



TURKEY SEASON RESULTS, SPRING 2007

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A total of 18,584 gobblers, 7% less than in 2006, was harvested during the 2007 Ohio wild turkey season which was held from April 23 through May 20 (Table 1). Youth hunters harvested 1,716 of these gobblers during the statewide youth hunting season held on April 21 and 22. The 2007 season was the 42nd since modern spring turkey hunting was initiated in 1966 (Table 2). Turkey abundance was expected to be similar to the previous year, based on average reproductive success in 2006.

Table 1. Spring turkey harvest in 88 Ohio counties, 2006, 2007, and 42-year total.

County	2006	2007	42-Year Total (1966-2007)
Adams	560	515	8,011
Allen	12	13	53
Ashland	287	247	4,120
Ashtabula	902	952	11,510
Athens	545	419	8,482
Auglaize	35	34	151
Belmont	602	488	7,165
Brown	453	450	5,308
Butler	87	99	421
Carroll	446	405	5,650
Champaign	89	107	701
Clark	24	27	139
Clermont	435	424	4,453
Clinton	48	57	292
Columbiana	465	393	5,265
Coshocton	549	477	9,253
Crawford	58	77	455
Cuyahoga	3	2	7
Darke	26	27	104
Defiance	209	249	1,248
Delaware	59	68	328
Erie	19	36	146
Fairfield	108	99	1,623
Fayette	6	4	28
Franklin	6	5	29
Fulton	42	49	252
Gallia	489	437	9,592
Geauga	368	423	3,557
Greene	30	30	155
Guernsey	587	489	9,188
Hamilton	136	116	643
Hancock	12	19	87
Hardin	59	53	327
Harrison	563	489	7,769
Henry	21	21	168
Highland	301	296	2,578
Hocking	370	375	10,824
Holmes	284	212	5,368
Huron	157	148	1,430
Jackson	455	467	8,428
Jefferson	510	411	7,106
Knox	479	417	6,895
Lake	101	97	807
Lawrence	245	233	3,984
Licking	340	308	4,409
Logan	181	149	1,395
Lorain	129	140	837
Lucas	13	39	90
Madison	5	10	29
Mahoning	200	204	1,209
Marion	14	17	117
Medina	119	126	824
Meigs	612	471	9,191
Mercer	10	16	56
Miami	15	16	77
Monroe	540	459	8,668
Montgomery	12	18	56
Morgan	355	344	6,094
Morrow	239	209	2,061
Muskingum	579	519	9,754
Noble	427	270	5,723
Ottawa	6	3	24
Paulding	61	89	306
Perry	362	334	7,121
Pickaway	21	23	98
Pike	272	231	5,162
Portage	211	233	1,566
Preble	61	57	428
Putnam	24	48	138
Richland	387	385	5,313
Ross	380	355	6,256
Sandusky	13	19	60
Scioto	380	293	4,133
Seneca	118	92	842
Shelby	29	40	269
Stark	202	216	1,316
Summit	18	30	154
Trumbull	440	429	5,854
Tuscarawas	597	540	7,331
Union	13	9	69
Van Wert	8	13	41
Vinton	385	333	11,885
Warren	66	85	660
Washington	518	502	7,077
Wayne	132	123	1,400
Williams	213	256	1,382
Wood	9	16	43
Wyandot	65	59	410
Total	20,023	18,584	274,028

Ashtabula County, with a reported harvest of 952 gobblers, topped the list of counties. Rounding out the top 5 counties, which collectively accounted for over 16% of the 2007 harvest, were Tuscarawas (540 birds), Muskingum (519 birds), Adams (515 birds), and Washington (502 birds). Compared to the 2006 spring turkey season, the harvest increased in 38 counties, decreased in 48, and stayed the same in 2 (Table 1).

Hunting regulations for the 2007 spring turkey season were identical to those of the 2006 season. As expected, most of the harvest (53%) occurred during the first week of the season. The balance was divided between the second week (21%), third week (15%), and fourth week (11%).

For the 2007 season, 44,504 individuals purchased a spring turkey permit, 9,972 individuals purchased a youth spring turkey permit, and 20,932 individuals age 66 and older either purchased a reduced-cost senior permit or were issued a free permit. An estimated 69,630 individuals from the 75,408 who either purchased or received a free permit pursued a turkey during the 2007 spring season. The number of hunters decreased 11% from the estimated 78,489 hunters in 2006. Landowners and tenants who hunted on their own land or on land where they resided harvested 3,846 gobblers, 21% of the 2007 statewide harvest.

Table 2. Summary of all turkey seasons, 1966-2006.

