

SRING TURKEY HARVEST REPORT

April 2019



(Meleagris gallopavo)

Eglin AFB
Natural Resources Section



Wildlife Element

The data contained within this report represents the turkeys harvested and checked out through the Jackson or Brier Creek game check stations. These two MU's represents 32.62% of the available acreage available to turkey hunting on the Eglin reservation.

Eglin set aside 39 days (9 – 10 March and 16 March – 21 April) for the wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) harvest on the Eglin reservation. During Eglin spring turkey season's 53 turkeys were harvested and checked through the Jackson or Brier Creek game check stations.

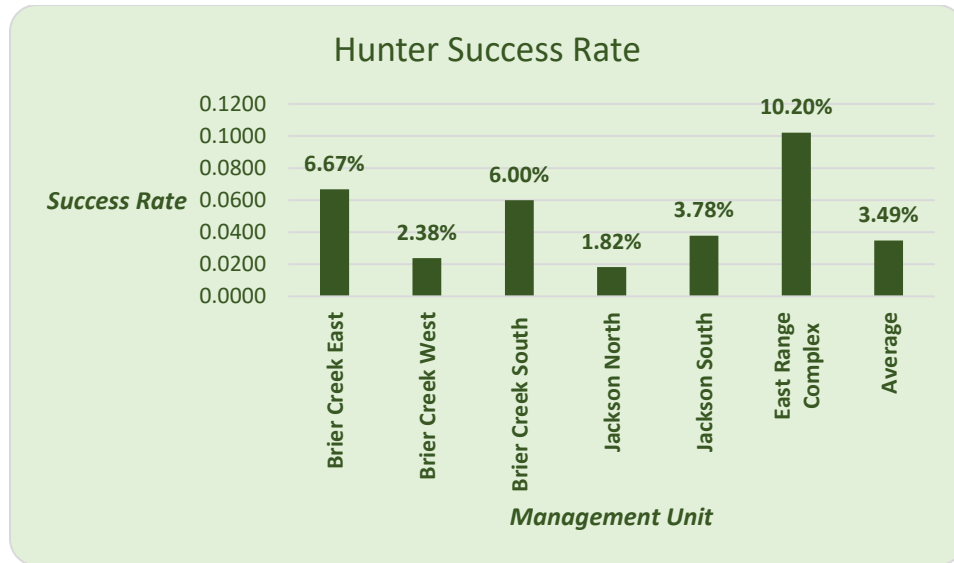
2019 Eglin Turkey Season's Dates

Youth Spring Turkey Season's	9 – 10 March
Spring Turkey Season's	16 March – 21 April
Special Opportunity Hunts	30 – 31 April
	13 - 14 April

