



TTHA FIELD PRO STAFF NOTEBOOK

1. **Hunting conditions in the field (what you're seeing and hearing on water, nutrition, the rut, weather conditions, survival rates, hunter success, etc.):**

Rifle Hunting in Kansas was very difficult at the beginning of the month. The full moon and bad weather sent many people home empty handed.

South TX deer are just now turning on after much needed rain earlier in the season. I think the next full moon at the end of December will mark the actual full rut which is late for many areas.

2. **Hunting Tips (any tricks of the trade that others may or may not consider)**

We have had unusually high success around long standing watering areas. I believe that South TX has been in drought conditions long enough for deer to fall in to a pattern of using particular watering areas. Even though water is become more abundant I am finding that the deer are continuing to use the same areas we found them at early in the year.

3. **Any new gear that caught your eye and why:**

I was able to use a Ten Point Crossbow recently. I was surprised out how much like hunting with a bow it was. I had expected a crossbow to bridge the gap between rifle hunting and bow hunting but, in my opinion it is much more similar to bow hunting. I found the crossbow I shot to be very accurate to around 45 yards which only extended my range about 10 yards. The only difference in crossbow hunting and archery hunting is that you do not have to draw it when the deer presents itself. I think it is a fantastic way to get people started into the sport and will lead to a much larger number of bowhunters in the future.

4. **Stories from the field (a hunter's first experience, news of the weird, etc.):**

I was able to take a very enthusiastic young man (8yrs old) hunting and he killed his largest buck to date, a very nice 6.5 yr old 8pt!