

# County makes top five in deer harvest



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MT. VERNON — Jefferson County hunters accounted for 3,525 deer harvested this year, placing it as the fourth highest county in the state.



According to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, a preliminary total of 155,131 deer were taken during all 2015-16 seasons which concluded on Jan. 17. Total numbers of deer harvested in the state was up this year from 145,720 last year.

The top five counties for the deer harvest were Jo Daviess County with 3,908 deer taken; Adams County with 3,751 deer taken; Jackson County with 3,573 deer taken; Jefferson County with 3,525 deer taken and Randolph County with 3,458 deer taken. Williamson County came in sixth, with 3,123 deer taken during the seasons.

A breakdown of the individual seasons for deer have Jefferson County hunters harvesting 1,263 deer during the archery season; 91 deer during the youth season; 2,115 during the firearm season; and 56 during the muzzleloader season.

Last year, during the 2014-15 seasons, Jefferson County hunters accounted for 3,491 deer taken.

Area counties also had a large harvest of deer by hunters this year.

Marion County had a total of 2,729 deer taken;

Franklin County had a total of 2,494 deer taken;

Hamilton County had 2,030 deer taken;

Wayne County had 2,602 deer taken; and

Washington County had 1,525 deer taken.