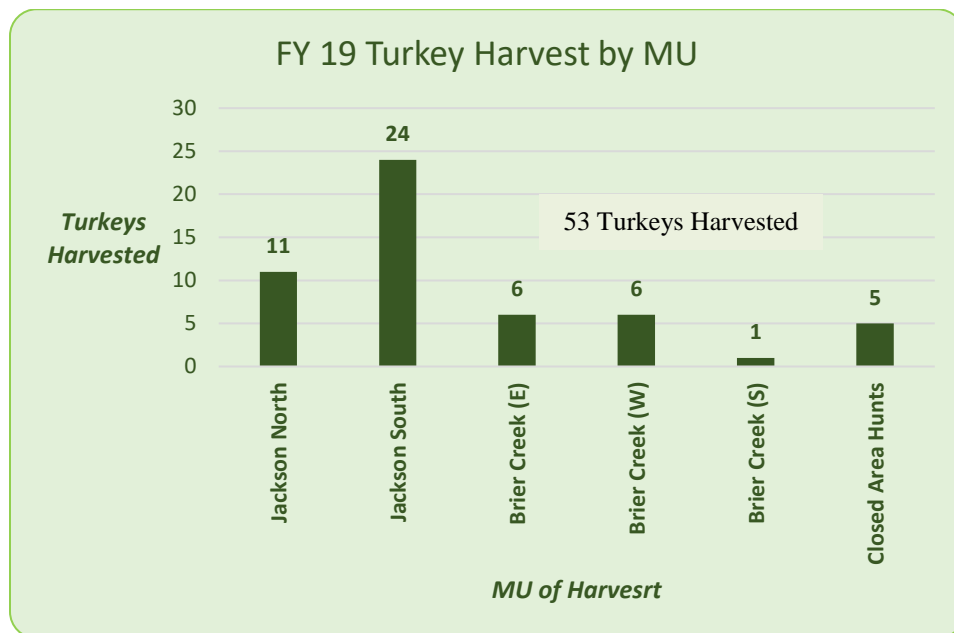
2019 Harvest Records

- The top management unit was Jackson South with a harvest of 24 turkeys.
- The largest turkey harvested weighed 20.1 lbs. Taken from the Brier Creek West MU.
- The longest beard length was 12.75 inches. Taken from the Brier Creek West MU.
- The longest right spur length was 1.25 inches. Taken from the Jackson North MU
- The longest left spur length was 1.5 inches. Three were taken from the Jackson South MU and one from the Brier Creek East MU
- 8 Eglin hunters were able to harvest their two bird limit during the Eglin turkey seasons.

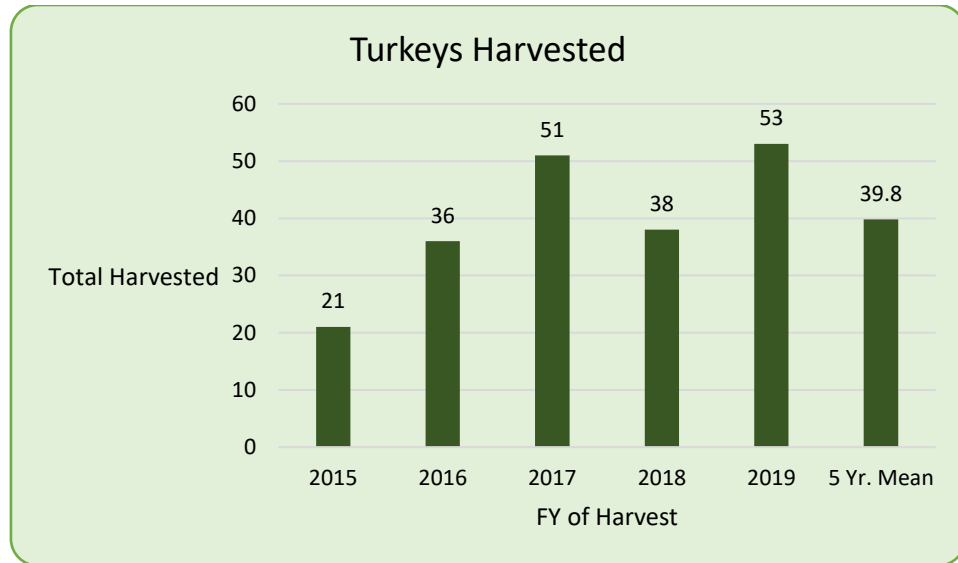
	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>5 Year Mean.</i>
Total Turkeys Harvested	<i>21</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>36.5</i>
Mean Weight (lbs.)	<i>11.43</i>	<i>16.38</i>	<i>16.35</i>	<i>16.54</i>	<i>16.62</i>	<i>15.464</i>
Mean Beard Length (in.)	<i>8.03</i>	<i>8.10</i>	<i>9.29</i>	<i>9.32</i>	<i>9.76</i>	<i>8.9</i>
Mean Right Spur Length (in.)	<i>0.97</i>	<i>0.87</i>	<i>0.89</i>	<i>0.86</i>	<i>1.0</i>	<i>0.918</i>
Mean Left Spur Length (in.)	<i>1.0</i>	<i>0.85</i>	<i>0.89</i>	<i>0.90</i>	<i>0.99</i>	<i>0.926</i>



