

OF THE OUTDOORS:

Butte, Neb., Man Bags Record Turkey

GARY HOWEY
Hartington, Neb.

When Duane Filsinger of Butte, Neb., and his son headed out on their spring turkey hunt last spring, the farthest thing from their mind was taking the highest scoring Merriam ever taken with a firearm that was recorded by the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf).

Well that's just what they did, putting Duane's name at the top of the NWTf list for Merriam turkeys.

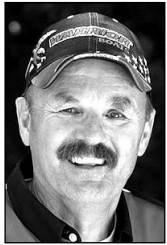
Like most of the state, Northeast Nebraska has as excellent turkey population, with the majority of the birds found in the area being Merriam.

Merriam turkeys are similar in many ways to the other species of turkeys such as the Eastern, Rio Grande and Osceola, which, all can be found in the United States.

Adult Merriam males are easily distinguished from these species, but closely resemble the Gould turkey of Mexico except that they have a blacker appearance with the lower back and tail margins on the Merriam are nearly white.

The Merriam's original territory was Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado, but through stocking programs the birds were stocked out of their original Rocky Mountain terrain.

Because of this successful stocking program, Merriam turkeys are now found



Gary Howey

in 15 western states. Merriams are now found from North Dakota south to Texas, (excluding Kansas) and west to Washington, Oregon, California as well as in four Canadian provinces.

If anyone is looking for Merriam turkeys, Nebraska and South Dakota are a good bet as the top eight birds registered with the NWTf come from these two states.

This is not the first record Merriams ever

taken in Holt County as Michael Kliver took the number three bird, which scored 130.2500, in May of 2005.

In the spring of 2009, the Filsingers were hunting in late May in Holt County and had located a Tom and his hens that looked like might be callable.

As they glassed the bird through their binoculars, it didn't seem to appear much different than other birds they'd seen except that the bird seemed taller than usual.

They set up and tried calling the Tom; unfortunately, he was satisfied with the hens

he had, refusing to wander too far from them.

At one point, the hens moved off and Duane and his son were able to get in between the bird and his harem.

They happened to be set up in the right place and were able to take the Tom as he made its way back towards the hens.

The Filsinger Merriam became the Best Overall bird ever taken with a total score of 144.2050 points, which broke the old 2002 record of 136.0000 set by a North Carolina hunter in Meade, South Dakota.

The bird wasn't all that big, weighing in

at 22.08 pounds, but other factors entered into the equation put the bird well ahead of other birds.

It's six beards totaling 45" and it's spurs that measured 1.5625" and 1.5000 inches gave the bird more than enough points to put it on the top.

For more informa-

tion on the Nation al Wild Turkey Federation you can go to www.nwtf.org

Gary Howey, Hartington, Neb., is the producer/Host of the Award winning Outdoorsmen Adventures television series that can be seen Saturday @ 6:30 am and Sunday @ 7:00 am on Fox KTTM/KTTW-TV Sioux Falls/Huron, SD.

Public Notice

**Annual Meeting of
Mission Hill Township (N).
Tuesday, March 2, 2010 7:00 PM
Vangen Lutheran Church
in Mission Hill, South Dakota**

Agenda to include: Proclamation of Opening of Polls, Election of Officers, Reading and Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes of 2009, Treasurer's Report, Insurance Report, Approvals of Budget, Legal Newspaper, Fire Protection Contract, Township Road System Designation, Salaries, and other Township business that is needed.

Laurie Becvar
Mission Hill Township Clerk

International Brand Trucks Dakota Brand Trailers Various Used Trucks & Trailer

We also carry a complete line of parts, and service all diesel and gas engines.

trucktrailerinc.com

TRUCK TRAILER

East Hwy. 30, Sinton, SD 56565-7952

SALES & SERVICE, INC.

3-DAY FEBRUARY AUCTION FEBRUARY 19, 20 & 21

Farm Advertising, Literature, Signs, Cast Iron Toys, Modern Toys & More!

Located: Wakonda Legion Hall, Wakonda, South Dakota
Friday Feb 19th @ 5:00 p.m.: Large Farm Literature & Brochure Auction. Featuring John Deere, AG, & IH Sales Brochures, Manuals, & More. Nearly all paper in this auction!

