

the science of
overabundance

deer ecology and
population management

Edited by **William J. McShea,**
H. Brian Underwood,
and **John H. Rappole**



Easily the most common of America's large wildlife species, white-tailed deer are often referred to as "overabundant." But just when does a species cross that threshold from being common to overabundant? In recent years this question has been the focus of debate among hunters, animal rights activists, and biologists. William McShea and his colleagues explore every aspect of this question in *The Science of Overabundance*. Are there really too many deer? Do efforts to control deer populations really work? What lessons can we learn from efforts to understand deer population dynamics? In twenty-three fact-filled chapters, the authors reveal what scientists have learned from analyzing the many studies of deer population dynamics. Anecdotes and lore, which are often repeated in media accounts, are replaced by careful analyses from leading ungulate biologists.

"Everyone interested in the ecology and management of large herbivores should have a copy of this book."

—*Ecology*

"We recommend this book to anyone interested in deer populations and their effects on ecosystems."

—*Forest Science*

"It is excellent to find the conclusions of researchers with disparate views and backgrounds aired in one volume."

—*Biodiversity and Conservation*

On the cover:
White-tailed
deer, Saratoga
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Historical Park,
New York.
Photo by Susan
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