



## COMPARISON CHART

Comparisons			
<u>Feature</u>	<u>Fallow</u>	<u>Reds</u>	<u>Elk</u>
<b>Species</b>	Dama dama	Cervus elaphus	Cervus canadensis
<b>Female</b>	Doe	Hind	Cow
<b>Male</b>	Buck	Stag	Bull
<b>Young</b>	Fawn	Calf	Calf
<b>Min Mate weight</b>	30Kg	80Kg	160Kg
<b>Season</b>	March-May	March-April	March-April
<b>Gestation</b>	230 days	234 days	255 days
<b>Fawn/Calve</b>	November-January	November-December	November-December
<b>Avg Birth Weight</b>	5Kg	8Kg	18Kg
<b>Wean - F</b>	20Kg	40Kg	70Kg
<b>Wean - M</b>	25Kg	50Kg	85Kg
<b>15 Month-F</b>	37Kg	80Kg	170Kg
<b>15 Month-M</b>	50Kg	110Kg	220Kg
<b>Mature-F</b>	50Kg	110Kg	230Kg
<b>Mature-M</b>	100Kg	250Kg	400Kg
<b>Avg DSE-F</b>	1.2	2.5	5.0
<b>Avg DSE-M</b>	1.5	3.5	7.0
<b>Velvet</b>	600gms	3.0Kg	8.0Kg

### Notes on “Quick Comparison” Interpretation:

1. All the above figures are a rough guide. There are too many subspecies and "crosses" to be specific. For example there is a large difference between the two subspecies of Cervus canadensis - manitobensis and nelsoni. One is better for meat production and the other grows much better velvet. The same is true for both Fallow and Red deer where some subspecies may grow better velvet, or have a larger frame than, another subspecies.
2. Weight of all mature animals will vary throughout the year.
3. The minimum mating weight is more a guide for your management than the weight at which the female will conceive.
4. The mating season is triggered by the decrease in day length.
5. The gestation period of each species could vary up to 7 days of the figure given.
6. The fawning/calving time should be managed to coincide with pasture availability.

7. The weaning time is generally accepted to be in March/April except in the case of Fallow which is May/June.
8. 1 D.S.E (Dry Sheep Equivalent) is the energy required by a Merino wether weighing 45 kg. to maintain its weight. The figure is used to make a comparison of how many animals of a particular type can be run per hectare. i.e. 1 mature Fallow doe will eat as much as 1.2 Merino wethers in order to maintain its condition. A mature bull elk will eat as much as 7 wethers. It is important in working out the how many head you can run on your land. The local Department Of Natural Resources and Environment should have figures available for your area.
9. It is important to take into account the seasonal pasture growth patterns of the area your farm is in, or the area you intend to buy land in. You should try to establish your deer farming enterprise around this pattern and the seasonal requirements of the particular deer you intend to farm. This will greatly reduce your supplementary feed requirements.

**Fallow Buck**



**Elk Bull**



**Red Stag**

