entering the trap, the trap door should be untied and trigger set. The shyness of hogs are decreased by pre-baiting and your chances to catch multiple hogs has increased.

Motion activated trail cameras should be used to monitor the trap to increase the catch rates. The camera should be checked each time trap is checked. Inspect the pictures carefully to identify numbers, specific hogs by color patterns and size. Record the number of feral hogs in each sounder (sounder is a family group of hogs) coming to the trap. **The goal is to remove the entire sounder.**



Site location for pen



This pen has been Pre-Baited. The back of the pen and gate was left open until Feral Hogs were eating from it freely. The pen is ready for landowner to catch and remove Feral Hogs. Thirty nine hogs were removed with this pen at this site over a period of 45 days.



This is eight of the thirty nine Feral Hogs removed from the pen by the landowner. The pen is located at the edge of a corn field which has a Feral Hog trail leading to a bayou.

Tips

- Pre-baiting increase your chances of success
- Pre-bait areas with hog signs
- Trap location very important
- Large traps are better
- Tie trap gate open until hogs start entering
- Bait heavily inside trap not near the trigger
- Game camera useful to identify hogs & numbers
- Keep out plenty of bait

Hog Bait Recipe

Pre-Baiting is vital for success. If corn does not attract feral Hogs, use the follow recipe.

- 150 pounds of corn
- 8 pounds of sugar
- 1 pack of yeast
- 4-5 packets of strawberry flavored gelatin or drink power

Place in buckets and mix together. Add water until corn is submerged by 3-4inches. Stir well and let sit for 10-14 days.

The Natchitoches SWCD is using state of the art remote operated satellite trapping systems

