

Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program 2017

By Brad Koele and Noah Balgooyen

Introduction

Each year the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), through the Wildlife Damage Abatement and Claims Program (WDACP), provides damage prevention assistance and partial compensation to agricultural producers when wild deer, elk, bear, cougar, geese and turkeys damage their agricultural crops. The program covers damage to crops and commercial seedlings grown on agricultural land, crops that have been harvested for sale or further use but have not been removed from the agricultural land, orchard trees, nursery stock, apiaries, and livestock.

Wisconsin has had a wildlife damage program since 1931. The basic structure of today's WDACP was created in 1983 by the state legislature in response to concerns from the agricultural community, with input from farmers, hunters, landowners, and wildlife damage specialists. In 2017, seventy of the seventy-two counties in Wisconsin participated in the WDACP, with Kenosha and Menominee counties not participating.

Methods

Abatement assistance and claims appraisal investigations for the WDACP are conducted in accordance with State Statute 29.889 and Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 12, using methods documented in the WDACP Technical Manual (a copy of this manual can be obtained by writing to: Wildlife Damage Specialist, Bureau of Wildlife Management, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921). County government is responsible for local implementation of the program. Fifty-two counties subcontracted "On farm" services to the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Wildlife Services (USDA-APHIS-WS) in 2016. The remaining eighteen counties employ a county damage technician or contract with an independent damage technician.

Results

Damage and Abatement: All Eligible Species Combined

In 2017, one-thousand landowners voluntarily enrolled in the WDACP requesting damage abatement assistance on 234,087 acres of land. This represented an increase in enrollments but a slight decrease in enrolled acres from 2016, when 889 landowners enrolled 29,251 acres. The counties with the highest number of enrollments include Marathon (80), Vernon (55), and Marinette (35) Counties.

Two hundred and forty-nine wildlife damage claims were submitted in 2017, with appraised losses totaling \$1,159,922; (Table 1). Of the claims submitted, WDNR paid \$808,241 on 231 wildlife damage claims. Payment was denied on 18 claims either due to failure to meet program requirements or because the value of appraised damage did not exceed the \$500 claim deductible. The number of claims filed in 2017 (249 claims) decreased from the number of claims filed in 2016 (276 claims). Assessed damages also decreased from 2016 to 2017, from \$1,272,881 to \$1,159,922. In 2017, 49,453 acres were appraised with 3,978 acres damaged by wildlife compared to 51,769 acres appraised with 3,987 acres damaged in 2016. The amount of compensation paid to farmers decreased from 2016 (\$856,539) to 2017 (\$808,241).

Wildlife damage claims were filed in 54 of the 70 counties enrolled in the program in 2017 (Table 1). On average, 3.6 claims were filed (range 0 - 19) and \$16,570 in damage was appraised (range \$0 - \$83,306) in each county enrolled in the program. Marinette, Green Lake, and Outagamie all had appraised losses from wildlife damage of greater than \$75,000, and Outagamie, Marinette, and Grant Counties had the most acreage damaged by wildlife (>325 acres each). Assessed damages in 2017 increased from 2016 levels in 28 counties, decreased in 30 counties, and were unchanged in 12 counties. The largest increases in assessed damage occurred in Vernon (\$27,805 increase), Wood (\$20,778 increase), and Jefferson (\$14,291 increase) counties. The largest decreases in assessed damage occurred in Manitowoc (\$57,687 decrease), Sawyer (\$47,257 decrease), and Waupaca (\$20,279 decrease) counties. The largest numbers of claims were filed in Marinette (19), Outagamie (17), and Rusk (14) Counties. The number of claims filed increased in 14 counties. Barron County saw the biggest increase in the number of claims from 2016 to 2017 with five additional claims. The number of claims decreased in 25 counties, with the largest decrease coming in Washburn County where six fewer claims were submitted in 2017 than in 2016. There was no change in the number of claims submitted in 31 counties.

State administration costs for WDACP participant counties totaled \$1,153,587 in calendar year 2017. In addition to state expenditures on WDACP administration, an additional \$198,590 in administration costs was contributed by the federal government, USDA-APHIS-WS.

State abatement costs for the program totaled \$361,036 in 2017. Of that total, \$186,582 was used for permanent fences, \$95,868 for temporary fences, \$60,563 for bear trapping, \$4,465 for repellents, and \$13,557 for all other abatement efforts.

