

Professor and Extension Wildlife Specialist

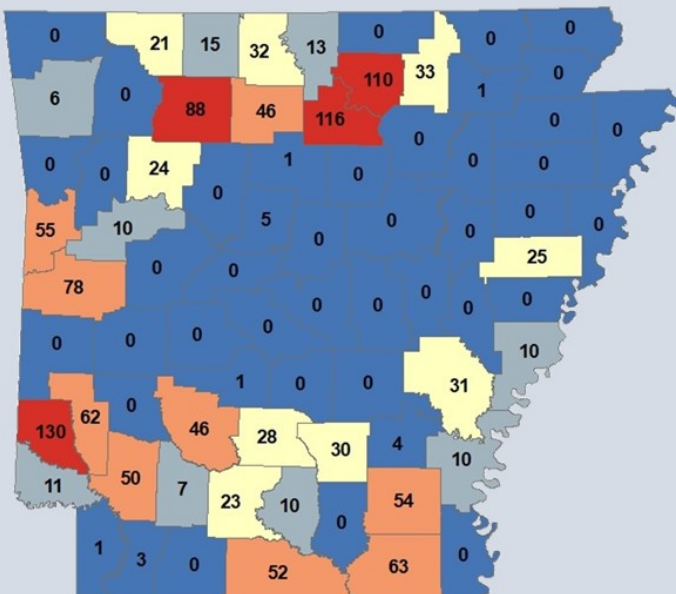
Feral hogs are a non-native, invasive species that present a significant risk to human and livestock health, agriculture, and natural resources. The Arkansas Feral Hog Eradication Task Force is a group of government and non-government agencies dedicated to assisting landowners with reducing damages from feral hogs. UADA is a member of the task force. Since January 2021, feral hog removals have been reported periodically. The maps below show the number of reported removals in June.

County agents can assist landowners with removing feral hogs in several ways.

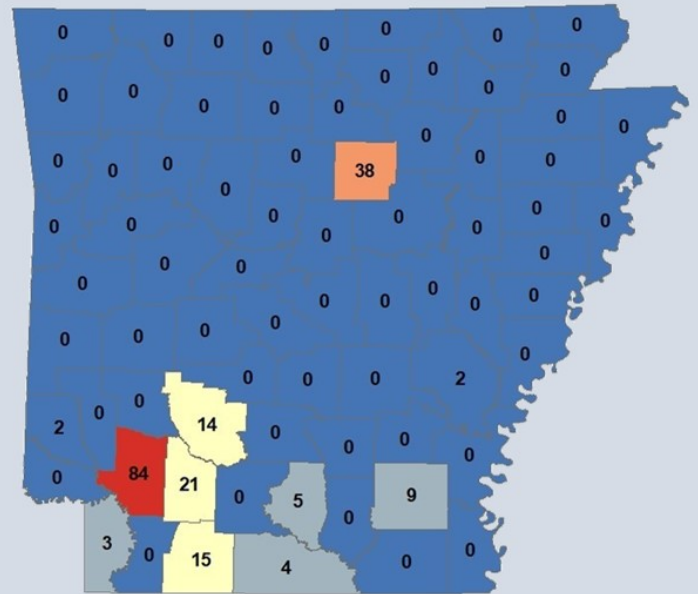
- If a landowner asks a county office for assistance with “getting rid” of feral hogs, refer them to USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, **501-835-2318**. Either a trapper from Wildlife Services, the Conservation District, or another of the task force partners will contact the landowner.
- If a landowner wants to learn how to remove feral hogs from their property, consider setting up a trap demonstration. County Extension agents who serve as trap coordinators have access to cellular trapping systems throughout the state and can assist with setting up a field demonstration in your county. We request that landowners pay a small \$25/week fee to help offset cellular expenses.
- Direct landowners to the **Feral Hog Survey 123 app** to report sightings and/or removals. (These removals appear on the maps as shown below.) Landowners have the option to report exact coordinates or the county in general where feral hogs are seen and/or removed. The app is available at the [Arkansas Department of Agriculture website](#). If landowners have difficulty reporting, ask to do this on their behalf. Enter their information by selecting the landowner report and indicate your name and county Extension office as the reporter in the comments.

Feral Hog Removals – June 2021

Arkansas Feral Hog Eradication Task
Force = 1305



Public Reports = 197



- Hold a feral hog workshop in your county. We have conducted many of these in previous years. A template with speaker contacts is available. We can also discuss resources for covering some expenses.
- Set up an exhibit at a local event, like your county fair. Extension publications are available for distribution, and a limited number of display items are available for loan.
- The Arkansas Feral Hog Handbook is a task force publication of which UADA is a member. Distribute copies in your community such as at the feed store, farm credit office, coffee shop, or other locations where landowners frequent. These were mailed to county offices earlier this year. Ask me for more copies.

Recently, UADA acquired drones for assessing feral hog damages, surveillance, and population analysis in locations where funding was received for feral swine pilot project areas. These pilot project areas are Ozark (Marian, Baxter, Izard), Southeast (Drew, Ashley, Arkansas), Southwest (Sevier, Howard, and Hempstead), and West River Valley (Sebastian, Logan, Yell). Let me know if you have landowners who may be interested in allowing drone flights on their property.



Lastly, if you happen to get questions especially in these pilot project areas about telephone or mail surveys from the University, please verify we are conducting these to “measure the success” of the pilot project.

We are in the early planning stages for a feral hog in-service training and update this fall or winter. If you have ideas or suggestions, contact me.

Please report your efforts in AIMS under Agriculture and Natural Resources, Goal #5: Natural Resources and the Environment, and Objective #2: Wildlife.

Contact Becky McPeake, 501-671-2285, RMcPeake@uada.edu, for resources, names of county agent trap coordinators, copies of publications, display items, and any other county support for feral hog education. I’m available to help with your county’s feral hog educational, or more broadly, wildlife educational needs. Give me a call (501-671-2285) and let’s talk about feral hogs in your county!