

METHOD 20

For red deer and related deer, including Bukharan, Yarkand, hangul, Tibetan, shou, McNeill, and Gansu deer. In these deer, SCI does not distinguish between typical and nontypical antlers. In this method, all tines will count in the score regardless of whether they follow the typical pattern of each individual species.

The following instructions apply to **red deer** and their allies. We describe how to measure the **red deer** because it is the most complex, but all other deer mentioned in this method are measured the same way.

I. LENGTH OF MAIN BEAM

First it is necessary to determine the main beams and their tips. The main beams are usually easy to identify but in some cases may be difficult. The main beam is usually the longest and most rear-projecting point from the crown. Following General Instructions 31, the measurer should mark off the main beam with a pencil or chalk.

Measure the length of each main antler beam from the bottom edge of the burr (or coronet) to the tip. The measurement follows the center of the antler's outer curve and is essentially parallel to the longitudinal blood grooves. Begin the measurement where the center line of the outer curve intersects the bottom edge of the burr. This will be on the side of the head and behind the eye, not in front on the forehead. Do not press the cable into the corner where the antler beam meets the burr. Always use the cable for this measurement.

Starting at the bottom edge of the burr, measure along the outside curve of the main beam, following the center line of the beam as it has been marked off through the crowning palmation to the tip.

II. LENGTH OF ALL TINES

The usual **red deer** antler will have three typical tines on the lower beam. The first two (brow and bez, T-1 and T-2) grow close together and point forward; they are well separated from the third (trez) tine (T-3), which grows upward. The other tines (usually two to four) are in a group near the beam tip, often clustered in the form of a crown. It is common for individual deer to lack bez tines (T-2). It is also common to have nontypical tines on the lower antler, usually near the burr. It is important for the measurer to distinguish the typical T-1, T-2 and T-3 tines, and crown tines, so that the two beam circumferences will be taken at the correct places.

Measure the length of all valid tines on each antler (see General Instructions 27). A valid tine is at least 1/2 inch long and no wider than its length. Please note that while the beam tip is always considered a point, it is not a tine and must not be measured as one because its length is already included in the length of the main beam (Measurement I). Pay special attention to General Instructions 31 (palmate antlers).

III. CIRCUMFERENCE OF BURR

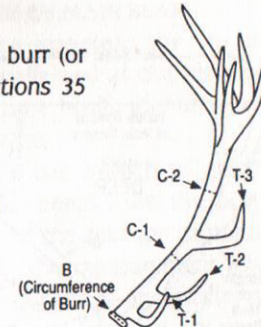
B. ON THE BURR. Measure the circumference of the burr (or coronet) at the base of each antler. See General Instructions 35 (measuring circumferences).

IV. CIRCUMFERENCE OF ANTLER

Measure the circumference of each antler at two places on the main beam as indicated below.

C-1. Between T-2 and T-3. Measure the circumference of the main antler beam at the smallest place between the second typical tine (T-2) and the third typical tine (T-3). If T-2 is absent, measure the smallest place between T-1 and T-3. If T-3 is absent measure the smallest place between T-2 and the first crown point, which makes it the same as C-2.

C-2. Between T-3 and the first crown tine. Measure the circumference of the main antler beam at the smallest place between the third typical tine (T-3) and the first crown tine (T-4). If T-3 is absent, measure the smallest place between T-2 and the first crown tine (T-4), which will make this measurement the same as C-1.



V. INSIDE SPREAD OF MAIN BEAMS

Measure the inside spread of the main antler beams at the widest place. This measurement is to be at a right angle to the longitudinal axis of the skull and parallel to its horizontal axis.

VI. TOTAL SCORE

Total all measurements and record fractions in 1/8ths of an inch. Deduct 2% from score for antlers in velvet.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Record the total number of points of each antler.

