Mississippi Trapper Harvest Estimates for the 1976-77 to 2011-12 Trapping Seasons

Prepared for the

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By

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INTRODUCTION

Trapper harvest mail surveys in Mississippi have been conducted since the 1976-77 season. These surveys provide estimates for monitoring changes in trapper harvest to determine trends over time. It should be noted that changes in such factors as harvest regulations and habitat conditions, as well as changes in furbearer population levels may be reflected in and monitored by changes in trapper harvest estimates.

Mail surveys to obtain wildlife harvest data result in parameter estimates which contain sampling, response, and non-response biases. As a result of these biases, the degrees of accuracy of the estimates are unknown. Filion (1980) reviewed these biases and their effect on estimates. Although parameter estimates obtained from mail surveys may not be totally accurate, they provide good estimates for trend determinations if sources of bias remain constant. At the present time these mail surveys are the best, most economically practical method available. As Wright (1978) has indicated, until the wildlife profession can develop more accurate methods of estimating population numbers, measures of absolute harvest are relatively meaningless and harvest estimates should be adequate.

The objective of the trapper survey is to provide a statistically reliable set of statewide harvest estimates for furbearer species in Mississippi. No effort was made to interpret the data presented here. The purpose of this publication is to compile existing information for future reference.

METHODS

The methods used for identifying trappers in Mississippi have varied over the years due to changes in laws relating to trapping and changes in personnel assigned to the

duty. Hamrick et. al. (1986) described the different survey methods used from the 1976-77 season through the 1982-83 season. Beginning with the 1980-81 season the Mississippi trapper license was modified to provide an extra copy of the trappers name, address, and trapper identification number. This copy was in the form of a prepaid postcard addressed to the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP). After the license was issued this extra copy was filled out by the trapper and mailed to the MDWFP. This provided the MDWFP furbearer biologist an annual list of virtually all licensed trappers. Once license files became computerized, identification of licensed trappers became simplified through the use of codes used to identify various license types in the MDWFP license file. The list of licensed trappers is currently generated from the license files after the close of the trapping season (end of February). Estimates presented for the 2000-01 and subsequent seasons are based upon final trapping license sales figures as of the close of the trapping season, i.e., end of February. All other years are based upon the end of June license sales. Because not all trappers returned the aforementioned report cards prior to that season, trapping license sales from previous seasons were available at the end of June and represented approximately 95% (with very minor variation) of the yearly total.

For the 2011-12 Mississippi Trapper Harvest Survey, each licensed trapper (n=504) was sent a self-administered questionnaire (Appendix A) in March 2012. The survey was mailed with a personalized letter from Mississippi State University (MSU) researchers and provided them with harvest results from the previous survey. Three questionnaire mailings were made as state law requires that trappers must complete the survey. Out of the trappers sent a survey, 383 returned useable data. After taking into

account non-deliverables (n=10) an effective response rate of 77.9% was achieved. Data were edited for legibility, key punched into a Microsoft Access database, and analyzed using Version 9.1 of the Statistical Analysis Software (SAS).

RESULTS

The expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers for each trapping season since the 1976-77 trapping season are presented in Tables 1-36. The precision of all estimates is shown as standard errors in the tables (if available). Figures 1-14 present trend graphs for the aforementioned estimates over the entire reporting period.

When interpreting trends in harvest and trapper effort several elements need to be considered. These are similar to those listed by Steffen (1983) for interpretation of hunter survey data in Mississippi. Elements to consider are:

1. Changes in population numbers.
2. Habitat changes.
3. Correlations between the harvest and effort parameters.
4. Seasonal weather conditions (e.g. heavy rainfall and freezing weather negatively affect trapping operations).
5. Changes in regulations and laws.
6. Changes in trapper access (e.g. a 1978 law required landowner permission to trap).
7. The shifting of trapper emphasis among species (influenced by pelt prices and demand).
8. Economic changes:
   a) Gasoline costs
   b) License costs
   c) Leisure time available

d) Unemployment
e) Overall fur prices

9. Immigration of new inexperienced trappers into the trapping population

10. Emigration of experienced trappers from the trapping population.

11. Harvest and effort incidental to trapping for other species (e.g. land sets for fox may take raccoon, bobcat or coyote maybe taken in beaver sets).

Bobcat, red and gray fox, raccoon, opossum, and coyote are also taken by hunting. Hunting harvest estimates often exceed trapping harvest estimates and should be considered when evaluating trends for these species.

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Table 1. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1976-77 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers[a]	SE
Mink	22,105	1,566	7.67	0.54	11.80	0.78	403	65.0	1.7
Raccoon	61,528	3,247	21.36	1.13	25.61	1.29	517	83.4	1.3
Muskrat	41,473	3,686	14.40	1.28	31.21	2.50	286	46.1	1.8
Red Fox	6,301	506	2.19	0.18	4.97	0.35	273	44.0	1.8
Gray Fox	6,454	1,135	2.24	0.39	19.56	2.86	71	11.5	1.1
Bobcat	4,517	429	1.57	0.15	4.54	0.37	214	34.5	1.7
Opossum	49,098	2,986	17.04	1.04	24.63	1.38	429	69.2	1.6
Otter	1,482	233	0.51	0.08	4.31	0.54	74	11.9	1.2
Spotted Skunk	1,915	305	0.66	0.11	5.64	0.72	73	11.8	1.1
Striped Skunk	2,537	321	0.88	0.11	5.15	0.51	106	17.1	1.3
Coyote	469	91	0.16	0.03	2.53	0.35	40	6.5	0.9
Weasel	274	127	0.10	0.04	2.81	1.21	21	3.4	0.6
Nutria	4,308	1,105	1.50	0.38	13.06	3.11	71	11.5	1.1
Beaver	19,326	2,087	6.71	0.72	16.00	1.59	260	41.9	1.8

[a] n = 620

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 2. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1977-78 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	15,791	1,730	6.68	0.73	10.80	1.12	281	61.9	2.1
Raccoon	52,780	3,557	22.29	1.47	24.44	1.57	415	91.4	1.2
Muskrat	29,772	4,229	12.60	1.78	28.19	3.76	203	44.7	2.1
Red Fox	4,090	429	1.73	0.18	4.18	0.38	188	41.4	2.1
Gray Fox	13,616	1,667	5.75	0.70	9.66	1.12	271	59.7	2.1
Bobcat	3,273	408	1.39	0.17	4.13	0.45	152	33.5	2.0
Opossum	36,972	2,379	15.60	0.98	20.42	1.18	348	76.7	1.8
Otter	973	177	0.41	0.07	3.07	0.45	61	13.4	1.4
Spotted Skunk	1,212	206	0.51	0.09	4.09	0.53	57	12.6	1.4
Striped Skunk	1,753	265	0.74	0.11	4.43	0.52	76	16.7	1.6
Coyote	395	112	0.17	0.05	2.62	0.62	29	6.4	1.0
Weasel	68	19	0.03	0.01	1.18	0.11	11	2.4	0.6
Nutria	5,692	2,369	2.41	1.00	24.31	9.73	45	9.9	1.3
Beaver	15,984	1,901	6.76	0.80	14.63	1.59	210	46.3	2.1

