

# INSIDE THE NUMBERS

## Boone and Crockett Club's On-line Trophy Database Launched

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What do you get when you combine over 70 years of big-game records keeping with an Internet-driven database? Late nights on the computer... especially if you're into trophy statistics and destination research.

After much anticipating, planning, data entry, and testing, the Club is set to launch the new Trophy Search section of our website on March 15, 2004. Yes, the information superage has caught up to records keeping in a way that will satisfy even the most dedicated researcher of trophy data and statistics.

This new database is the complete collection of all Boone and Crockett trophies in 38 categories from the beginning of recorded trophies to date (1830 - 2003). Data searches

can be queried in a number of different ways depending on the type and amount of information in which you are interested. It is set up by species and you can ask it to search for trophy listings by a specific year or range of years; by state, county or province; or by the hunter/owner's last name if you are looking for one particular trophy. The "Advance Search" option allows you to ask specific questions about a trophy category. For example, you can ask for a listing of typical mule deer with: highest score; greatest or smallest spread; greatest or smallest inside spread; greatest number of specified points (4x4, 5x5, 5x4, etc.); greatest or smallest sum of abnormal points; longest point; greatest or smallest main beam; or greatest circumference.

**Search By Category**

**Search By Hunter**

**Search For State Rank**

**Search By County Or Location**

What will you get when you've selected all your criteria and press "Go?" Let's say you ask for the highest scoring typical American elk, from all locations, taken between 1830 and 2004. Your next screen will list all entries with score, location, hunter, kill date, and All-time rank. The result: 645 trophies. Okay, now what?

For starters, this is a list of all Boone and Crockett typical bulls ranked by score from 1 to 645. Beyond that, there is no clear-cut state or province, or time period that jumps out as a place that you might want to look for a trophy bull next season. But we can narrow the search by selecting the same criteria for the past 20 years. Now we are down to 337 bulls. This means that over half of all recorded typical American elk have been taken in the past 20 years. This search also shows that 21 of the top 50 All-time entries have come from this same time period. Is the hey-day of trophy elk right now? If the last 20 years isn't current enough for you, you can narrow the search to the last 5 years, or 4 years, etc.

From a "where to go" standpoint there is still no clear cut leader, but AZ, NV, NM, WY and UT are starting to shine. Digging deeper, we can ask for the top five elk producing states. This next search reveals that these five western states top the list with a collective total of 232 of the 20-year total of 337. Since Arizona has the most entries (79) we can then ask for the top counties in Arizona, Apache, Coconino, Navajo, and Gila Counties rank as the top four counties in Arizona for record-class, typical bulls for the past 20 years. That should narrow the field on where to look for a record-class bull, at least in this state.

And so it goes. This list of possibilities and uses of the new database are limited only by your time and imagination. Everything you could ever want to know about record-class animals, where they are coming from or have come from, when, how big, and how one area might stack up against another area is all just a few key strokes away.

Destination information isn't the only benefit of this new resource tool. For the serious "scoring" fanatic there are some pretty interesting facts that come to the surface when you have access to the entire Boone and Crockett Records database. For example, what's more important when trying to field judge pronghorn for score; length of horn, length of prong, or mass? What about eight-point whitetails or five-point elk making the book, or the smallest spread for an Alaska-Yukon moose?

The next time someone calls the Club headquarters asking for a list of the all-time highest scoring 4x4 mule deer, not counting eye guards, with main beams less than 26", but with an inside spread over 24" taken from Colorado between 1910 and 1990 we can happily direct them to this new database.

Trophy Search is available as a yearly subscription. For just \$40 a year for Associates (or \$50 a year for everyone else) you can have unlimited access to the Club's trophy database... The possibilities are endless.

**For more information or to sign-up for Trophy Search, visit the Club's website: [www.booneandcrockettclub.com](http://www.booneandcrockettclub.com)**