

FLORA FAUNA NEWS

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The Spring Thaw

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In the southern part of the United States the spring thaw is starting to occur.

A very busy time of the year for Whitetail Deer both mentally and physically. Imagine being cold 24/7 with food being hard to find for months not to mention trying to find a suitable mate.



I think we can all agree at least part of that process wouldn't be enjoyable.

You would be physically and mentally worn out. Animals like humans get irritable when hungry. The white tail deer will start to shed the winter coat, we refer to it as molting. The metabolism changes during molting creating further uncomfortable feelings. Look at it as if, "Geez, I've been freezing and hungry all winter now I feel worse."

The good thing is that molting only lasts a few weeks in the Spring. The deer will be ratty looking and the healthier ones shed it fast making them look worse. All antlers should be shed on the Bucks as well.

The problem is with the ones that aren't shedding hair or haven't shed their antlers yet. These two signs usually mean something in the system isn't right.

Illness can cause a delay in the metabolism changing over from the winter. Most will recover but they are headed into the Spring with a disadvantage.

They will be slow starters but usually catch up by the end of summer. You can help your whitetail deer come out of the winter through mineral supplements, textured feed and quality protein blocks. Remember to provide the dewormer at the first streak of warm weather. The parasites have been hibernating and will come looking for a host. All things living enjoy the arrival of Spring.

Funny Facts



- It takes 3,000 cows to supply the NFL with enough leather for a year's supply of footballs.
- Ostriches can run faster than horses.
- The sentence "The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog." uses every letter of the alphabet.



We hope you will enjoy our newsletter as we enjoy putting it together. We want you to find it informative and entertaining. If you have a topic or a question you would like addressed in the next newsletter please email us. We always appreciate pictures of the funny things animals will do. God Bless and Keep Animals Happy and Healthy!

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