



**Gledpark:
Breeding
Big
Galloway
Reds**

Countering assumptions

- I haven't always wanted to farm deer – but I always wanted to ‘retire’ to farm
- According to the SF 24 Oct, 1 of 640 ‘eligible’ new entrants

Why Deer at Gledpark

- My view of Scottish Agriculture's future: Premium products not Commodities
- I like Deer - stalker BDS member since 1999
- Nicoles Otley Ag project
- It's the perfect habitat..... (LFA SD)



The Haylage Field

Venison demand in UK

- Wild cull static – declining for Red?
- Imports of Venison from NZ up 42% in 2011
- Highland Game having to import from Europe
- Political commitment - The Deer Farm Demonstration Project



The current situation in Scotland

- @80 registered keepers of Deer in Scotland
- Aberdeenshire centre of mass.
- Year 1 of The Deer Farm Demonstration Project saw @65 regular participants
- 2014 Waitrose price for producer group £5.31 plus 2p wk animals under 27 months
- Scotlands first 'Deer Abattoir' opened in Fife
- 3 of us in D&G..... Barony has given up its Deer



The frictions

- borrowing money for an activity that you have no track record in
- setting up
- the lengthy period before a return
- learning my trade
- park or farmed – my view



Making it work in the meantime



PLUS

- Honey
- Stones!





Setting up

- Finding your Deer
- you only need the essentials – stock proof fence, stock
- when to DIY and when to GSI – the right advice will save a fortune
- The most poorly performing businesses over invest in machinery / work cooperatively
- ‘Its about the stock stupid’





Timeline and costs to establish a park system – Gledpark

- Nov 2012 • BDS Deer Managers Qual (£400)
- Jan 2013 • SNH, NFUS, BDFPA membership
Firearms licence(@£300)
- Jan 2013 • Remortgage (£1895)
- Feb
onwards
April • Fenceline prep (.....)
• Fencing of 2 paddocks, race and catch
pen@40ac (£24000)
- May 2013 • 25 Hinds 1 Stag (£12275) (tpt.....)



Learning the trade

- Deciding what and what not to do



With deer you don't need to overfarm



But decide what you want to achieve







Certificate of Conformity

Certificate Number: 001/01/1214

This is to certify that:

Rupert H S Shaw MBE MA
Gledpark
Borgue
Kirkeudbrightshire
DG6 4SS

has satisfied the requirements of the
British Deer Farms and Parks Association
Park Venison Scheme
Level 1

Compliance is monitored through initial and continuing assessment

Tim Bailey
Chief Executive

Date: 09 December 2014



Questions?

