

I am working in forestry all my life and have always had a great interest in deer management. I have been culling deer for over thirty five year but in the past few years I have noticed the following.

1 With so many licences been given out a large number of mature stags are been shot before and during the rut thus leaving younger poor quality stags to mate with hinds.

2 Over recent years since sheep numbers have been reduced on hills I have noticed a huge increase in the amount of ticks on deer early in the season, in the past sheep were dipped and as they roamed the hill they were rubbing on vegetation thus killing ticks they also grazed down vegetation giving ticks less cover to breed and survive as the weather got cold. I hunt all over the world and some places are managing the tick problem by channeling animals to feeding areas or water holes using lures such as mineral licks or food which may have a chemical built in to kill parasites.

3 Forest fencing is killing and maiming a lot of deer every year especially in heavy snow. When deer jump the fence their back legs are getting caught between the nine inch gap between the sheep wire and the barbed wire on top, ie maybe when fencing around forestry if four foot rabbit netting was used with barbed wire along the top it should still be stock proof.

4 Poaching and over shooting of areas especially with lamps is turning grazing animals into tree browsers.

5 If Local knowledge and local stalkers were combined with with lettings of forests it would be much easier to have better deer management as at the moment they both resent each other leaving it impossible to manage deer.

These are just a few of my ideas and I would like to be involved in future management.

Regards.

Paddy Kinsella.

Paddy Kinsella

Production Manager, Nurseries | Coillte  
Rosbane, Tinahely, Co Wicklow, Ireland

E [paddy.kinsella@coillte.ie](mailto:paddy.kinsella@coillte.ie)

T +353 402 38110

F +353 402 38309

M +353 86 8277988

[www.coillte.ie](http://www.coillte.ie)