[a] n = 527
[b] n = 454
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 3. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1978-79 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper[b]	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	12,879	566	4.97	0.22	7.99	0.32	683	62.4	1.1
Raccoon	59,200	1,808	22.90	0.70	24.67	0.74	1,017	92.9	0.6
Muskrat	20,354	1,325	7.83	0.51	18.01	1.07	479	43.7	1.1
Red Fox	4,667	264	1.81	0.10	3.86	0.20	512	46.8	1.1
Gray Fox	13,051	596	5.05	0.23	8.11	0.34	682	62.3	1.1
Bobcat	3,263	194	1.26	0.07	3.51	0.18	394	36.0	1.1
Opossum	52,310	1,608	20.24	0.62	23.43	0.69	946	86.4	0.8
Otter	1,045	86	0.39	0.03	2.72	0.17	163	14.9	0.8
Spotted Skunk	1,841	152	0.71	0.06	4.00	0.27	195	17.8	0.9
Striped Skunk	3,610	235	1.40	0.09	5.48	0.29	279	25.5	1.0
Coyote	779	102	0.27	0.04	2.77	0.32	119	10.9	0.7
Weasel	94	22	0.04	0.01	1.67	0.31	24	2.2	0.3
Nutria	3,164	485	1.22	0.19	12.19	1.68	110	10.0	0.6
Beaver	17,192	1,038	6.64	0.40	13.85	0.77	526	48.0	1.1

[a] n = 1,104
[b] n = 1,095
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 4. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per license holder, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful license holders by furbearer species for the 1979-80 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per License Holder[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers[a]	SE
Mink	20,259	1,310	5.49	0.35	8.87	0.55	738	61.9	1.0
Raccoon	72,053	2,141	19.52	0.58	20.94	0.61	1,112	93.2	0.6
Muskrat	38,899	3,050	10.54	0.83	24.75	1.82	508	42.6	1.2
Red Fox	4,415	380	1.20	0.10	3.53	0.28	404	33.9	1.1
Gray Fox	12,475	615	3.40	0.17	6.26	0.28	644	54.0	1.2
Bobcat	3,066	183	0.83	0.05	2.84	0.13	349	29.3	1.1
Opossum	58,088	1,875	15.74	0.51	18.72	0.57	1,003	84.1	0.9
Otter	1,532	145	0.41	0.04	2.80	0.21	177	14.8	0.8
Spotted Skunk	1,581	205	0.43	0.06	3.81	0.43	134	11.2	0.8
Striped Skunk	2,729	236	0.74	0.06	4.26	0.29	207	17.4	0.9
Coyote	1,151	148	0.31	0.04	2.60	0.29	143	12.0	0.8
Weasel	111	35	0.03	0.01	2.00	0.50	18	1.5	0.3
Nutria	7,821	1,513	2.12	0.41	19.30	3.51	131	11.0	0.7
Beaver	19,352	1,104	5.24	0.30	11.25	0.57	556	46.6	1.2

[a] n = 1,193

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 5. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1980-81 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	16,754	771	5.60	0.26	8.66	0.38	897	65.8	0.9
Raccoon	49,594	1,182	16.67	0.39	18.26	0.41	1,259	92.4	0.5
Muskrat	30,185	1,728	10.23	0.59	21.11	1.12	663	48.6	1.0
Red Fox	2,487	146	0.84	0.05	2.83	0.14	408	29.9	0.9
Gray Fox	7,965	320	2.70	0.11	5.51	0.19	670	49.2	0.9
Bobcat	2,230	129	0.76	0.04	2.85	0.13	363	26.6	0.9
Opossum	27,235	848	9.19	0.28	13.08	0.37	965	70.8	0.9
Otter	1,044	80	0.35	0.03	2.56	0.15	189	13.9	0.7
Spotted Skunk	1,048	107	0.36	0.04	3.74	0.31	130	9.5	0.6
Striped Skunk	2,869	387	0.97	0.13	5.81	0.74	229	16.8	0.7
Coyote	947	70	0.32	0.02	2.35	0.13	187	13.7	0.7
Weasel	22	5	0.01	<0.01	1.00	0.00	10	0.7	0.2
Nutria	4,765	693	1.62	0.24	12.84	1.75	172	12.6	0.7
Beaver	18,162	926	6.15	0.31	12.33	0.58	683	50.01	1.0

[a] n = 1,452
[b] n = 1,363
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 6. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1981-82 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	15,064	859	5.21	0.30	7.90	0.43	774	66.6	1.1
Raccoon	46,320	1,258	16.04	0.43	17.42	0.45	1,079	92.8	0.6
Muskrat	27,100	1,533	9.43	0.53	19.95	1.02	551	47.4	1.1
Red Fox	2,026	114	0.70	0.04	2.51	0.11	328	28.2	1.0
Gray Fox	5,936	267	2.06	0.09	4.32	0.16	557	47.9	1.1
Bobcat	1,942	124	0.68	0.04	2.83	0.14	278	23.9	1.0
Opossum	26,186	977	9.08	0.34	13.85	0.46	767	66.0	1.1
Otter	833	68	0.29	0.02	2.32	0.13	146	12.6	0.7
Spotted Skunk	887	130	0.31	0.05	4.24	0.52	85	7.3	0.5
Striped Skunk	2,477	213	0.86	0.07	5.15	0.36	195	16.8	0.8
Coyote	1,104	81	0.38	0.03	2.30	0.12	195	16.8	0.8
Weasel	44	12	0.02	<0.01	1.38	0.24	13	1.1	0.2
Nutria	6,692	1,482	2.33	0.52	16.55	3.56	164	14.1	0.7
Beaver	14,694	893	5.12	0.31	10.53	0.59	566	48.7	1.1

[a] n = 1,228
[b] n = 1,163
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 7. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1982-83 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	9,911	677	4.57	0.31	8.12	0.52	497	56.9	1.3
Raccoon	35,247	1,232	16.28	0.56	17.68	0.59	812	92.9	0.7
Muskrat	16,752	1,216	7.73	0.56	18.85	1.23	362	41.4	1.3
Red Fox	1,640	121	0.76	0.o6	2.66	0.16	251	28.7	1.2
Gray Fox	5,090	288	2.37	0.13	4.67	0.23	444	50.8	1.3
Bobcat	1,270	87	0.58	0.04	2.43	0.12	213	24.4	1.1
Opossum	24,151	1,277	11.22	0.59	17.25	0.84	570	65.2	1.2
Otter	535	54	0.25	0.03	2.20	0.15	99	11.3	0.8
Spotted Skunk	651	127	0.30	0.06	3.63	0.64	73	8.4	0.7
Striped Skunk	1,923	163	0.89	0.08	4.96	0.32	158	18.1	1.0
Coyote	1,073	102	0.50	0.05	2.68	0.21	163	18.6	1.0
Weasel	10	4	<0.01	<0.01	1.00	0.00	4	0.5	0.2
Nutria	2,581	460	1.20	1.20	10.84	1.76	97	11.1	0.8
Beaver	8,236	688	3.79	3.79	9.56	0.73	351	40.2	1.3