Year	Season Dates	Number of Counties Open	Bag Limit	Permit Fee	Number of Eligible Hunters	Number of Hunters Who Hunted ^a	Total Harvest ^b	Percent Successful ^c
1966	5/4-5/7	9	1	Free	500	321	12	3.7
1967	5/3-5/6	9	1	Free	898	706	18	2.5
1968	5/8-5/11	9	1	Free	914	765	20	2.6
1969	5/7-5/10	9	1	Free	945	815	37	4.5
1970	4/29-5/2 5/6-5/9	14	1	Free	909 896	774 732	30 36	3.9 4.9
1971	4/28-5/1 5/5-5/8	14	1	Free	1,000 1,000	797 790	37 17	4.6 2.2
1972	5/3-5/6 5/10-5/13	14	1	\$5.35	917 881	824 787	32 25	3.9 3.2
1973	5/2-5/5 5/9-5/12	14	1	\$5.35	1,034 1,034	897 884	39 32	4.3 3.6
1974	5/1-5/4 5/8-5/11	14	1	\$10.50	999 184	900 167	61 10	6.8 6.0
1975	4/28-5/3 5/5-5/10	14	1	\$10.50	996 267	893 242	75 19	8.4 7.9
1976	4/26-5/8	14	1	\$10.50	1,471	1,296	139	10.7
1977	5/2-5/14	14	1	\$10.50	1,751	1,504	137	9.1
1978	5/1-5/13	18	1	\$10.50	2,000	1,711	147	8.6
1979	4/30-5/12	18	1	\$10.50	2,000	1,714	265	15.5
1980	4/21-5/3	20	1	\$10.75	2,097	1,882	387	20.6
1981	4/27-5/9	20	1	\$10.75	3,458	2,954	577	19.5
1982	4/26-5/8	20	1	\$10.75	4,262	3,636	651	17.9
1983	4/25-5/7	21	1	\$10.75	5,141	4,402	764	17.4
1984	4/23-5/12	31	1	\$10.75	6,935	5,824	1,233	19.9
1985	4/22-5/11	31	1	\$10.75	10,084	8,849	1,583	17.3
1986	4/28-5/17	31	1	\$10.75	11,913	10,209	1,816	17.0
1987	4/27-5/16	32	1	\$10.75	13,396	11,521	2,268	18.9
1988	4/25-5/14	32	1	\$11.00	16,208	19,492	2,629	16.0
1989	4/24-5/13	36	1	\$11.00	18,887	24,740	3,171	15.6
1990	4/23-5/12	37	1	\$16.00	19,613	26,739	4,096	20.2
1991	4/22-5/11	38	1	\$16.00	22,898	32,431	5,009	21.1
1992	4/27-5/16	38	1	\$16.00	28,974	33,906	5,678	19.4
1993	4/26-5/15	42	1 2	\$16.00 \$32.00	29,538 4,106	40,539	7,470	15.4 12.4
1994	4/25-5/14	44	1 2	\$16.00 \$32.00	29,334 5,187	40,459	9,098	16.6 10.7
1995	4/24-5/13	44	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	30,837 6,136	47,568	10,892	17.0 15.3
1996	4/22-5/11	46	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	31,003 7,700	49,541	12,098	15.9 15.5
1997	4/28-5/17	47	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	30,511 8,130	50,712	12,393	14.9 14.6
1998	4/27-5/16	50	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	31,037 8,133	50,238	13,251	16.9 16.7
1999	4/26-5/16	57	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	42,363 7,846	55,912	14,419	22.0 27.2
2000	4/24-5/14	88	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	49,982 9,720	64,225	20,276	34.8 30.7
2001	4/23-5/13	88	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	54,841 11,092	71,259	26,156	31.2 29.9
2002	4/22-5/19	88	1 2	\$20.00 \$40.00	48,821 24,633	94,774	22,190	36.9 14.7
2003	4/28-5/25	88	2	\$20.00 ^d	94,989	87,387	20,368	23.3
2004	4/26-5/23	88	2	\$24.00	74,119	68,975	16,927	24.5
2005	4/18-5/15	88	2	\$24.00	85,053	78,302	18,833	24.1
2006	4/24-5/21	88	2	\$24.00	85,248	78,489	20,023	25.5
2007	4/23-5/20	88	2	\$24.00	75,408	69,630	18,584	26.7

^aIncludes senior spring turkey permit recipients (Ohio residents 66 years of age and older).

^bTotal recorded harvest by all hunter types (paid, senior, and exempt).

^cSuccess rates are based on permit holders only. Between 1993 and 2002, success rates were for 1-bird permit holders harvesting 1 bird and 2-bird permit holders harvesting 2 birds.

^dBeginning in 2003, the special bonus wild turkey permit was eliminated and hunters no longer could be classified as 1-bird or 2-bird permit holders