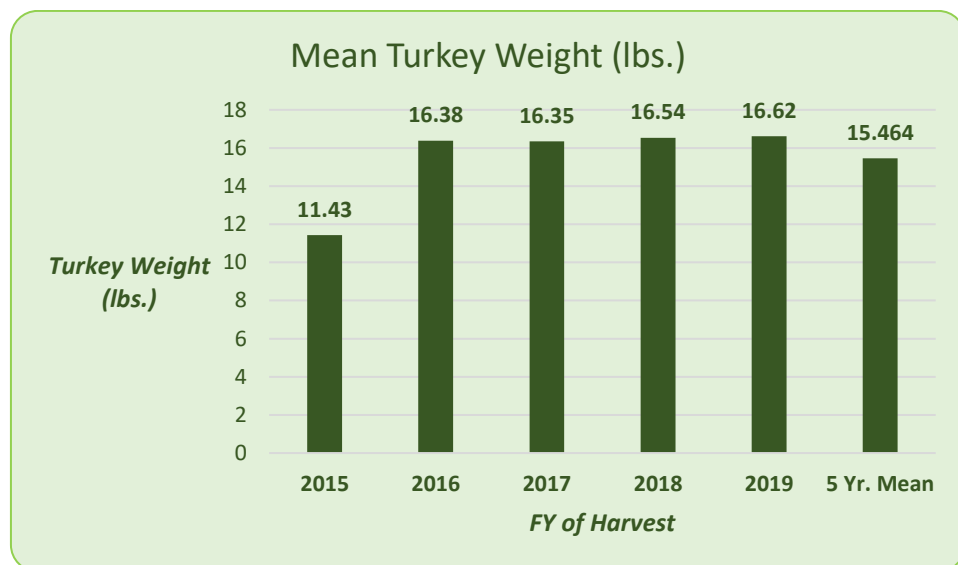
- This season's saw 1520 turkey hunters check into the Brier Creek and Jackson Check stations. The 53 turkeys harvested made a mean success rate of 0.0349 turkeys harvested per hunter. The hunter success rate was highest in the East Range Complex (Closed Area) with a success rate of 0.1020 turkeys per hunter. Brier Creek East MU had the highest hunter success rate of the open hunting areas with 0.0667 turkeys harvested per hunter.



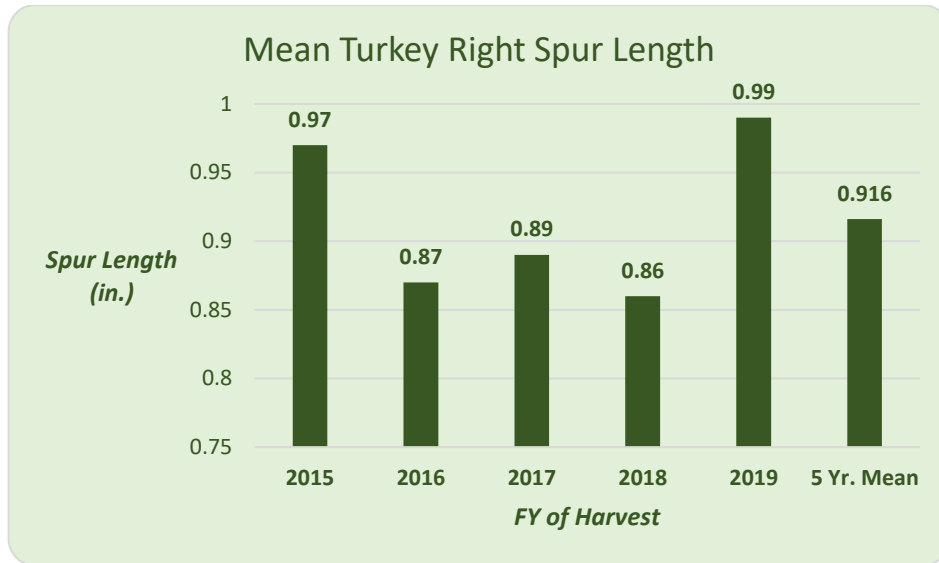
- This season's turkey harvest was the best in recent years. This year's harvest exceeded last year's harvest in every category and exceeded every category in the 5 year average.