[a] n = 979
[b] n = 874
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 8. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1983-84 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	8,776	683	5.61	0.44	9.36	0.69	395	60.1	1.5
Raccoon	27,427	1,041	17.59	1.65	19.53	0.70	592	90.1	0.9
Muskrat	15,749	2,065	10.05	1.32	23.37	2.96	284	43.2	1.5
Red Fox	1,165	94	0.74	0.06	2.65	0.17	185	28.2	1.3
Gray Fox	3,383	219	2.17	0.14	4.80	0.27	297	45.2	1.5
Bobcat	1,276	90	0.82	0.06	2.83	0.15	190	28.9	1.3
Opossum	15,619	734	10.02	0.46	15.98	0.64	412	62.7	1.4
Otter	444	41	0.28	0.03	2.05	0.11	91	13.9	1.0
Spotted Skunk	415	54	0.27	0.03	2.87	0.26	61	9.3	0.9
Striped Skunk	1,597	154	1.02	0.10	4.95	0.38	136	20.7	1.2
Coyote	1,108	101	0.71	0.06	2.99	0.22	156	23.7	1.3
Weasel	10	4	0.01	<0.01	1.00	0	4	0.6	0.2
Nutria	2,081	576	1.33	0.37	10.96	2.92	80	12.2	1.0
Beaver	6,033	592	3.87	0.38	10.34	0.93	246	37.4	1.4

[a] n = 714
[b] n = 657
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 9. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1984-85 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	8,682	572	5.20	0.34	8.51	0.52	419	61.2	1.4
Raccoon	38,696	1,302	23.19	0.77	24.41	0.79	651	95.0	0.6
Muskrat	17,266	2,269	10.34	1.36	25.05	3.17	283	41.3	1.4
Red Fox	1,500	141	0.90	0.08	3.29	0.27	187	27.3	1.3
Gray Fox	3,702	195	2.21	0.12	4.83	0.20	315	46.0	1.5
Bobcat	1,371	87	0.82	0.05	2.71	0.12	208	30.4	1.3
Opossum	15,573	870	9.34	0.52	15.41	0.78	415	60.6	1.4
Otter	648	53	0.39	0.03	2.02	0.11	132	19.3	1.2
Spotted Skunk	244	31	0.13	0.02	2.24	0.17	41	6.0	0.7
Striped Skunk	1,383	154	0.83	0.09	4.85	0.44	117	17.1	1.1
Coyote	1,680	150	1.01	0.09	3.65	0.28	189	27.6	1.3
Weasel	10	4	<0.01	<0.01	1.00	0.00	4	0.6	0.2
Nutria	2,292	459	1.37	0.28	11.76	2.17	80	11.7	0.9
Beaver	9,734	994	5.84	0.59	12.77	1.24	313	45.7	1.5

[a] n = 710
[b] n = 685
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 10. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1985-86 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	7,642	602	6.00	0.47	9.05	0.68	357	66.5	1.5
Raccoon	34,572	1,452	27.11	1.12	28.71	1.16	509	94.8	0.7
Muskrat	10,530	998	80.23	0.78	20.42	1.75	218	40.6	1.6
Red Fox	887	78	0.69	0.06	2.68	0.18	140	26.1	1.4
Gray Fox	2,468	165	1.92	0.13	4.46	0.24	234	43.6	1.6
Bobcat	1,254	92	0.98	0.07	2.85	0.16	186	34.6	1.6
Opossum	11,775	625	9.23	0.49	14.9	0.68	334	62.2	1.6
Otter	733	68	0.58	0.05	2.42	0.17	128	23.8	1.4
Spotted Skunk	263	47	0.20	0.04	3.83	0.44	29	5.4	0.7
Striped Skunk	1,261	144	0.99	0.11	5.03	0.47	106	19.7	1.3
Coyote	1,306	151	1.03	0.12	3.63	0.38	152	28.3	1.5
Weasel	7	3	0.01	<0.01	1.00	0	3	0.6	0.2
Nutria	9,355	5,426	7.35	4.27	54.16	31.28	73	13.6	1.1
Beaver	10,247	924	8.04	0.72	16.28	1.36	266	49.5	1.6

[a] n = 574
[b] n = 537
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 11. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers for furbearer species for the 1986-87 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	8,881	684	5.89	0.46	9.32	0.68	393	64.0	1.5
Raccoon	41,400	1,439	27.50	0.50	28.60	0.60	597	97.2	0.5
Muskrat	12,142	1,207	8.10	0.81	21.31	1.94	235	38.3	1.5
Red Fox	921	67	0.59	0.04	2.33	0.12	163	26.5	1.4
Gray Fox	4,192	247	2.70	0.15	5.29	0.27	327	53.3	1.5
Bobcat	1,945	138	1.29	0.09	3.41	0.20	235	38.3	1.5
Opossum	20,078	1,017	13.42	0.68	20.15	0.91	411	66.9	1.5
Otter	955	76	0.64	0.05	2.64	0.15	149	24.3	1.3
Spotted Skunk	347	63	0.23	0.04	3.76	1.51	38	6.2	0.7
Striped Skunk	1,523	150	1.02	0.10	5.06	0.39	124	20.2	1.2
Coyote	1,804	169	1.21	0.11	4.18	0.34	178	29.0	1.4
Weasel	15	6	0.01	<0.01	1.50	0.38	4	0.7	0.2
Nutria	4,199	810	2.80	0.54	15.46	2.81	112	18.2	1.2
Beaver	15,214	2,711	10.16	1.82	20.18	3.54	311	50.7	1.5

[a] n = 643
[b] n = 614
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 12. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1987-88 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	6,201	689	3.90	0.43	7.46	0.78	246	52.2	1.9
Raccoon	41,898	2,058	26.32	1.26	27.68	1.31	448	95.1	0.8
Muskrat	9,097	1,445	5.72	0.91	19.51	2.87	138	29.3	1.8
Red Fox	1,115	107	0.70	0.07	2.68	0.19	123	26.1	1.7
Gray Fox	5,670	408	3.56	0.25	7.02	0.42	239	50.7	1.9
Bobcat	2,521	225	1.58	0.14	4.60	0.33	162	34.4	1.8
Opossum	16,632	1,164	10.43	0.72	17.15	1.06	287	60.9	1.9
Otter	1,064	106	0.67	0.07	3.09	0.20	102	21.7	1.6
Spotted Skunk	301	73	0.19	0.05	3.56	0.64	25	5.3	0.9
Striped Skunk	1,531	206	0.96	0.13	4.92	0.54	92	19.5	1.5
Coyote	2,707	354	1.68	0.22	5.52	0.65	145	30.8	1.8
Weasel	17	7	0.01	<0.01	1.25	0.21	4	0.8	0.4
Nutria	1,602	269	1.01	0.17	6.77	0.95	70	14.9	1.4
Beaver	12,952	1,623	8.01	1.01	17.5	2.06	219	46.5	1.9