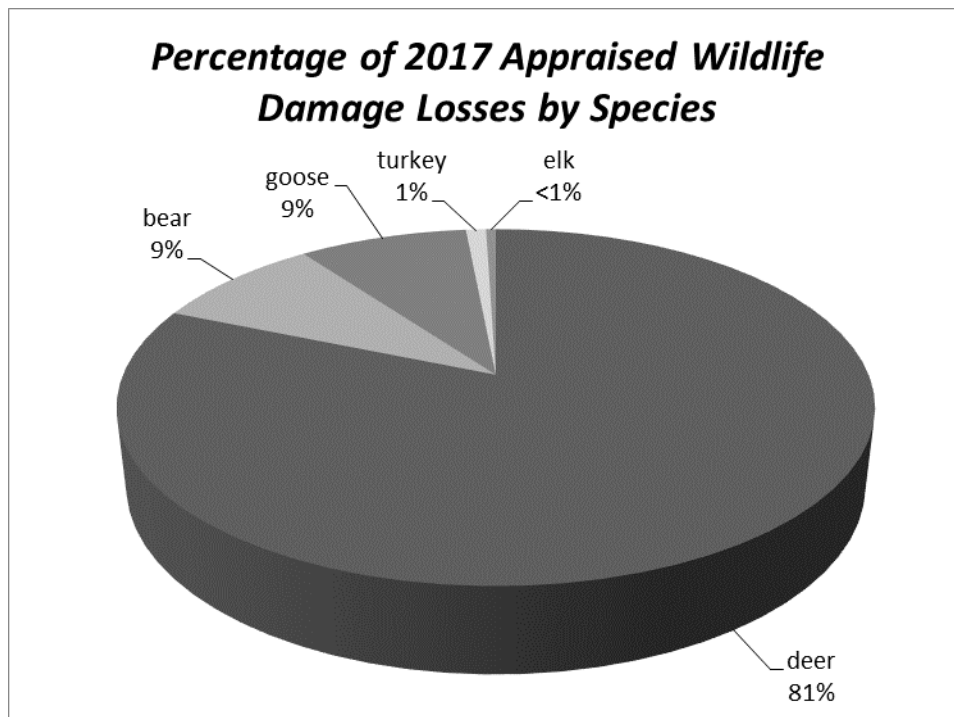


Figure 1. Percent of statewide appraised wildlife damage losses recorded in 2017.

Deer Damage and Abatement

In 2017, six hundred and forty-four crop owners enrolled in the program for deer damage abatement assistance. This was up from the 611 enrollees in 2016. Appraised deer damage totaled \$942,323 in 2017, a 5.5% increase from the previous year and 81.0% of the program's total appraised damages (Figure 1). Appraised losses from deer damage were highest in Green Lake (\$82,599), Marinette (\$82,580), and Outagamie (\$78,595) Counties (Table 1). Statewide, the primary crop damaged by deer was corn (appraised loss \$386,703), and soybeans (appraised loss \$286,008); (Table 3, Figure 3).

The most common form of abatement for deer damage is the issuance of deer shooting permits. The Department issued 531 agricultural damage deer shooting permits across the state in 2017 under which 2,946 deer were registered (see Agricultural Deer Damage Shooting Permits, 2017). Harvest on individual deer shooting permits ranged from 0 – 50 deer. The harvest on deer damage shooting permits totaled approximately 0.9% of the total statewide deer harvest in 2017. Deer harvest on deer damage shooting permits in 2017 ranged from 0.0% to 4.5% percent of the total deer harvest on an individual deer management unit basis. In 2017, 1,687 different hunters registered deer that were removed on agricultural damage deer shooting permits.

The Department may authorize the installation of an eight-foot woven-wire fence in cases where high-value crops, such as tree stock, orchards, and cranberries, are being severely damaged and damage claims will exceed the cost of the fencing project over a fifteen-year period. The WDACP pays 75% of the fencing materials and installation costs and landowners pay the remaining 25%. Permanent fence contracts are valid for 15 years. The Department authorized the installation of nine permanent fences in 2017, protecting approximately 642 acres of high-value crops ranging from Christmas trees to cranberries. The estimated program costs for the fences are approximately \$200,175 (Table 6).

Bear Damage and Abatement

In 2017, two hundred and sixty-eight agricultural producers enrolled for bear damage abatement assistance. This was a slight increase from the 262 producers who enrolled in 2016. Bear damage represented 9.0% of the total appraised damages in 2017, totaling \$100,481 (Figure 1). Appraised bear damage decreased 54.7% from 2016 (\$221,940). Appraised damage losses from bear were highest in Rusk (\$22,329), Burnett (\$21,421), and Sawyer (\$17,260) Counties, with damage occurring primarily to corn (Tables 4 and 5, Figure 4).

Trapping and relocation is the primary abatement method for bear damage. USDA-APHIS-WS provided assistance to the Department in trapping and relocating 218 bears that were damaging crops, apiaries, or threatening livestock in 2017. This was down from the 389 bears that were trapped and relocated in 2016. The Department issues shooting permits for bear in situations where trapping and relocation is not effective or conditions for trapping are not conducive. In 2017, fifteen agricultural damage bear shooting permits were issued with 55 bears registered under the shooting permits.

Turkey Damage and Abatement

Eighty-four producers enrolled in the WDACP for damage abatement assistance for turkey damage in 2017. The number of enrollees was slightly down from 2016 when 90 producers enrolled for turkey damage abatement assistance. Appraised turkey damage in 2017 totaled \$11,857, a 12% increase from the previous year's damages of \$10,563, and approximately 1.0% of the program's total appraised damages for 2017 (Figure 1). Turkey damage appraisals

were conducted in five counties in 2017, and appraised damages were highest in Brown County, totaling \$10,142 (Table 1).

The most common abatement method used for preventing turkey damage is the use of temporary barrier fencing. In situations where non-lethal techniques do not achieve the desired results, shooting permits are utilized to decrease conflicts. In 2017, twenty-one turkey shooting permits were issued with 49 turkeys being removed under the shooting permits. Marathon County typically receives the highest number of complaints about turkey damage, mainly from damage to ginseng. Ten turkey shooting permits were issued with record of 25 turkeys removed in Marathon County in 2017.

