

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE TO GUN DOGS P.67

OUTDOOR LIFE

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THE RUT IS ON!

BAD TO THE BONE
Bucks battle for dominance in Iowa farm country.

HOW TO

BEAT SWIRLING WINDS

FOOL NOCTURNAL DEER

LURE A CRUISING GIANT

DECODE DEER SIGN

STILL-HUNT HEAVY COVER

BLEAT IN A BUCK

PLUS... MOON PHASE SECRETS REVEALED

ALSO INSIDE: 4 LAST-CHANCE ELK TACTICS + A GREAT BUDGET DEER RIFLE + STORM-FRONT DUCK SPREADS

TEN WORDS THAT WILL GET YOU BANNED FROM DEER CAMP P.9

NOVEMBER 2011 \$3.99 U.S.





1
DRIFT HD

Resolution: 1080p; weight: 4.2 oz.
\$329; driftinnovation.com

Ready to use out of the box, the Drift has a low-light setting, an electronic zoom and a full-color viewing screen. It has an external mic input and comes with a sealed weatherproof case. Mounting options are somewhat lacking, but the sound is good and the lens can be rotated 170 degrees. A remote control minimizes deer-spooking hand movement.

REPORT CARD: Overall: ★★★★★
Output Quality: **A** // Ease of Use: **A+** // Design & Durability: **A-** // Mountability: **B+** // Price/Value: **A**

2
V.I.O. POV HD

Res.: 1080p/720p; weight: 18.1 oz.
\$600; vio-pov.com

Striking imagery and a super-tough case system make this lipstick-style camera a likely choice of hunters who favor high-end optics. It's hefty in both weight and price, but it performs well in low light and sports an excellent viewfinder on its robust recording unit. Other goodies include exposure control and white balance, plus it comes with a remote.

REPORT CARD: Overall: ★★★★★
Output Quality: **A+** // Ease of Use: **A-** // Design & Durability: **A+** // Mountability: **B-** // Price/Value: **B+**

3
CONTOUR GPS

Res.: 1080p/720p; weight: 5.2 oz.
\$300; contour.com

This rugged cam is a favorite of guys who jump out of planes, so a trip to the woods is no big deal. The Contour is a no-brainer to use, and it's the only cam we tested that could be easily used by gloved hands. It lacks a viewing screen, but the exterior is made of machined aluminum. GPS data interfaces with Google Maps to enhance storytelling back at camp.

REPORT CARD: Overall: ★★★★★
Output Quality: **A-** // Ease of Use: **A** // Design & Durability: **A** // Mountability: **B+** // Price/Value: **A-**

4
EPIC HD 1080

Res.: 1080p/720p; weight: 4.1 oz.
\$280; epicstealthcam.com

The Epic HD is a tidy package that features a 4X digital zoom and a 120-degree view angle. It comes with a 16GB card, can be mounted in any position and can be set to capture stills with a 1-9 adjustable burst mode. A low-battery alarm could bugger a deer in bow range, so be sure to keep the unit charged—or at least be mindful of the battery life.

REPORT CARD: Overall: ★★★★★
Output Quality: **B+** // Ease of Use: **A-** // Design & Durability: **A-** // Mountability: **B+** // Price/Value: **A-**

5
VANTAGE AC5XC

Res.: 720i; weight: 8 oz.
\$170; wildgameinnovations.com

Tree-stand ready right out of the box, the AC5xc comes with a screw-in tree mount and a slew of other attachments. The imagery and sound quality were not as sharp as that of other cameras, but the infrared option helps in low light. It has a waterproof case and also shoots 5-megapixel stills. An adjustable zoom is one of an impressive variety of features for the price.

REPORT CARD: Overall: ★★★½
Output Quality: **B** // Ease of Use: **B+** // Design & Durability: **C+** // Mountability: **A** // Price/Value: **A+**