

HUNTING PREDATORY ANIMALS IN EASTERN OREGON DESCRIBED BY ALBERT PETERSON WHO DID NOT LEARN THE FACTS FROM BOOKS

(Continued from page 3.)

In a circle near, at the greatest distance three hundred yards, the station in all ways. Two bait stations about 1-4 mile apart make the best poison stations, as coyotes frequently only will always go to the other and baits may be distributed freely between the two. This gives the animal a chance to take poison at the first station and die before leaving the second one.

baiting is a very wise plan, such as distributing blank baits for four or five nights about your station before going to make your large catch. For myself, on one cold night after the station has been properly treated and the dead animal has been taken and the trail usually clean up a territory of coyotes. By such arrangements, I have killed as many as seven coyotes in one night at one station with good poison. Poisoning in this manner, I have found to be very effective. It may be carried on to a much larger scale by soliciting cooperation of the rancher, increasing the number of bait stations for a distance consistent with the help you have, adding to the number of poison baits at each station, and by employing more competent inspectors.

The actual bait stations may be conducted with efficiency in the manner of wild animals. This is the quick way of all ways of coyote extermination, but to be successful at den hunting one must know the nature and habits of the animals to fight. The coyote always den in these mountains on a north hill slope and on a high knoll where water will not drain into the den as the snow melts off the mountain side, and in alkali soil if possible. Dens are also found in heavily timbered areas. A den is never found at a greater distance than one-fourth mile from where water may be had the year around, where the parents may take their young, when old enough, to water and return quickly to the den. The coyote den is generally located near some permanent sheep camp or ranch where they can prey on domestic fowls and animals to supply themselves and young with food. In the sandy districts a den can easily be located by finding the watering place



Why of finding poisoned coyotes is to take note of the canyon hills when they begin feeding upon a carcass. If you see a collection of these hills, try up from some particular place it is of some well to look there as they will not feed on the carcass of a dead animal any time but feed upon a dead one.

Regular poison stations should be at least three miles apart. About five stations along the trap line will keep a hunter busy. I don't think he should use the same station two months in succession because the coyote will soon become shy and make them very difficult to recover. See

spoiled of stock or even on a smaller scale. The station is prepared by using a fresh carcass of a horse. As soon as the animal has left the trail out deep it is into the canyon and most poison baits. The same is done to the baits around the trap line. As soon as the baits are set out, the bait should be used only in high mountain ranges and after the station has left in the fall the winter months. In the spring the hunter must return and use all animals of the canyon, otherwise the hunter may discover the bait.

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are ready to begin digging, or if you see the pneumatic smoker, to smoke them out. If you have well trained men that can be sent into the hole to dig, the sooner it is well to employ them, if you should finish digging out the den and no pups are to be found, do not abandon the place, but look carefully for side holes or pockets leading off from the main hole. In the young it is well to employ which the ones are often hidden. After you have found the pups kill them all but one. Fasten this one securely with a piece of wire near the top of the den. Set three traps where the pup cannot get into them but where the old coyote can. A little farther back set three or four more where you are very apt to catch the old male coyote. By that method you can clean up the whole family and "leave none for seed." Den hunting carried on persistently (Continued on page 5.)

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