

Table 1: Questions asked during the survey.

1. Consent
2. County
3. Responder type
4. Rank the importance of deer to: road traffic accidents
4. Rank the importance of deer to: biodiversity loss
4. Rank the importance of deer to: damage to gardens
4. Rank the importance of deer to: Damage to pasture
4. Rank the importance of deer to: Damage to infrastructure (fences)
4. Rank the importance of deer to: threat to farm animal health
5. Below a number of the main impacts of increased deer numbers across urban and rural Ireland are listed. Please assess the relative importance of each of these impacts.: Damage to High value nature conservation sites
5. Below a number of the main impacts of increased deer numbers across urban and rural Ireland are listed. Please assess the relative importance of each of these impacts.: Forestry damage
5. Below a number of the main impacts of increased deer numbers across urban and rural Ireland are listed. Please assess the relative importance of each of these impacts.: Impaired Deer Welfare
5. Below a number of the main impacts of increased deer numbers across urban and rural Ireland are listed. Please assess the relative importance of each of these impacts.: Hybridisation (e.g breeding between red deer and sika deer)
5. Below a number of the main impacts of increased deer numbers across urban and rural Ireland are listed. Please assess the relative importance of each of these impacts.: Threat to Human health (e.g. Lyme Disease)
5. Below a number of the main impacts of increased deer numbers across urban and rural Ireland are listed. Please assess the relative importance of each of these impacts.: Other
Please state other
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Deer Culling
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: A commercially successful wild venison market
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Amendment/Extension of Open Seasons Order
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Re-classification of Sika & Fallow deer as invasive species
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Other legislative amendments or modifications. Please specify amendments/modifications in comments at end
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Increased access to education and training for hunters
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Supports for landowners / land managers to control deer
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Contracting hunters / hunter groups / gamekeepers to enable effective cull/herd management
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Financial incentives to cull deer
6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Increased physical exclusion of deer from important woodland areas

6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Access to professional deer managers

6. What is the importance of the following options in addressing the issues/impacts listed in the previous question?: Other

Please state other

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Lack of financial incentives

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Sufficient skills

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Public opinion

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Limited venison market

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Lack of collaborative thinking

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Open seasons too short

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Legislative barriers such as sporting rights

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Not enough people interested in hunting

7. Please assess the obstacles to successful deer management in Ireland?: Other

please state other

8. Do you think that there are barriers to the development of a commercially successful wild venison market in Ireland, at present?

If you answered yes, please explain what these barriers are

9. To what extent do you agree that Government should support development of the wild venison sector

10. Do you think that there are legislative barriers to effective deer management in Ireland?

If you answered yes, please provide details of the main legislative barriers

11. Do you think that training for hunters should be improved in Ireland?

If you answered yes, how do you think training could be improved?

We welcome any other comments on deer management in Ireland. Please provide suggestions in the space below.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please tell us what organisation this is and how were your answers to the questions below determined? (For example, consultation of staff or members, senior management team input, individual, or other)

Table 2: Responses and how they were coded as a binary outcome.

Q5

EXAMPLE	Road Traffic Accidents	Freq.	Percent	Binary
	Neutral	160	10.62	0
	Not important	73	4.85	0
	Not important at all	54	3.59	0
	Somewhat important	418	27.76	1
	Very Important	801	53.19	1
	Total	1,506	100	

Q6

EXAMPLE	Lack of financial incentives	Freq.	Percent	Binary
	Major	427	28.35	1
	Minor	221	14.67	0
	No opinion	330	21.91	0
	Very Major	338	22.44	1
	Very Minor	190	12.62	0
	Total	1,506	100	

Q7

EXAMPLE	Barrier venison	Freq.	Percent	Binary
	Don't Know / Unsure	626	41.57	0
	No	253	16.8	0
	Yes	627	41.63	1
	Total	1,506	100	