Goose Damage and Abatement

One hundred and eleven agricultural producers enrolled in the WDACP for goose damage abatement assistance in 2017, down slightly from 114 enrollees in 2016. Appraised goose damage totaled \$99,515 in 2017 which represented 9.0% of the program's total appraised damages (Figure 1). Appraised goose damage decreased by 31% from 2016 when appraised damages totaled \$145,205. Appraised losses from geese were highest in Brown County (\$23,447) in 2017.

The primary abatement method implemented for goose damage is the use of pyrotechnics and other harassment techniques. In addition to these abatement methods, the Department implemented the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Agriculture Depredation Order in 2010 which allows the Department to issue Canada goose shooting permits during the spring, valid May 1 – August 31, to reduce agricultural damages from geese. In the eighth year of the Department issuing spring goose shooting permits, 73 spring agricultural damage shooting permits were issued on which 345 geese were reported being removed. The Department also has the authority to issue Canada goose shooting permits in the Horicon Canada Goose Hunting Zone during the state goose hunting season. No permits were issued for the Horicon Zone in 2017.

Elk Damage and Abatement

Elk have been an eligible species under the WDACP since 2003; however, 2013 marked the first year in which elk damages were appraised. Nine producers enrolled in the WDACP for elk damage abatement assistance in 2016. Appraised elk damage totaled \$5,745 in 2017 which represented less than 1.0% of the program's total appraised damages (Figure 1). Damages due to elk were appraised in Jackson (\$3,991), Rusk (\$1,089), and Ashland (\$665) Counties.

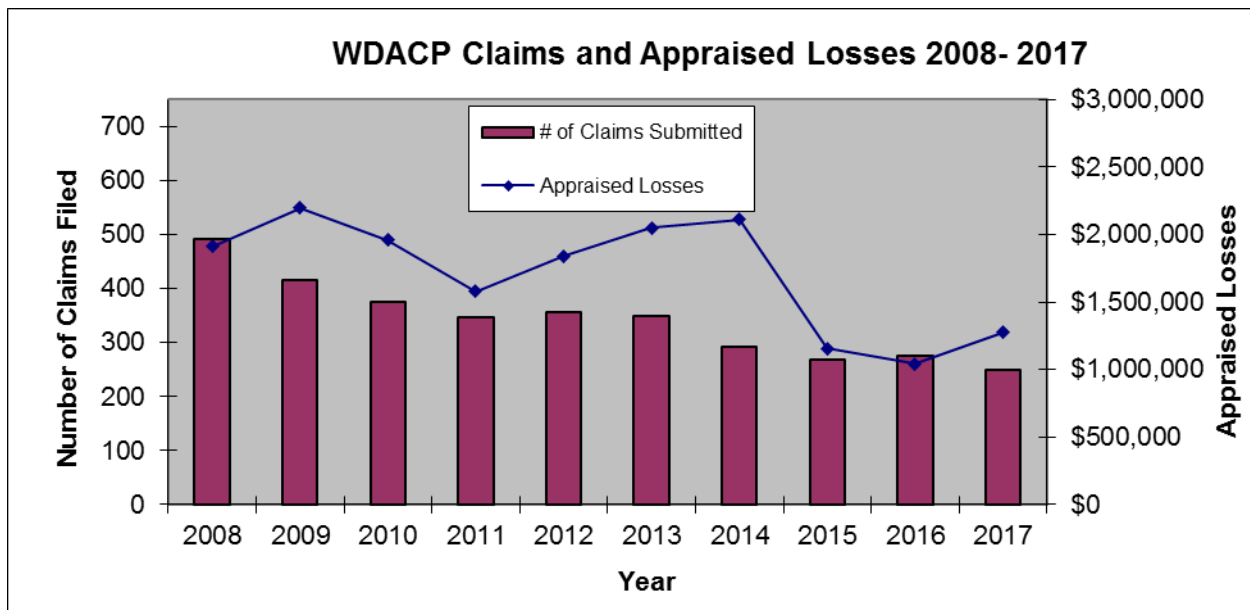


Figure 2. Trends in the number of wildlife damage claims filed and appraised losses in the WDACP, 2008-2017. Data source: WDACP database.

Deer Donation Program

Statute 29.89 authorizes the use of WDACP funds for the processing of venison into burger and subsequent distribution and donation to local food pantries. The county must be enrolled in the WDACP to be eligible to receive funds for venison processing.

Wisconsin hunters once again demonstrated their generosity by donating 1,506 deer to the program in 2017. This equates to approximately 60,240 pounds of ground venison going to food pantries and needy families across the state. Fifty-two of the 70 counties enrolled in the WDACP participated, as well as 94 state-licensed venison processors. The venison processors were paid \$75 per deer that were either harvested within the CWD zone or harvested outside the CWD zone and tested for CWD, and \$65 per deer for deer harvested outside of the CWD zone that were not tested for CWD. The venison was ground and packaged into one- or two-pound packages. Hundreds of food pantry volunteers distributed the venison to their pantries at no cost to the program. Hunters donated the most deer in Dane (106), Buffalo (101), and Pierce (77) Counties; (Table 7). The cost of the program in 2017 totaled \$109,040. Eighty-eight percent, \$96,800, of program costs were for venison processing fees and the remaining 12 percent, \$12,240, went towards administration and advertising costs.

Table 1. WDACP 2017 Wildlife Damage Claims Characteristics by County. Data source: WDACP Database.