Saturday Feb 20th @ 10:00 a.m.: Cast Iron & Farm Toy Auction. 500+ Lots of High Quality Farm Toys. Includes nearly 100 pieces of Arcade, Vindex, & Other Cast Iron. Also 400 Plus Farm Toys of all brands-especially John Deere & Allis-Chalmers!

Sunday Feb 21st @ 10:00 a.m.: Large Advertising, Sign, & Antique Auction. 300+ Lots of Hi-Quality Pieces. Includes large Seed Corn, Dairy, Chicken, & Farm Related Sign Collection, Gas Globes & Signs, Soda Signs, Farm Equipment & Auto Signs, Antique Slot Machines & Gambling Related, Hamm's Beer items, Stoneware, Cast Iron Items & Much More. All very high quality with several mint pieces & rarities!

See www.GirardAuction.com for full listing or call for a free, full color brochure. Live Internet Bidding available through www.Bidspotter.com all three days!

GIRARD
AUCTION & BROKERS, INC.

PO Box 358 • Wakonda, SD 57073 • (605) 267-2421

Girard Auction & Land Brokers, Inc.

(605) 267-2421

www.GirardAuction.com

Toll Free:

1-866-531-6186

Leader Angus Farm 38th Production Bull Sale



Selling 85 Head

55 2-year old bulls

15 yearling bulls

15 bred heifers

**Saturday
February 20, 2010
1:00 p.m.**

Contact:

Leader Angus Farm
Gordon or Mark Leader
1-402-388-4949

Featured Sires:

Leaders Integrity 70	Baldridge Rebounder R315
Leaders Midland 1	Connealy Baron 193
Leaders Negotiator 45	Larkota Bruno 6151
Leaders Network 50	Larkota Desire 613
Leaders Objective	Larkota Final Answer 703
WK Decade 6586	Larkota In Focus 624
WK Midland 3193	Woodhill Mainline

Sale Will Be Held At The Ranch...
2 Miles East of Crofton, NE on Highway 12
or 2 Miles West of the Highway 81 and 12 Intersection

SCHUURMANS FARM SUPPLY



Hustler Zeon All Electric Mower

Unplug and Go!

Up to 90 minutes, no engine noise, compact design, 3 year limited residential warranty. No gas, oil, fluid, filters, plugs, belts, fumes or mess! 42" side discharge deck – **SAVE \$1000s vs. Gas Mowers!**

Introductory Special **\$6,550**



Hustler All-Terrain Z

The ATZ is waiting to mow, "where no Z has gone before"
Works great on slopes, 31 Hp Kawasaki, 72" cutting deck

\$12,900



HUSTLER SPORT

Honda 16 hp V Twin Engine,
2 Bag Bagger – Add \$600
42" Cutting Deck, Auto Park Brakes
\$3,299



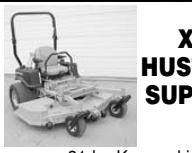
XL HUSTLER FAS TRAK SUPER DUTY

25 hp Kawasaki,
60" Cutting Deck
\$6,450



XL Hustler Fas Trak

21 hp Kawasaki,
54" Cutting Deck
Use this mower on smaller acreages.
Very heavy duty. Low center of gravity. Handles slopes well.
NOW... \$5,399



XL HUSTLER SUPER Z

31 hp Kawasaki,
72" Rear Discharge Deck,
Suspension Seat
\$10,600



XL HUSTLER SUPER Z

PREOWNED 1 YEAR OLD \$8,600
26 hp Kawasaki,
liquid cooled, front suspension,
72" cutting deck



XL HUSTLER SUPER Z

25 hp Shibauba diesel,
72" XR7 cutting deck
Demo \$12,900

WWW.HUSTLER.COM

HUSTLER
TURF EQUIPMENT

5 miles West of Tyndall on Hwy. 50 Corner of Hwys. 50 and 37
www.schuurmansfarmssupply.com
Ph. (605) 589-3909 or Cell (605) 464-1113