

Service Offers Stress-Free Leasing Of Hunting Land

If you own land that has wildlife and you aren't using it, leasing it to a group of hunters could net you \$7.50 to \$22.50 per acre annually. And Base Camp Leasing will take care of the paperwork and liability insurance for you.

Steve Meng started the business in August 1999 when he moved to Indiana and couldn't find a place to hunt.

"I figured I wasn't the only one," says Meng, who started Base Camp Leasing out of Fishers, Ind. Since then, he's expanded the business to 24 states including the East Coast and Midwest.

Meng has agents in different areas that inspect property to make sure it meets criteria.

"Cover is the biggest asset," Meng says. "The property needs to have qualities that hold game, such as trees, grass or brush." Generally, 40 acres is the minimum for a lease."

Once the land is approved as a good hunting site – usually for whitetail deer – Meng determines a per acre value from \$10 to \$30. Base Camp Leasing receives

25 percent of the fee.

If someone selects the property, the landowner receives a contract that includes the maximum number of hunters allowed in the party. That party has exclusive right to hunting rights on the property – even the landowner cannot hunt there. The leaseholder is responsible for posting the land with signs provided by Base Camp Leasing.

"Our landowners include a lot of larger farmers who have more property than they can hunt," Meng says. "The biggest reason they come to us is that they are tired of being bugged by hunters. It's easier to say it's leased. We also have a lot of absentee landowners who inherited the property and live out of state."

They like Base Camp Leasing's service because it saves the hassle of the paperwork, includes liability insurance, and the income helps pay taxes. The people who lease are paying a premium price and are most likely to respect the property. The business provides insurance for landowners and hunters with a \$3 million liability certificate. If they choose to, landowners can meet the hunters

before signing a contract.

States vary greatly on the kinds of people who lease the land. In Indiana about half are non-resident. In Kansas, nearly 100 percent are non-resident. In Michigan, all are residents.

"We consistently have 85 to 90 percent of the properties leased at all times," Meng says. "Deer hunting is biggest, and there's quite a bit of waterfowl demand. Turkey hunting is sometimes a bonus."

He recently added Minnesota and Wisconsin, and landowners in any of the states he works in (see map on website) are invited to call him for a free information packet that lays out the process.

The arrangement has worked well for many hunters, including Meng, who now has land to hunt in four states.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Base Camp Leasing, 10412 Allisonville Rd., Suite 107, Fishers, Ind. 46038 (ph 866 309-1507; www.basecampleasing.com).

Reader Inquiry No. 135

ATV-Pulled Chisel Plow

"There's nothing else on the market like it," says Kunz about the company's new ATV-pulled chisel plow.

"It can dig up to 6 in. deep, even in hard ground. It's very aggressive," says Kunz.

The Till-Ease is a 43-in. wide chisel plow/field cultivator designed to be pulled behind any 4-WD ATV or other small towing vehicle. It has a row of 13 1/2-in. dia. coulters on front and five rigid shanks on back arranged in a V-shaped pattern. The shanks slip into a receiver tube and can

be quickly removed by simply removing a pin. The shanks can be equipped with either chisel points or 9-in. wide sweeps. An optional drag harrow for final seedbed preparation pins into receivers on back of the tool's frame.

The implement is raised and lowered by an electric-operated, linear screw actuator.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kunz Engineering, Inc., 2100 Welland Rd., Mendota, Ill. 61342 (ph 815 539-6954; info@kunzeng.com; www.KunzEng.com).



Reader Inquiry No. 136

AcrEase Mowers

"The AcrEase Mowers are available in both rough cut and finish cut styles. So whether you have a neglected pasture, narrow trail, or a yard like a golf course, the AcrEase can meet the challenge. They are also capable of being pulled directly behind or fully offset to the left or right," says Matt Kunz of Kunz Engineering.

The AcrEase Finish Cut models can be attached to the side of riding mowers, zero turn mowers and small tractors to add on additional cutting width and drastically reduce mowing time. The AcrEase can also be pulled individually or in tandem

behind ATVs and utility vehicles. The heavy duty, high capacity 40" and 60" models come with electric start engines ranging from 12.5-23hp. Both commercial and noncommercial grade engines are available. The AcrEase Finish Cut mowers are extremely maneuverable, easy to pull and stable on steep banks. They are also capable of mowing at today's standards in high speed mowing.



www.KunzEng.com ph 815 539-6954

Reader Inquiry No. 137