County	# of claims filed	Assessed Damage	Eligible Claims	Average Claim	Acres Appraised	Acres Damaged	Deer Damage	Bear Damage	Turkey Damage	Goose Damage
Adams	4	\$10,260.50	\$8,260.51	\$2,565.13	840.80	46.50	\$10,260.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ashland	5	\$3,217.78	\$1,377.79	\$643.56	782.50	23.80	\$1,011.91	\$1,540.87	\$0.00	\$0.00
Barron	9	\$20,723.54	\$17,401.79	\$2,302.62	2,776.20	47.30	\$7,239.60	\$10,294.56	\$0.00	\$3,189.38
Bayfield	2	\$7,193.52	\$6,214.76	\$3,596.76	105.50	12.74	\$6,768.80	\$424.72	\$0.00	\$0.00
Brown	8	\$38,439.02	\$32,100.97	\$4,804.88	649.70	179.30	\$4,849.72	\$0.00	\$10,142.30	\$23,447.00
Buffalo	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Burnett	8	\$33,427.14	\$23,298.09	\$4,178.39	1,156.20	74.40	\$12,006.62	\$21,420.52	\$0.00	\$0.00
Calumet	1	\$7,015.42	\$6,212.34	\$7,015.42	555.00	36.50	\$6,908.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$106.88
Chippewa	1	\$2,149.85	\$1,649.85	\$2,149.85	1.00	1.00	\$0.00	\$2,149.85	\$0.00	\$0.00
Clark	3	\$7,576.00	\$6,076.00	\$2,525.34	226.40	42.80	\$7,576.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Columbia	5	\$27,381.63	\$22,931.99	\$5,476.33	1,302.60	71.40	\$27,381.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Crawford	4	\$25,834.11	\$19,421.80	\$6,458.53	251.00	22.00	\$25,834.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dane	1	\$1,346.36	\$846.36	\$1,346.36	25.00	3.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,346.36
Dodge	2	\$9,179.59	\$7,848.88	\$4,589.79	116.00	44.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,179.59
Door	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Douglas	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dunn	1	\$334.55	\$0.00	\$334.55	5.00	5.00	\$0.00	\$334.55	\$0.00	\$0.00
Eau Claire	1	\$2,507.19	\$2,007.19	\$2,507.19	38.80	5.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,507.19
Florence	1	\$4,037.95	\$3,537.96	\$4,037.95	335.40	71.45	\$4,037.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fond du Lac	1	\$8,062.62	\$7,050.10	\$8,062.62	430.00	17.34	\$8,062.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Forest	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Grant	6	\$54,799.57	\$34,014.04	\$9,133.26	2,002.00	336.15	\$54,799.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Green	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Green Lake	9	\$82,599.02	\$60,505.91	\$9,177.67	1,499.00	209.42	\$82,599.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Iowa	6	\$31,460.06	\$20,453.85	\$5,243.34	1,045.34	68.50	\$31,460.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Iron	1	\$1,674.07	\$1,239.07	\$1,674.07	548.00	3.03	\$0.00	\$1,674.07	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jackson	2	\$7,055.67	\$6,055.67	\$3,527.84	61.50	35.25	\$0.00	\$3,064.25	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jefferson	1	\$15,382.50	\$10,000.00	\$15,382.50	13.00	1.00	\$15,382.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Juneau	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kenosha		Not	In	Program			Not	In	Program	
Kewaunee	4	\$18,036.22	\$15,086.07	\$4,509.06	280.00	69.70	\$17,042.51	\$0.00	\$289.71	\$704.00
La Crosse	1	\$1,723.12	\$1,223.11	\$1,723.12	102.70	8.50	\$1,723.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lafayette	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Langlade	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lincoln	3	\$4,275.58	\$2,990.59	\$1,425.19	354.10	18.15	\$4,275.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Manitowoc	4	\$12,617.10	\$10,283.63	\$3,154.28	268.00	74.10	\$6,543.81	\$0.00	\$551.59	\$5,521.71

