

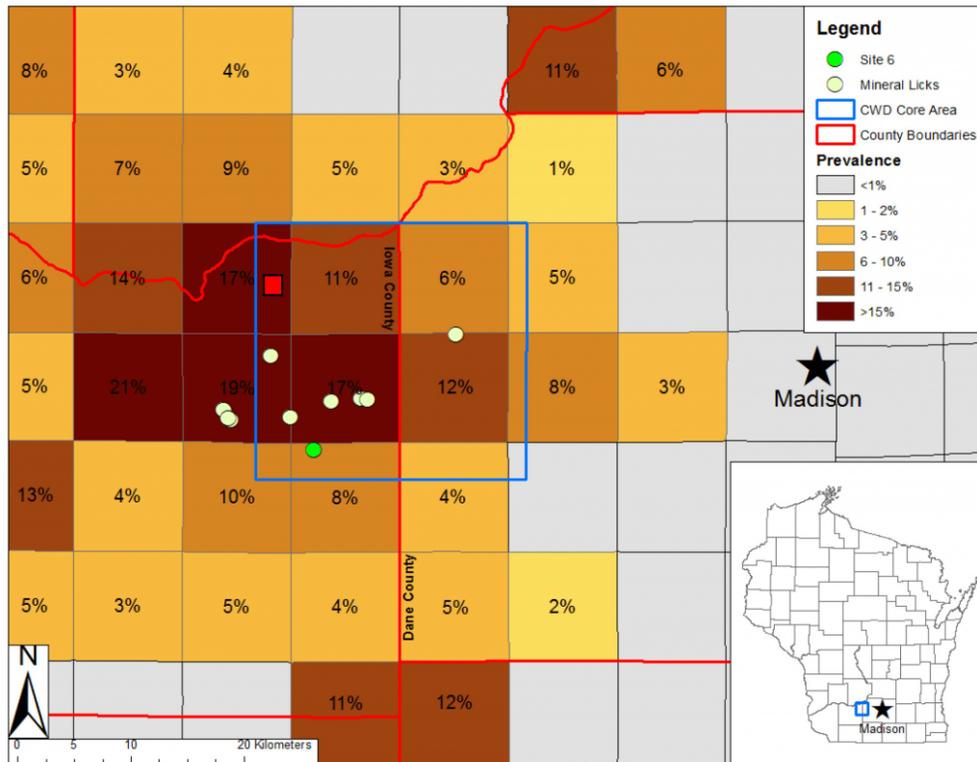
Peck Farm Research Update

It's 6:30 am and the sun rises above the empty parking lot west of Arena Wisconsin. The air was still, cool and quiet. Trucks started arriving one by one on time as the team assembled for a planned coordinate exercise.

Back in early April 2018, the Whitetails of Wisconsin Cervid Farmers' Foundation Board approved the Phase 2 components of the continuing research utilizing the Peck Farm Whitetails held under quarantine for Chronic Wasting Disease. This shared cost research effort continues with other industry co-owners Deer Breeders Corporation (DBC) and North American Deer Farmers Association.

Mineral licks as environmental reservoirs of chronic wasting disease prions

Read the full story here: <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0196745#ack>



- The importance of having a key Deer Farm location for CWD Research to study CWD near trace mineral licks. Whitetails of Wisconsin Cervid Farmers' Foundation, North America Deer Farmers Association and Deer Breeders Corporation team up to conduct research on a deer farm under quarantine for CWD.

With the Phase 1 research results completed in 2017, Phase 2 looks to build upon these results in determining the CWD status of these deer via rectal biopsy. With the discovery of the deer's basic health status found to be compromised at the Blood Brain Barrier via multiple pathogens leaves these deer exposed to a multitude of health compromising conditions including the contraction of CWD.



In PPE from left to right: Joel Espe, Dr. Amy Robinson, Brad Heath, Ray Hanson, Jerome Donohoe and Rick Vojtik. Thank you for helping.

Once our action plan was in place, the darting hunt was on with little complications from our sharp shooters in about 30 minutes as the last deer was now fast asleep. The secondary action plan for sample collections was enthusiastically led under the direction of Dr. Amy Robinson, the Peck Farm Herd Vet. On the menu for today's sampling were rectal tissues, blood, fecal, saliva and rooted hair samples with a side of ultrasounds for pending pregnancies.



**WOW / WCFF board members expert sharp shooters Brad Heath and Rick Vojtik.
Thank you goes out to Pneu Dart (darts) and Zoo Pharm (BAM kit) donations for CWD research.**

With all samples collected there is a crazy sense of anticipation for updating our herd's health status of awaiting a positive CWD rectal test result. This is a weird sense of wanting CWD but one must have it to understand the deer's health implications that are important to study for long-term survivability of the deer on this farm and in wildlife.

The information covered in this article pertains to new information gleaned from the use of salt licks for wildlife to the basic understanding of genetics and nutrition. It's up to us, the hunter, the farmer, the conservationist, to fully work together to understand the deer's ability to maintain or resist through understanding the deer's immune system to control, maintain or eliminate the spread of this insidious disease.

As of this writing you, the hunter, farmer, conservationist, have the opportunity to participate with us in the understanding of our research. What are your thoughts? Stay Tuned.

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