[a] n = 509
[b] n = 471
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 13. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1988-89 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	5,291	511	5.77	0.55	11.50	1.02	212	50.2	1.7
Raccoon	17,901	816	19.55	0.86	20.67	0.89	399	94.5	0.8
Muskrat	6,853	964	7.48	1.05	25.47	3.29	124	29.3	1.6
Red Fox	853	69	0.93	0.07	3.25	0.19	121	28.6	1.6
Gray Fox	3,980	272	4.35	0.29	7.77	0.46	236	55.9	1.8
Bobcat	1,686	122	1.84	0.13	4.32	0.25	180	42.4	1.8
Opossum	7,209	414	7.87	0.44	13.56	0.64	245	58.1	1.8
Otter	532	51	0.58	0.06	2.66	0.18	92	21.8	1.5
Spotted Skunk	243	52	0.19	0.05	4.48	0.73	25	5.9	0.8
Striped Skunk	788	87	0.86	0.09	4.37	0.36	93	19.6	1.4
Coyote	2,941	369	3.21	0.40	7.92	0.93	171	40.5	1.8
Weasel	9	3	0.01	<0.01	1.00	0	4	0.9	0.3
Nutria	1,515	272	1.65	0.30	11.44	1.81	61	14.5	1.3
Beaver	9,753	996	10.65	1.08	19.89	1.91	226	53.6	1.8

[a] n = 482
[b] n = 422
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 14. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1989-90 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	2,106	287	4.11	0.56	9.98	1.20	88	41.7	2.6
Raccoon	7,893	602	15.53	0.60	18.08	1.29	182	86.3	1.8
Muskrat	2,506	482	4.85	0.95	15.83	2.78	66	31.3	2.4
Red Fox	269	43	0.53	0.08	2.38	0.30	47	22.3	2.2
Gray Fox	1,511	147	2.99	0.29	6.84	0.49	101	47.9	2.6
Bobcat	568	68	7.81	0.13	3.29	0.31	72	34.1	2.4
Opossum	3,969	504	1.12	0.99	16.71	1.88	99	46.9	2.6
Otter	425	73	0.84	0.14	4.21	0.57	42	19.9	2.1
Spotted Skunk	79	39	0.16	0.08	4.71	2.01	7	3.3	0.9
Striped Skunk	307	57	0.60	0.11	5.12	0.59	25	11.8	1.7
Coyote	1,535	256	3.03	0.50	8.10	1.23	79	37.4	2.6
Weasel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutria	1,017	259	2.01	0.51	15.14	3.33	28	13.3	1.8
Beaver	8,519	1,610	16.14	3.12	33.48	6.01	107	50.7	2.6

[a] n = 236

[b] - Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 15. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1990-91 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	917	145	3.38	0.53	8.51	1.11	47	40.1	3.4
Raccoon	4,232	411	15.60	1.45	20.97	1.74	88	75.2	3.0
Muskrat	681	153	2.41	0.56	9.58	1.86	31	26.5	3.1
Red Fox	236	47	0.88	0.17	3.81	0.58	27	23.1	2.9
Gray Fox	839	114	3.08	0.41	6.78	0.74	54	46.2	3.5
Bobcat	362	60	1.32	0.22	4.51	0.57	35	29.9	3.2
Opossum	2,008	226	7.21	0.80	13.69	1.20	64	54.7	3.5
Otter	199	38	0.69	0.14	3.22	0.46	27	23.1	2.9
Spotted Skunk	46	23	0.17	0.09	6.67	2.18	3	2.6	1.1
Striped Skunk	131	32	0.49	0.12	4.07	0.65	14	12.0	2.2
Coyote	1,146	222	4.26	0.82	10.20	1.78	49	41.9	3.4
Weasel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutria	378	121	1.41	0.45	9.71	2.68	17	14.5	2.5
Beaver	4,475	872	15.93	3.20	33.66	6.06	58	49.6	3.5

[a] n = 147

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 16. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1991-92 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	1,424	213	5.09	0.75	11.03	1.44	59	46.1	3.3
Raccoon	5,443	505	19.44	1.75	23.70	2.01	105	82.0	2.5
Muskrat	1,256	241	4.48	0.85	15.11	2.47	38	29.7	3.0
Red Fox	199	40	0.71	0.14	3.96	0.59	23	18.0	0.5
Gray Fox	1,092	187	3.90	0.66	9.78	1.48	51	39.8	3.2
Bobcat	360	64	1.29	0.23	4.53	0.65	36	28.1	2.9
Opossum	2,217	270	7.92	0.95	12.28	1.49	71	55.5	3.2
Otter	302	54	1.08	0.19	3.73	0.55	37	28.9	3.0
Spotted Skunk	9	4	0.03	0.01	1.33	0.25	3	2.3	1.0
Striped Skunk	291	64	1.03	0.23	5.54	0.98	24	18.8	2.6
Coyote	1,584	269	5.58	0.95	15.40	2.25	47	36.7	3.2
Weasel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutria	254	66	0.09	0.23	5.04	1.11	23	18.0	2.5
Beaver	5,110	1,319	18.25	4.70	32.44	8.16	72	56.3	3.2

[a] n = 144

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 17. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1992-93 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	1,503	413	5.51	1.51	14.25	3.74	48	38.7	3.2
Raccoon	5,763	622	21.15	2.23	28.51	2.79	92	74.2	2.9
Muskrat	1,439	298	5.28	1.09	15.98	2.94	41	33.1	3.1
Red Fox	167	31	0.61	0.11	3.62	0.40	21	16.9	2.5
Gray Fox	1,050	179	3.85	0.65	9.02	1.36	53	42.7	3.3
Bobcat	483	73	1.77	0.27	5.24	0.19	42	33.9	3.2
Opossum	2,366	309	8.69	1.12	15.61	1.79	69	55.6	3.3
Otter	349	58	1.28	0.21	4.68	0.58	34	27.4	3.0
Spotted Skunk	26	8	0.09	0.03	1.50	0.28	8	6.5	1.6
Striped Skunk	426	81	1.56	0.29	6.47	0.96	30	24.2	2.9
Coyote	1,224	219	4.49	0.80	12.38	1.92	45	36.3	3.2
Weasel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutria	694	141	2.54	0.51	9.58	1.63	33	26.6	2.9
Beaver	6,203	1,264	22.77	4.61	41.51	8.05	68	54.8	N/A