County	# of claims filed	Assessed Damage	Eligible Claims	Average Claim	Acres Appraised	Acres Damaged	Deer Damage	Bear Damage	Turkey Damage	Goose Damage
Marathon	10	\$65,957.26	\$46,903.47	\$6,595.73	1,660.34	125.50	\$65,339.52	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$617.75
Marinette	19	\$83,306.21	\$51,920.05	\$4,384.54	7,049.33	453.25	\$82,579.79	\$726.42	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marquette	4	\$54,140.08	\$40,000.00	\$13,535.02	761.00	170.80	\$54,140.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Menominee		Not	In	Program			Not	In	Program	
Milwaukee	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Monroe	3	\$5,195.26	\$3,695.26	\$1,731.75	126.00	21.10	\$5,195.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Oconto	1	\$3,127.50	\$2,712.00	\$3,127.50	2.00	1.00	\$3,127.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Oneida	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Outagamie	17	\$78,595.48	\$63,529.02	\$4,623.26	2,345.00	434.70	\$78,595.48	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ozaukee	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pepin	2	\$7,749.90	\$6,572.33	\$3,874.95	34.00	4.70	\$6,387.80	\$163.30	\$0.00	\$1,198.80
Pierce	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Polk	9	\$32,209.84	\$25,198.08	\$3,578.87	2,102.20	79.80	\$26,149.18	\$4,368.42	\$0.00	\$1,692.24
Portage	7	\$25,831.22	\$21,564.00	\$3,690.17	778.00	67.25	\$18,540.32	\$3,504.15	\$0.00	\$3,786.75
Price	2	\$3,820.63	\$2,820.62	\$1,910.32	223.00	24.64	\$3,154.85	\$13.00	\$652.78	\$0.00
Racine	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Richland	5	\$20,305.70	\$17,805.70	\$4,061.14	608.50	77.55	\$20,305.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Rock	2	\$2,746.95	\$1,746.95	\$1,373.48	34.00	6.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,746.95
Rusk	14	\$41,985.35	\$25,810.59	\$2,998.95	4,733.00	244.93	\$17,891.24	\$22,328.98	\$0.00	\$676.33
Saint Croix	5	\$18,896.27	\$16,305.39	\$3,779.25	811.50	41.80	\$7,746.75	\$1,600.00	\$0.00	\$9,549.52
Sauk	1	\$3,039.06	\$2,539.06	\$3,039.06	70.00	7.75	\$3,039.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sawyer	13	\$73,521.68	\$46,546.73	\$5,655.51	5,056.71	169.94	\$37,237.28	\$17,260.45	\$0.00	\$19,023.96
Shawano	1	\$6,500.00	\$5,800.00	\$6,500.00	5.00	1.00	\$6,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sheboygan	2	\$6,956.20	\$5,956.20	\$3,478.10	203.00	18.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,956.20
Taylor	1	\$5,669.93	\$5,135.95	\$5,669.93	238.00	19.40	\$5,618.57	\$51.36	\$0.00	\$0.00
Trempealeau	3	\$11,183.37	\$9,373.63	\$3,727.79	419.40	46.80	\$11,183.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vernon	3	\$43,350.96	\$17,856.63	\$14,450.32	249.00	22.45	\$43,350.96	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vilas	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Walworth	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
Washburn	6	\$9,572.21	\$6,957.00	\$1,595.37	2,159.50	20.00	\$1,539.02	\$8,033.19	\$0.00	\$0.00
Washington	4	\$8,316.92	\$6,648.02	\$2,079.23	665.00	29.10	\$7,927.34	\$0.00	\$220.69	\$168.88
Waukesha	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Waupaca	1	\$15,682.50	\$0.00	\$15,682.50	51.49	20.50	\$15,682.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Waushara	8	\$29,658.26	\$25,278.71	\$3,707.28	932.00	106.50	\$28,129.46	\$1,528.80	\$0.00	\$0.00
Winnebago	6	\$18,101.60	\$15,396.61	\$3,016.93	714.00	65.00	\$11,005.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,095.68
Wood	6	\$46,192.32	\$26,868.52	\$7,698.72	1,651.40	169.80	\$46,192.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals:	249	\$1,159,922.35	\$829,028.84	\$3,615.88	49,453.11	3,977.79	\$942,323.46	\$100,481.45	\$11,857.07	\$99,515.16

Table 2. WDACP Claims Filed and Appraised Damage Losses by County, 2013 – 2017.

County	2017		2016		2015		2014		2013	
	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage
Adams	4	\$10,261	4	\$12,495	4	\$10,681	5	\$14,755	4	\$16,469
Ashland	5	\$3,218	3	\$4,189	4	\$6,016	5	\$4,904	6	\$7,596
Barron	9	\$20,724	4	\$12,403	3	\$5,676	4	\$11,270	8	\$15,177
Bayfield	2	\$7,194	1	\$2,575	2	\$4,462	5	\$3,352	8	\$10,589
Brown	8	\$38,439	6	\$34,308	7	\$28,028	11	\$70,827	9	\$57,449
Buffalo	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$2,538
Burnett	8	\$33,427	10	\$21,117	7	\$9,825	3	\$2,900	7	\$11,039
Calumet	1	\$7,015	1	\$14,727	1	\$7,042	2	\$7,148	3	\$12,080
Chippewa	1	\$2,150	1	\$643	0	\$0	2	\$4,576	0	\$0
Clark	3	\$7,576	2	\$6,313	3	\$5,905	3	\$6,173	6	\$44,343
Columbia	5	\$27,382	7	\$31,400	4	\$30,394	6	\$28,426	9	\$49,083
Crawford	4	\$25,834	4	\$27,682	4	\$35,601	2	\$12,234	6	\$173,625
Dane	1	\$1,346	1	\$904	3	\$23,254	5	\$8,024	3	\$9,714
Dodge	2	\$9,180	4	\$2,784	6	\$5,036	5	\$11,228	14	\$68,181
Door	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Douglas	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$1,280	0	\$0
Dunn	1	\$335	1	\$8,855	2	\$2,635	3	\$12,277	1	\$12,544
Eau Claire	1	\$2,507	1	\$844	1	\$2,380	1	\$106	1	\$705
Florence	1	\$4,038	4	\$4,392	2	\$3,959	2	\$5,103	2	\$4,302
Fond du Lac	1	\$8,063	1	\$10,997	1	\$8,199	1	\$4,104	4	\$15,381
Forest	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$605
Grant	6	\$54,800	7	\$62,505	7	\$60,791	9	\$64,907	11	\$99,701
Green	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Green Lake	9	\$82,599	9	\$94,849	8	\$64,292	7	\$62,537	8	\$78,431
Iowa	6	\$31,460	6	\$18,174	5	\$17,637	3	\$11,007	4	\$16,907
Iron	1	\$1,674	1	\$2,249	1	\$3,183	1	\$1,610	1	\$1,479
Jackson	2	\$7,056	3	\$5,936	2	\$4,051	1	\$4,149	2	\$13,685
Jefferson	1	\$15,383	1	\$1,091	1	\$2,621	0	\$0	0	\$0
Juneau	0	\$0	1	\$842	1	\$3,015	1	\$1,126	1	\$9,657
Kenosha	Not	In	Program				Not	In	Program	
Kewaunee	4	\$18,036	2	\$10,468	2	\$8,903	4	\$8,767	5	\$21,932
La Crosse	1	\$1,723	2	\$3,799	1	\$1,424	1	\$2,768	1	\$3,535
Lafayette	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Langlade	0	\$0	2	\$2,459	1	\$1,933	1	\$769	0	\$0
Lincoln	3	\$4,276	2	\$1,912	3	\$3,439	2	\$2,875	2	\$2,127
Manitowoc	4	\$12,617	6	\$70,304	4	\$18,809	4	\$24,251	7	\$36,835