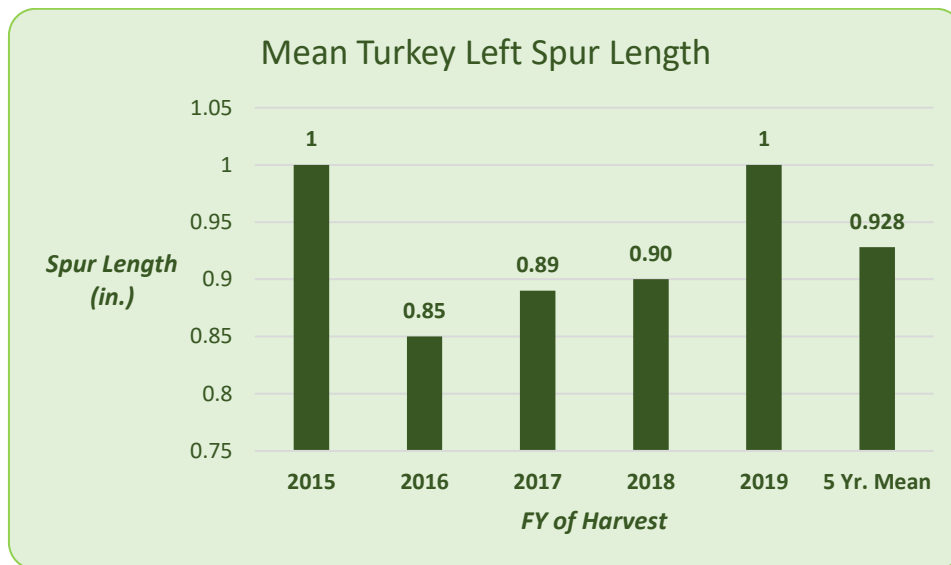
- This season's harvest of 53 turkeys (52 adult and 1 sub-adult) represents a 39.47% increase from last season's harvest total of 38 turkeys and is 33.17% increase over the 5 year mean of 39.8.



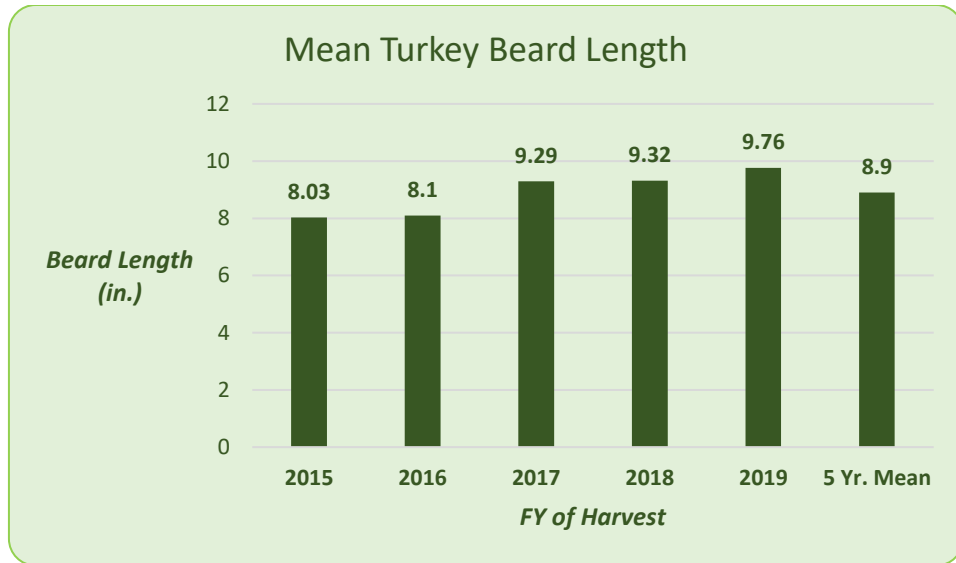
- This season's average weight of 16.62 represents a 0.48% increase from last season's average weight of 16.54 lbs. and is 7.48% increase over the 5 year mean of 15.464 lbs.



- This season’s average right spur length 0.99 inches represents a 15.12 % increase from last season’s right spur length of 0.86 inches and is 8.08% increase over the 5 year mean of 0.916 in.



- This season’s average left spur length of 1.0 inches represents a 11.11% increase from last season’s average spur length of 0.90 inches and is 7.76 increase over the 5 year mean of 0.928 in.



- This season’s average beard length of 9.76 inches represents a 4.72% increase from last season’s average beard length of 9.32 inches and is 9.66% increase over the 5 year mean of 8.9 in.