[a] n = 142

[b] - Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 18. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1993-94 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	685	321	3.32	1.56	13.00	5.93	23	25.6	3.5
Raccoon	4,887	472	23.71	2.21	30.06	2.52	71	78.9	3.2
Muskrat	725	235	3.52	1.14	13.78	4.11	23	25.6	3.5
Red Fox	117	33	0.57	0.16	2.83	0.66	18	20.0	3.2
Gray Fox	643	102	3.12	0.49	7.39	0.94	38	42.2	3.9
Bobcat	474	80	2.30	0.38	5.45	0.76	38	42.2	3.9
Opossum	1,649	213	8.00	1.01	14.40	1.52	50	55.6	4.0
Otter	49	68	2.18	0.32	4.78	0.58	41	45.6	4.0
Spotted Skunk	44	22	0.21	0.11	4.75	1.87	4	4.4	1.6
Striped Skunk	336	135	1.78	0.65	13.33	4.24	12	13.3	2.7
Coyote	909	154	4.41	0.74	10.18	1.44	39	43.3	3.9
Weasel	5	2	0.002	0.01	1.00	0	2	2.2	1.2
Nutria	6,153	3,952	29.86	19.20	83.97	53.72	32	35.6	3.8
Beaver	6,563	1,249	31.84	3.01	50.28	9.02	57	63.3	3.8

[a] n = 100

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 19. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1994-95 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	326	111	1.48	0.50	5.54	1.75	24	26.7	3.6
Raccoon	7,971	958	36.17	4.27	45.21	5.01	72	80.0	3.3
Muskrat	238	71	1.08	0.32	4.47	1.58	15	16.7	3.0
Red Fox	113	24	0.51	0.11	2.88	0.35	16	17.8	3.1
Gray Fox	531	82	2.41	0.37	6.03	0.70	36	40.0	4.0
Bobcat	419	80	1.90	0.36	4.75	0.77	36	40.0	4.0
Opossum	2,552	365	11.58	1.63	19.66	2.44	53	58.9	4.0
Otter	598	107	2.71	0.49	5.30	0.85	46	51.1	4.0
Spotted Skunk	12	8	0.06	0.04	2.50	1.15	2	2.2	1.2
Striped Skunk	88	25	0.40	0.12	3.27	0.64	44	12.2	2.7
Coyote	1,283	310	5.82	1.40	14.97	3.29	35	38.9	4.0
Weasel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutria	541	115	2.46	0.52	7.89	1.39	28	31.1	3.8
Beaver	5,929	1,317	26.90	5.94	37.83	8.14	64	71.1	3.7

[a] n = 98

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 20. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1995-96 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	315	89	1.35	0.52	7.39	1.77	18	26.1	4.0
Raccoon	5,399	637	26.75	3.63	37.43	3.98	61	88.4	2.9
Muskrat	267	66	1.38	0.38	6.65	1.24	17	24.6	4.0
Red Fox	76	22	0.45	0.13	2.91	0.57	11	15.9	3.4
Gray Fox	400	67	2.14	0.39	5.63	0.70	30	43.5	4.6
Bobcat	293	51	1.71	0.30	4.28	0.56	29	42.0	4.5
Opossum	1,809	305	8.78	1.72	18.21	2.68	42	60.9	4.5
Otter	452	78	2.43	0.45	4.78	0.71	40	58.0	4.5
Spotted Skunk	38	21	0.23	0.13	8.00	1.52	2	2.9	1.5
Striped Skunk	97	23	0.49	0.13	2.93	0.45	14	20.3	27.7
Coyote	844	169	4.93	1.02	11.16	1.91	32	46.4	55.6
Weasel	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutria	20	117	3.09	0.68	10.08	1.46	26	37.7	46.6
Beaver	5,654	956	31.42	5.74	43.47	6.88	56	79.7	87.7

[a] n = 85

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 21. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1996-97 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	600	111	1.56	0.29	5.13	0.85	55	30.7	2.5
Raccoon	13,704	1,024	35.98	2.63	38.57	2.76	167	93.3	1.4
Muskrat	1,432	572	3.76	1.50	15.65	6.12	43	24.0	2.3
Red Fox	209	41	0.58	0.11	3.12	0.46	33	18.3	2.1
Gray Fox	1,323	199	3.47	0.52	7.78	1.07	80	44.7	2.7
Bobcat	885	94	2.32	0.24	5.07	0.44	82	45.8	2.7
Opossum	3,872	304	10.17	0.78	14.80	1.00	123	68.7	2.5
Otter	1,404	162	3.68	0.42	6.95	0.71	95	53.1	2.7
Spotted Skunk	72	39	0.19	0.10	5.67	2.82	6	3.4	1.0
Striped Skunk	189	35	0.50	0.09	3.07	0.42	29	16.2	2.0
Coyote	1,870	313	4.91	0.82	11.42	1.77	77	43.0	2.7
Weasel	4	2	0.01	0.01	1.00	N/A	2	1.1	0.6
Nutria	890	143	2.63	0.37	8.13	1.09	52	29.1	2.5
Beaver	11,404	1,390	29.58	3.62	46.13	5.27	116	64.8	2.6

[a] n = 196

[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 22. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1997-98 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	674	N/A	1.94	N/A	8.28	N/A	N/A	23.39	N/A
Raccoon	11,610	N/A	33.30	N/A	38.27	N/A	N/A	87.14	N/A
Muskrat	759	N/A	2.17	N/A	10.08	N/A	N/A	21.64	N/A
Red Fox	250	N/A	0.72	N/A	3.62	N/A	N/A	19.88	N/A
Gray Fox	745	N/A	2.13	N/A	6.10	N/A	N/A	35.04	N/A
Bobcat	631	N/A	1.81	N/A	3.92	N/A	N/A	46.20	N/A
Opossum	3,378	N/A	9.69	N/A	18.23	N/A	N/A	53.22	N/A
Otter	922	N/A	2.61	N/A	4.87	N/A	N/A	54.39	N/A
Spotted Skunk	22	N/A	0.06	N/A	2.75	N/A	N/A	2.34	N/A
Striped Skunk	181	N/A	0.52	N/A	3.71	N/A	N/A	14.03	N/A
Coyote	1,509	N/A	4.25	N/A	11.06	N/A	N/A	39.18	N/A
Weasel	2	N/A	0.01	N/A	1.00	N/A	N/A	0.59	N/A
Nutria	1,004	N/A	2.87	N/A	10.06	N/A	N/A	28.66	N/A
Beaver	8,894	N/A	23.89	N/A	35.80	N/A	N/A	71.35	N/A