County	2017		2016		2015		2014		2013	
	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage	# of Claims	Assessed Damage
Marathon	10	\$65,957	9	\$59,298	11	\$56,242	13	\$73,472	14	\$91,004
Marinette	19	\$83,306	21	\$76,287	26	\$98,430	31	\$100,513	37	\$395,379
Marquette	4	\$54,140	5	\$66,022	5	\$59,817	6	\$69,410	6	\$61,902
Menominee	Not	In	Program				Not	In	Program	
Milwaukee	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Monroe	3	\$5,195	3	\$4,785	3	\$4,003	4	\$22,091	4	\$51,153
Oconto	1	\$3,128	1	\$1,925	1	\$3,238	2	\$64	0	\$0
Oneida	0	\$0	1	\$6,154	0	\$0	1	\$558	0	\$0
Outagamie	17	\$78,595	18	\$94,897	18	\$73,781	15	\$69,226	17	\$107,103
Ozaukee	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Pepin	2	\$7,750	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$5,929	0	\$0
Pierce	0	\$0	1	\$1,449	1	\$530	1	\$1,589	1	\$591
Polk	9	\$32,210	14	\$32,459	20	\$48,080	27	\$91,112	31	\$122,323
Portage	7	\$25,831	7	\$28,705	5	\$19,034	8	\$16,719	9	\$24,016
Price	2	\$3,821	5	\$3,434	7	\$13,104	4	\$7,141	4	\$14,570
Racine	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$567
Richland	5	\$20,306	5	\$29,525	5	\$26,222	7	\$23,738	5	\$18,526
Rock	2	\$2,747	2	\$3,405	1	\$864	1	\$1,082	0	\$0
Rusk	14	\$41,985	15	\$57,973	12	\$36,363	10	\$35,184	11	\$44,171
Saint Croix	5	\$18,896	6	\$10,616	6	\$17,774	3	\$7,486	2	\$19,653
Sauk	1	\$3,039	1	\$2,569	2	\$4,069	2	\$2,531	4	\$6,481
Sawyer	13	\$73,522	17	\$120,779	14	\$86,033	14	\$104,604	21	\$169,289
Shawano	1	\$6,500	2	\$17,423	1	\$842	3	\$7,290	4	\$13,157
Sheboygan	2	\$6,956	3	\$4,099	0	\$0	2	\$2,601	0	\$0
Taylor	1	\$5,670	3	\$2,194	2	\$2,695	0	\$0	1	\$130
Trempealeau	3	\$11,183	3	\$10,587	4	\$13,410	4	\$10,800	4	\$22,608
Vernon	3	\$43,351	2	\$15,545	3	\$5,604	5	\$12,304	5	\$37,079
Vilas	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Walworth	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Washburn	6	\$9,572	12	\$28,739	8	\$21,990	3	\$5,729	3	\$5,325
Washington	4	\$8,317	3	\$12,234	4	\$9,403	4	\$11,789	7	\$24,014
Waukesha	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	1	\$651
Waupaca	1	\$15,683	4	\$35,961	1	\$3,720	1	\$19,008	0	\$0
Waushara	8	\$29,658	7	\$25,413	7	\$18,745	7	\$23,310	9	\$41,785
Winnebago	6	\$18,102	5	\$23,776	4	\$9,499	6	\$12,735	6	\$24,346
Wood	6	\$46,192	4	\$25,414	8	\$29,822	8	\$26,117	6	\$22,101
Total	249	\$1,159,922	276	\$1,272,881	269	\$1,042,506	293	\$1,157,582	348	\$2,113,633

Table 3. WDACP 2017 statewide deer damage crop appraisals summarized by crop category.

Crop	# of Claims*	Appraised Damage	Acres Appraised	Acres Damaged
Corn ¹	130	\$386,703	13,757	1,055
Soybeans	108	\$286,008	8,904	1045.33
Fruits/Veg.	18	\$127,559	1,809	99.3
Forage ²	50	\$45,616	7,621	933.6
Other	10	\$42,130	264.73	41.5
Orchards & Nursery	7	\$48,131	66	35
Christmas Tree	1	\$1,684	79	2.75
Small Grains ³	8	\$4,492	317.7	35.94
Totals:	332*	\$942,323	32,818	3,248

* The number of the total claims submitted that included a crop appraisal for a crop category listed in the first column. Due to the fact that some claims have multiple crop-types appraised, the value listed for the total number of claims is in excess of the number individual claims submitted for deer damages.

