Press release: 12.109-175/19

Hunting year 2018/2019: number of game shot decreased by 2.8%

Vienna, 2019-10-11 – A total of 736,000 game has been shot in the hunting year 2018/2019, as Statistics Austria reports. Compared to the previous season, this represents a decrease of 2.8%. Thereof, the number of furred game shot decreased by 3.0% to 614,000 and the number of game birds shot declined by 1.9% to 122,000.

Among furred game, 395,000 head hoofed game (-4.3%) and 219,000 head other haired game (-0.5%) were shot. Within hoofed game, 285,000 head roe deer (-0.3%), 55,000 head red deer (-10.7%) and 30,500 wild boars (-24.2%) were hunted down, as well as 102,000 hares (+8.1%) and 61,400 foxes (-9.4%) within other haired game.

In game birds, more pheasants were shot (59,700 head; +17.5%), but fewer wild ducks (39,200 head; -22.9%) and wild pigeons (14,300 head; -4.2%).

Game casualties increased

Game may suffer losses due to road traffic, unfavourable weather conditions or diseases. For the hunting year 2018/2019, 133,000 of such losses were reported in total (+6.1% compared to 2017/2018). Road traffic alone caused the deaths of 75,500 wild animals, thereof 40,900 head roe deer (+0.0%), 19,700 hares (+4.3%) and 6,300 pheasants (+15.3%).

Slightly more annual hunting permits

With a total of 132,000, the number of valid annual permits for game hunting slightly increased (+1.6%). Furthermore, 12,500 guest hunting permits (+12.8%) were released.

For more detailed results and further information concerning statistics of hunting please refer to our website.

Information on methods, definitions: Hunting in Austria is regulated by legislation at federal province level, defining the “hunting year”, which varies from region to region. In Carinthia, Lower Austria, Salzburg and Vienna it corresponds to the calendar year, while the hunting year in Burgenland lasts from 1 February to 31 January and in the remaining four federal provinces from 1 April to 31 March.

Hoofed game shot (except wild boars) is negotiated and defined territory-related between the district authorities concerned, hunting provision or hunting holder as well as a body representing the interests of the hunters. This is issued by the ordinance of the federal provinces. For all other game species, a hunting plan is generated; however, it is not under any legal regulation. Furthermore, hunting seasons and closed seasons are prescribed.

Tasks and goals of the game law focus in particular on game keeping, the hunting and biotope protection as well as sustainable utilisation of wildlife, all in all on an improvement of the quality of life respectively the living conditions of diverse wildlife species. Additionally, stocks regarded as excessive – in view of agricultural and forestry interests – are reduced by hunting.
### Number of shots and game casualties in Austria, hunting year 2018/2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hunting year</th>
<th>Shots</th>
<th>Game casualties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in total</td>
<td>thereof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>furred game</td>
<td>game birds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/2019</td>
<td>736 394</td>
<td>614 050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/2018</td>
<td>757 840</td>
<td>633 095</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Hunting Statistics.

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