[a] n = 194

Table 23. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1998-99 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	528	N/A	2.06	N/A	7.66	N/A	N/A	27.31	N/A
Raccoon	10,559	N/A	37.42	N/A	47.93	N/A	N/A	96.12	N/A
Muskrat	443	N/A	1.53	N/A	8.92	N/A	N/A	20.16	N/A
Red Fox	182	N/A	0.51	N/A	3.34	N/A	N/A	2.17	N/A
Gray Fox	519	N/A	1.57	N/A	4.58	N/A	N/A	45.74	N/A
Bobcat	519	N/A	1.81	N/A	4.41	N/A	N/A	43.41	N/A
Opossum	3,304	N/A	11.12	N/A	23.49	N/A	N/A	58.14	N/A
Otter	1,003	N/A	3.21	N/A	7.01	N/A	N/A	58.14	N/A
Spotted Skunk	186	N/A	0.72	N/A	13.71	N/A	N/A	5.42	N/A
Striped Skunk	184	N/A	0.50	N/A	4.75	N/A	N/A	15.50	N/A
Coyote	1,643	N/A	5.48	N/A	12.48	N/A	N/A	53.49	N/A
Weasel	0	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	0	N/A
Nutria	1,411	N/A	4.85	N/A	15.47	N/A	N/A	36.43	N/A
Beaver	9,620	N/A	32.81	N/A	45.96	N/A	N/A	85.27	N/A

[a] n = 171

Table 24. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 1999-2000 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[b]	Percent Successful Trappers	SE
Mink	511	137.37	1.84	0.49	1.11	2.75	27	16.56	0.02
Raccoon	8,596	708.58	30.98	2.49	39.15	2.98	129	79.14	0.02
Muskrat	819	348.32	2.95	1.25	17.81	7.42	27	16.56	0.02
Red Fox	213	39.49	0.77	0.14	3.13	0.51	40	24.54	0.02
Gray Fox	698	77.74	2.52	0.27	7.07	0.61	58	35.58	0.02
Bobcat	815	102.51	2.94	0.37	6.47	0.72	74	45.40	0.03
Opossum	3,602	468.31	12.98	1.67	23.51	2.84	90	55.22	0.03
Otter	1,166	104.84	4.20	0.37	8.56	0.61	80	49.08	0.03
Spotted Skunk	172	83.76	0.62	0.30	14.43	6.60	7	4.29	0.01
Striped Skunk	407	59.87	1.47	0.21	6.64	0.74	36	22.09	0.02
Coyote	2,213	330.11	7.98	1.18	17.12	2.37	76	46.63	0.03
Weasel	2	1.09	0.01	0	1.00	N/A	1	0.61	0.00
Nutria	509	70.25	1.88	0.25	7.12	0.77	42	25.77	0.02
Beaver	7,522	779.20	27.11	2.76	36.83	3.95	120	73.62	0.02

[a] n = 188
[b] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 25. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2000-01 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	284	84.96	0.97	0.29	6.24	1.73	25	15.53	0.02
Raccoon	9,809	899.19	33.26	3.02	36.91	3.27	146	90.68	0.01
Muskrat	914	534.02	3.12	1.82	21.83	12.67	23	14.29	0.02
Red Fox	173	32.15	0.59	0.11	3.06	0.47	31	19.26	0.02
Gray Fox	544	55.97	1.96	0.19	4.60	0.36	65	40.37	0.03
Bobcat	950	81.68	3.19	0.27	5.49	0.40	95	59.01	0.03
Opossum	3,524	330.78	11.77	1.11	18.44	1.55	105	65.22	0.03
Otter	1,418	106.75	4.76	0.36	8.20	0.48	95	59.01	0.03
Spotted Skunk	62	14.98	0.21	0.05	3.78	0.41	9	5.59	0.01
Striped Skunk	679	101.71	2.28	0.34	6.54	0.86	57	35.40	0.03
Coyote	2,818	456.79	9.42	1.55	17.20	2.66	90	55.90	0.03
Weasel	2	1.22	0.01	0	1.00	N/A	1	0.62	0.00
Nutria	1,345	610.47	4.58	2.08	16.07	7.22	46	28.57	0.02
Beaver	8,730	923.53	29.52	3.12	39.31	3.94	122	75.78	0.02

[a] n = 178
[b] n =161
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 26. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trapper, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2001-02 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	65	19.91	0.22	0.07	2.38	0.59	13	9.22	0.02
Raccoon	9,172	687.85	30.12	2.28	36.26	2.48	121	85.82	0.02
Muskrat	307	72.22	1.04	0.24	4.90	1.00	30	21.28	0.02
Red Fox	111	28.45	0.38	0.10	2.65	0.56	20	14.18	0.02
Gray Fox	725	108.67	2.43	0.37	6.43	0.82	54	38.30	0.03
Bobcat	1,125	110.31	3.74	0.37	6.56	0.53	82	58.16	0.03
Opossum	3,516	416.54	11.80	1.40	18.48	1.99	91	64.54	0.03
Otter	1,651	151.47	5.44	0.50	9.63	0.71	82	58.16	0.03
Spotted Skunk	42	15.84	0.14	0.05	3.33	0.89	6	4.26	0.01
Striped Skunk	761	116.23	2.55	0.39	6.74	0.88	54	38.30	0.03
Coyote	2,659	331.61	8.69	1.10	14.96	1.70	85	60.24	0.03
Weasel	0	0	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nutria	1,658	763.26	2.06	0.37	20.87	9.46	38	26.95	0.03
Beaver	8,495	837.75	28.14	2.80	36.61	3.35	111	78.72	0.02

[a] n = 155
[b] n =141
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 27. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2002-03 season.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	408	102.29	1.25	0.32	6.29	1.50	42	20.59	0.02
Raccoon	12,185	837.64	35.96	2.58	41.04	2.70	192	94.12	0.01
Muskrat	1,117	444.33	3.47	1.41	13.88	5.47	52	25.49	0.02
Red Fox	320	57.93	0.95	0.18	3.98	0.66	52	25.49	0.02
Gray Fox	1,022	81.10	2.99	0.44	7.18	0.45	92	45.10	0.02
Bobcat	1,370	101.24	4.28	0.31	6.87	0.44	129	63.24	0.02
Opossum	6,451	452.11	18.18	1.29	28.57	1.79	146	71.57	0.02
Otter	2,713	207.51	8.42	0.64	11.85	0.83	148	72.55	0.02
Spotted Skunk	339	162.32	1.02	0.51	16.85	7.90	13	6.37	0.01
Striped Skunk	1,225	160.79	2.77	0.25	9.00	1.09	88	43.14	0.02
Coyote	2,818	279.36	8.04	0.85	14.69	1.35	124	60.78	0.02
Weasel	8	4.60	0.02	0.01	5.00	N/A	1	0.49	0.03
Nutria	1,033	172.31	3.01	0.54	8.46	1.34	79	38.73	0.02
Beaver	12,626	853.49	37.53	2.62	44.13	2.82	185	90.69	0.01