¹ Corn includes corn grain, corn silage, and sweet corn

² Forage includes alfalfa, alfalfa/grass, grass, and hay

³ Small Grains includes oats and wheat.

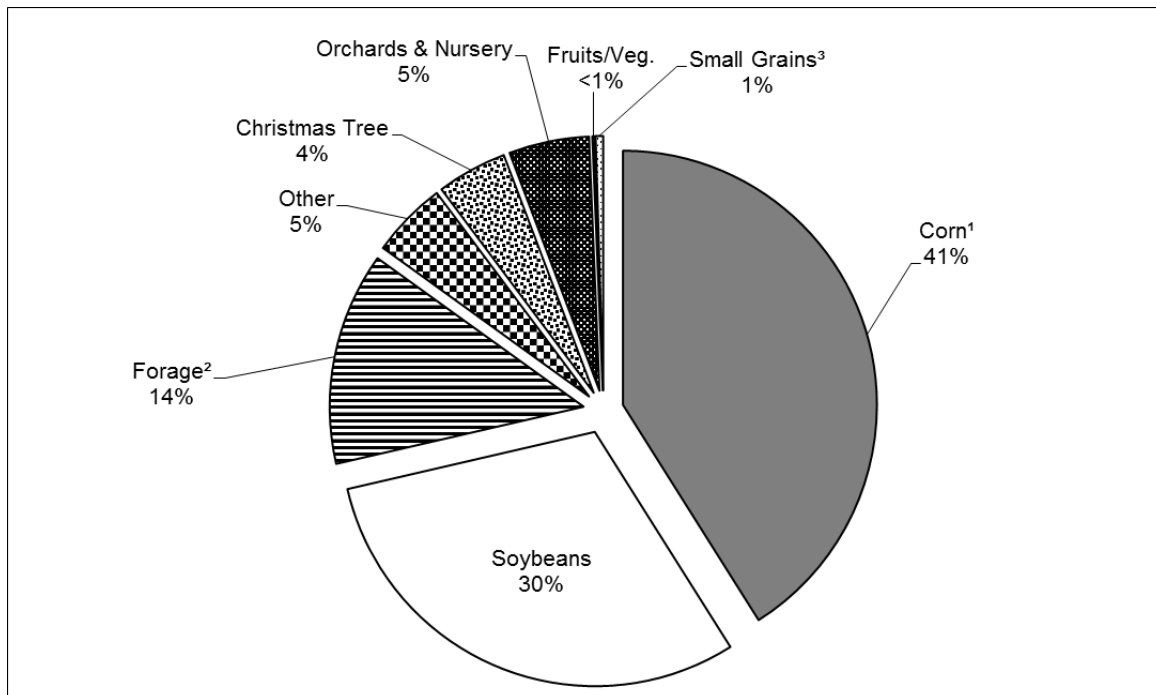


Figure 3. Percent of statewide appraised deer damage losses recorded in the WDACP in 2017 by crop category.

¹ Corn includes corn grain, corn silage, and sweet corn

² Forage includes alfalfa, alfalfa/grass, grass, and hay

³ Small Grains includes oats and wheat.

Table 4. 2017 WDACP appraised losses from bear.

County	Appraised Bear Damage	Acres Damaged by Bear	County	Appraised Bear Damage	Acres Damaged by Bear
Rusk	\$22,329	179.5	St. Croix	\$1,600	8.0
Burnett	\$21,421	36.2	Ashland	\$1,541	2.8
Sawyer	\$17,260	29.2	Waushara	\$1,529	8.0
Barron	\$10,295	16.8	Marinette	\$726	1.5
Washburn	\$8,033	12.0	Bayfield	\$425	0.7
Polk	\$4,368	8.1	Dunn	\$335	5.0
Portage	\$3,504	4.0	Pepin	\$163	0.3
Jackson	\$3,064	5.0	Taylor	\$51	0.1
Chippewa	\$2,150	1.0	Price	\$13	0.1
Iron	\$1,674	3.0	Total	\$100,481	321.3

Table 5. WDACP 2017 statewide bear damage crop appraisals summarized by crop category.

Crop	# of Claims*	Appraised Damage	Acres Appraised	Acres Damaged
Corn ¹	66	\$77,967	14,530	278
Livestock	1	\$1,600	0	0
Bee Hives	6	\$15,715	41	33
Forage ²	2	\$5,200	2	2
Total	75	\$100,482	14,573	313

* The number of the total claims submitted that had a crop appraisal for a crop category listed in the first column. Due to the fact that some claims have multiple crop types appraised, the value listed for the total number of claims is in excess of the number individual claims submitted for bear damages.

¹ Corn includes corn grain, corn silage, sweet corn, and organic corn.

