

Practical Gross Pathology for Deer Hunters

Top 10 Best Indicators that your Deer Wasn't Sick 10 Minutes Ago

- 1. Skin-Normal hair coat, no bald patches, no scabby areas, minimal signs of major weight loss**
- 2. Openings-Normal discharges from mouth, nose (no yellow or white pus), anus (absence of manure staining on rump or signs of diarrhea)**
- 3. Organs can be hard to grab with fingers-Different organs and tissues in the abdomen move freely and are not adhered together, except at ends, along spine, etc.**
- 4. Peritoneal fluid-Clear film covers organs and body cavity, fluid in abdomen is clear/slightly yellow and slippery**
- 5. Color-Liver, heart, kidneys are all brownish red, pinks and gray-blues dominate other organs, greens and yellows are generally absent**
- 6. Smell-The intestinal contents of dead animals don't necessarily smell good, but the smell shouldn't make you nauseous**
- 7. Texture-Hollow organs can be compressed, lungs are bouncy and sponge-like, liver & kidneys are firm and have a uniform feel, edges and margins are easy to identify**
- 8. Shape-Form of organ is easy to follow and with no unusual growths or protrusions**
- 9. Ease of removal-After just a few cuts and tying up a few loose ends, the organs should fall out in a large block**
- 10. Lumps and bumps-Funny colored lumps and bumps (especially yellow or green) are not buried in organs such as the liver or lungs**