[a] n =382
[b] n =271
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 28. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2003-04 season. There were n=466 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2003-04.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	271.20	26.27	0.65	0.07	4.09	0.31	52	17.05	0.010
Raccoon	12,596.01	459.02	30.40	1.13	33.76	1.16	293	96.07	0.005
Muskrat	718.10	50.13	1.77	0.13	6.87	0.37	82	26.88	0.011
Red Fox	290.30	21.68	0.61	0.04	3.04	0.17	75	24.59	0.011
Gray Fox	1,685.75	144.21	3.37	0.15	7.97	0.65	166	54.42	0.013
Bobcat	2,010.42	104.56	4.81	0.25	8.09	0.38	195	63.93	0.012
Opossum	8,027.68	383.47	19.52	0.95	28.27	1.23	223	73.11	0.011
Otter	2,610.11	105.17	6.249	0.25	9.67	0.33	212	69.50	0.012
Spotted Skunk	61.11	13.62	0.06	0.014	4.80	0.85	10	3.27	0.004
Striped Skunk	1,030.04	77.26	2.35	0.16	7.42	0.48	109	35.74	0.012
Coyote	3,063.38	199.61	6.61	0.41	12.86	0.78	187	61.31	0.013
Weasel	20.37	5.94	0.052	0.02	4.00	0.82	4	1.31	0.003
Nutria	1,278.32	106.58	3.13	0.26	9.29	0.69	108	35.41	0.012
Beaver	14,085.68	596.59	34.68	1.49	42.88	1.68	258	84.59	0.009

[a] n =366
[b] n =305
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 29. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2004-05 season. There were n=503 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2004-05.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	316.66	31.70	0.67	0.07	4.26	0.35	57	18.10	0.010
Raccoon	14,199.98	666.66	31.46	1.37	36.44	1.64	299	94.92	0.006
Muskrat	616.37	47.81	1.43	0.11	5.99	0.36	79	25.08	0.012
Red Fox	385.72	35.13	0.92	0.08	3.75	0.29	79	25.08	0.012
Gray Fox	1,529.85	77.32	3.23	0.17	7.20	0.30	163	51.75	0.014
Bobcat	2,027.64	97.14	4.63	0.23	7.67	0.32	203	64.44	0.013
Opossum	6,889.54	325.33	14.67	0.63	23.09	0.98	229	72.70	0.012
Otter	2,736.53	115.96	6.29	0.26	10.34	0.37	203	64.44	0.013
Spotted Skunk	177.22	63.89	0.35	0.15	17.00	5.78	8	2.54	0.004
Striped Skunk	810.53	59.75	1.89	0.14	6.28	0.38	99	31.43	0.013
Coyote	3,287.74	273.06	7.50	0.66	14.50	1.14	174	55.24	0.014
Weasel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	-	-
Nutria	3,332.05	945.66	8.09	2.30	22.43	6.33	114	36.19	0.013
Beaver	14,207.80	634.48	32.82	1.48	43.27	1.77	252	80.00	0.011

[a] n =386
[b] n =315
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 30. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2005-06 season. There were n=476 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2005-06.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	498.47	92.96	1.12	0.066	7.24	1.26	49	15.56	0.010
Raccoon	13,432.50	629.42	30.02	1.13	34.04	1.53	281	89.21	0.010
Muskrat	1,022.21	167.39	2.30	0.125	7.83	1.23	93	29.52	0.014
Red Fox	258.36	26.07	0.57	0.044	2.88	0.23	64	20.32	0.012
Gray Fox	1,272.14	76.98	2.79	0.149	6.29	0.32	144	45.71	0.015
Bobcat	2,071.09	104.61	4.62	0.25	7.34	0.33	201	63.81	0.015
Opossum	5,921.22	298.95	13.12	0.95	20.57	0.92	205	65.08	0.014
Otter	3,506.11	160.57	7.89	0.254	12.00	0.47	208	66.03	0.014
Spotted Skunk	241.51	113.09	0.55	0.014	15.64	7.21	11	3.49	0.006
Striped Skunk	751.21	58.69	1.68	0.16	6.08	0.37	88	27.94	0.014
Coyote	3,417.65	234.80	7.61	0.408	13.99	0.88	174	55.24	0.015
Weasel	2.81	1.064	0.01	0.0153	1.00	0.00	2	0.64	0.002
Nutria	1,954.55	149.24	4.38	0.26	10.96	0.73	127	40.32	0.015
Beaver	17,006.82	885.30	37.53	1.98	48.06	2.36	252	80.00	0.012

[a] n =339
[b] n =315
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 31. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2006-07 season. There were n=488 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2006-07.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	315.12	34.75	0.76	0.08	4.59	0.45	56	16.72	0.009
Raccoon	13,481.31	509.20	30.79	1.16	33.42	1.22	329	98.21	0.003
Muskrat	999.30	197.99	2.42	0.48	11.48	2.22	71	21.19	0.01
Red Fox	386.23	31.71	0.84	0.07	3.42	0.25	92	27.46	0.01
Gray Fox	1,842.87	140.37	3.67	0.17	8.40	0.61	179	53.43	0.01
Bobcat	2,247.50	83.06	5.18	0.19	7.97	0.26	230	68.66	0.01
Opossum	5,534.75	248.93	12.83	0.59	19.63	0.81	230	68.66	0.01
Otter	2,227.88	85.70	5.22	0.20	9.18	0.29	198	59.10	0.01
Spotted Skunk	50.27	11.14	0.12	0.03	3.73	0.71	11	3.28	0.004
Striped Skunk	1,050.79	114.53	2.47	0.28	7.58	0.79	113	33.73	0.01
Coyote	3,263.96	195.71	7.05	0.39	13.24	0.74	201	60.0	0.01
Weasel	1.23	0.53	0.003	0.001	1.00	-	1	0.30	0.003
Nutria	1,623.40	94.44	3.59	0.21	10.11	0.50	131	39.10	0.39
Beaver	13,471.50	567.48	31.76	1.35	41.46	1.63	265	79.10	0.79

[a] n = 398
[b] n = 335
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 32. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2007-08 season. There were n=475 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2007-08.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	177.68	20.09	0.49	0.06	3.85	0.37	39	12.87	0.008
Raccoon	11,538.59	469.79	31.67	1.26	36.08	1.38	270	89.11	0.007
Muskrat	852.87	190.22	2.37	0.53	13.85	3.03	52	17.16	0.009
Red Fox	305.61	25.11	0.82	0.07	3.69	0.26	70	23.10	0.01
Gray Fox	1,547.01	74.07	4.20	0.20	8.16	0.34	160	52.81	0.01
Bobcat	1,850.25	75.66	5.05	0.20	8.22	0.29	190	62.71	0.01
Opossum	6,021.01	306.62	16.65	0.84	26.20	1.22	194	64.03	0.01
Otter	1,395.39	54.16	3.86	0.15	6.62	0.21	178	58.75	0.01
Spotted Skunk	52.12	7.77	0.14	0.02	4.00	0.38	11	3.63	0.004
Striped Skunk	868.27	58.78	2.41	0.16	8.06	0.46	91	30.03	0.01
Coyote	2,700.75	158.20	7.47	0.43	13.49	0.73	169	55.78	0.01
Weasel	18.95	6.16	0.05	0.02	5.33	1.52	3	0.99	0.002
Nutria	1,265.09	72.32	3.45	0.20	9.71	0.46	110	36.30	0.01
Beaver	11,925.94	524.87	32.67	1.41	45.76	1.84	220	72.61	0.01