² Forage includes alfalfa, alfalfa/grass, grass, and haylage

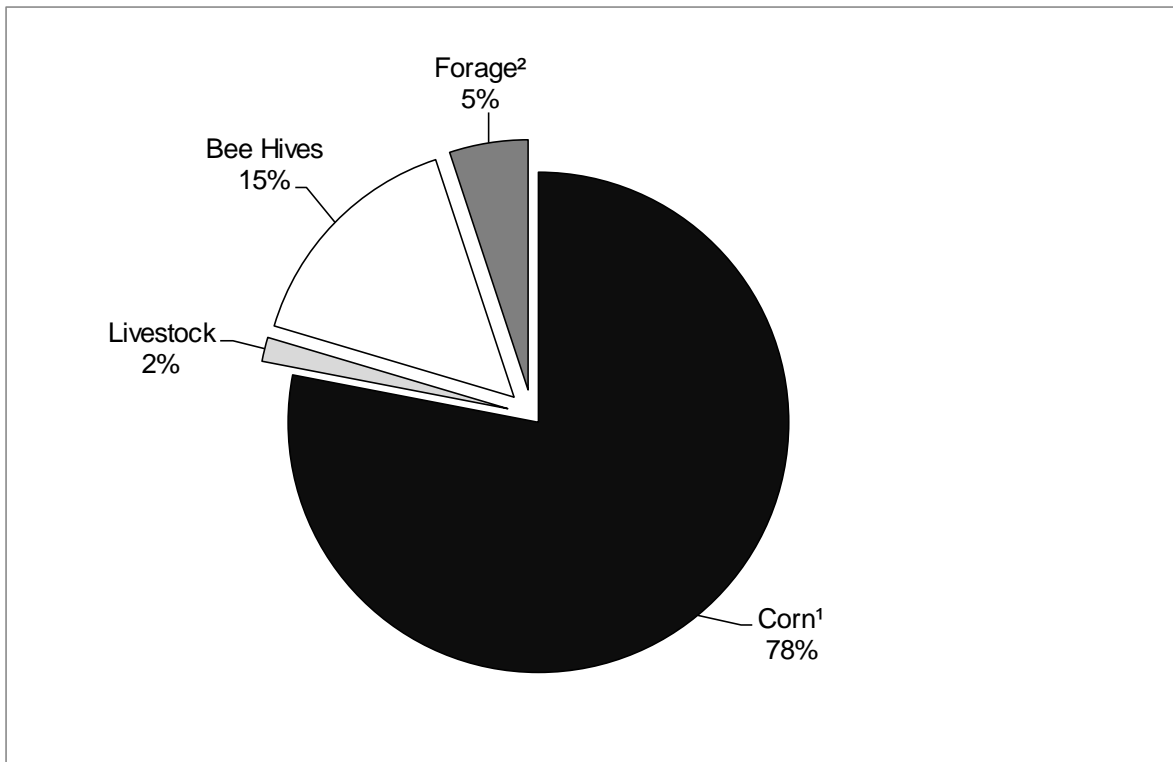


Figure 4. Percent of statewide appraised bear damage losses recorded in the WDACP in 2017 by crop category.

¹ Corn includes corn grain, corn silage, sweet corn, and organic corn.

² Forage includes alfalfa, alfalfa/grass, grass, hay, and haylage

Table 6. WDACP Approved Permanent Fence Projects in 2017.

County	Crop	Acres Protected	Linear feet of fence	Total Projected Cost	Projected WDACP Cost	Estimated Claim Savings over 15 years
Oneida	Berries (strawberries and blueberries)	20.5	4,722	\$25,971	\$19,478	\$73,406
Marathon	Pumpkins and Blueberries	37.0	5,067	\$27,869	\$20,901	\$11,099
Shawano	Apple Trees	7.0	2,900	\$15,950	\$11,962	\$112,500
Wood	Cranberries	132.0	7,445	\$37,225	\$27,919	\$112,775
St Croix	Apples, berries, vegetables	10.0	3,000	\$15,000	\$11,250	\$18,750
Iowa	Apple Trees	35.0	5,509	\$27,545	\$20,659	\$97,384
Waushara	Christmas Trees	34.6	4,435	\$22,175	\$16,631	\$50,869
Waushara	Grapes	74.0	4,530	\$22,650	\$17,000	\$24,250
Adams	Cranberries	292.0	14,500	\$72,500	\$54,375	\$50,625
	Totals:	642.1	52,108	\$266,885	\$200,175	\$551,657

Table 7. Numbers of deer and pounds of venison donated through the Wisconsin Deer Donation program in 2017. Pounds of venison are estimated, assuming 40 lbs. of venison per deer donated.

County	# of Deer Donated	Pounds of Venison (approximate)
Adams	8	320
Ashland	4	160
Barron	72	2,880
Brown	8	320
Buffalo	101	4,040
Burnett	15	600
Calumet	10	400
Chippewa	15	600
Columbia	25	1,000
Dane	106	4,240
Dodge	24	960
Door	54	2,160
Douglas	4	160
Dunn	32	1,280
Eau Claire	22	880
Fond du Lac	75	3,000
Grant	40	1,600
Jackson	28	1,120
Jefferson	15	600
Juneau	52	2,080
Kewaunee	21	840
La Crosse	32	1,280
Lafayette	41	1,640
Langlade	3	120
Lincoln	10	400
Manitowoc	12	480

County	# of Deer Donated	Pounds of Venison (approximate)
Marathon	42	1,680
Marinette	72	2,880
Milwaukee	8	320
Monroe	6	240
Oneida	13	520
Outagamie	43	1,720
Ozaukee	22	880
Pierce	77	3,080
Polk	27	1,080
Portage	18	720
Richland	20	800
Rusk	9	360
St. Croix	74	2,960
Sawyer	19	760
Shawano	28	1,120
Sheboygan	4	160
Taylor	13	520
Trempealeau	48	1,920
Vernon	28	1,120
Vilas	2	80
Washington	12	480
Waupaca	31	1,240
Wausara	48	1,920
Winnebago	6	240
Wood	7	280
Totals	1,506	60,240