



Guide to Hunting in Germany

08f – MOUFLON (*Muffelwild*)



Breeding season (*Brunftzeit*):

Gestation period:

Young are born:

Teeth:

Male:

Female/Females:

Lamb/Lambs:

Herd:

October-December

22 weeks

March-June (one)

32

Widder

Schaf/Schafe

Lamm/ Lämmer

Rudel



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Mouflon are wild sheep. They were introduced into Germany from Sardinia and Corsica, and have transitioned into the hilly, hardwood forest areas of central Germany.

Like red deer, mouflon require a large living area to satisfy their need to roam. Dry, rocky terrain is essential to minimize the deterioration of the hooves. Severe winters, with particularly deep snows, cause heavy losses.

Mouflon are very rare in Germany. Larger populations can be found in the Czech Republic.



A 3 to 4 year old *Widder*

Mature mouflon rams (*Widder*) average about 100 pounds in weight, 45 inches in length, and 28 inches in shoulder height. They have a short, stubby tail that is about four inches long. Females (*Schafe*) are somewhat smaller in size, and females don't grow horns.

The ram's horns (*Schnecken*) are massive and wrinkled. These horns are conspicuous and sweep in graceful curve to the back and side of the head. Mouflon rams don't shed their horns annually, they keep them for life.

Mouflon are very similar to big horn sheep of western North America.



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2 mature *Widder* and 2 *Schafe*

In summer, the coat of Mouflon is mainly reddish-brown.



Mouflon *Rudel*, grazing during July
Note the most prominent *Sattelfleck* on the oldest *Widder*



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A mouflon's head is normally gray, and the nose, legs, belly, and sides of the tail are white.

The ram usually has two light spots on its back, known as the "*Sattelfleck*".

In winter, the mouflon's coat is dark brown, and the throat, head, breast, and outside of the legs is almost black.

Mouflon ewes and lambs (*Lämmer*) remain together in a herd (*Rudel*) led by an old ewe.

Older rams normally travel alone and away from the herd or may band together in small groups, except during the mating period (*Brunftzeit*).



Mature *Widder*, in winter color