[a] n = 401
[b] n = 303
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 33. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 20008-09 season. There were n=538 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2008-09.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	105.86	13.36	0.26	0.03	3.27	0.31	26	8.08	0.007
Raccoon	12,916.98	493.48	30.61	1.17	34.23	1.22	303	94.10	0.006
Muskrat	706.13	144.33	1.76	0.36	12.60	2.48	45	13.98	0.009
Red Fox	328.78	30.91	0.63	0.06	3.52	0.29	75	23.29	0.010
Gray Fox	1,555.47	86.20	3.45	0.18	7.66	0.37	163	50.62	0.012
Bobcat	1,753.48	95.72	4.10	0.22	7.91	0.38	178	55.28	0.012
Opossum	7,757.41	513.85	18.01	1.25	24.72	1.58	252	78.26	0.010
Otter	1,689.97	84.55	4.09	0.20	8.03	0.34	169	52.48	0.012
Spotted Skunk	33.63	7.03	0.05	0.01	3.86	0.53	7	2.17	0.004
Striped Skunk	780.85	49.22	1.63	0.10	6.21	0.31	101	31.37	0.012
Coyote	3,442.20	230.48	6.75	0.39	16.26	1.00	170	52.80	0.012
Weasel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
Nutria	1,560.45	122.63	3.57	0.29	10.53	0.75	119	36.96	0.012
Beaver	10,544.55	466.70	25.39	0.12	36.03	1.43	235	72.98	0.011

[a] n = 432
[b] n = 322
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 34. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2009-10 season. There were n=426 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2009-10.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	143.67	24.34	0.29	0.04	4.42	0.66	26	10.36	0.009
Raccoon	8,390.08	313.62	26.13	0.93	29.85	0.99	225	89.64	0.009
Muskrat	391.02	65.09	1.20	0.21	7.11	1.11	44	17.53	0.011
Red Fox	173.65	12.89	0.54	0.04	2.53	0.13	55	21.91	0.012
Gray Fox	1,065.62	62.55	3.33	0.19	6.77	0.34	126	50.20	0.014
Bobcat	1,119.34	56.76	3.51	0.17	6.64	0.27	135	53.78	0.014
Opossum	5,234.43	255.11	16.00	0.76	24.94	1.05	168	66.93	0.013
Otter	1,469.14	79.51	4.63	0.24	9.12	0.41	129	51.39	0.014
Spotted Skunk	14.99	3.04	0.05	0.01	2.00	0.20	6	2.39	0.004
Striped Skunk	454.73	40.06	1.29	0.11	5.97	0.43	61	24.30	0.012
Coyote	2,570.99	188.98	7.57	0.55	15.36	1.03	134	53.39	0.014
Weasel	2.50	1.12	0.01	0.00	2.00		1	0.40	0.002
Nutria	1,173.06	101.16	3.31	0.28	10.67	0.81	88	35.06	0.013
Beaver	9,359.51	469.96	29.29	1.44	40.50	1.83	185	73.71	0.012

[a] n = 341
[b] n = 251
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 35. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2010-11 season. There were n=478 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2010-11.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	93	10.54	0.23	0.03	2.37	0.18	30	10.20	0.86
Raccoon	12,569	502.47	31.70	1.25	35.68	1.32	269	91.50	0.79
Muskrat	466	62.18	1.19	0.16	6.36	0.76	56	19.05	1.12
Red Fox	229	19.58	0.54	0.05	3.07	0.19	57	19.39	1.42
Gray Fox	1,435	76.26	3.59	0.19	7.46	0.32	147	50.00	1.42
Bobcat	1,714	84.02	4.34	0.21	8.29	0.33	158	53.74	1.28
Opossum	7,647	510.25	19.13	1.30	27.81	1.75	210	71.43	1.42
Otter	2,010	105.33	5.01	0.26	9.97	0.43	154	52.38	1.42
Spotted Skunk	14	3.97	0.04	0.01	2.75	0.42	4	1.31	0.33
Striped Skunk	665	50.77	1.68	0.13	5.64	0.35	90	30.61	1.31
Coyote	3,374	207.43	8.37	0.52	15.61	0.86	165	56.12	1.41
Weasel	1	0.64	0.00	0.00	1.0	-	1	0.34	0.17
Nutria	939	68.23	2.37	0.17	8.15	0.47	88	29.93	1.30
Beaver	10,925	578.69	26.13	1.38	38.44	1.87	217	73.81	1.25

[a] n = 365
[b] n = 294
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

Table 36. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2011-12 season. There were n=504 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2011-12.

Species	Harvest[a]	SE	Average Catch Per Trapper[b]	SE	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	SE	n[c]	Percent Successful Trappers[b]	SE
Mink	171	21.26	0.43	0.05	3.94	0.37	33	10.86	0.88
Raccoon	10,608	418.42	25.93	0.99	29.21	1.06	276	90.79	0.81
Muskrat	251	24.63	0.63	0.06	4.24	0.30	45	14.80	0.10
Red Fox	238	19.98	0.59	0.05	2.66	0.17	68	22.37	1.17
Gray Fox	1,609	92.81	3.99	0.23	8.15	0.40	150	49.34	1.41
Bobcat	1,880	107.85	4.63	0.26	8.56	0.43	167	54.93	1.40
Opossum	4,947	214.30	11.72	0.49	18.70	0.68	201	66.12	1.33
Otter	2,362	123.81	5.65	0.30	10.95	0.48	164	53.95	1.40
Spotted Skunk	26	7.67	0.07	0.02	4.00	0.86	5	1.65	0.36
Striped Skunk	598	40.64	1.50	0.10	4.79	0.25	95	31.25	1.31
Coyote	3,574	249.42	8.85	0.61	16.87	1.07	161	52.96	1.41
Weasel	1	0.65	0.00	0.00	1.00	-	1	0.33	0.16
Nutria	707	46.76	1.60	0.10	5.77	0.29	93	30.59	1.30
Beaver	11,299	600.57	27.99	1.46	36.23	1.79	237	77.96	1.17

[a] n = 383
[b] n = 304
[c] Sample size for average catches per successful trapper

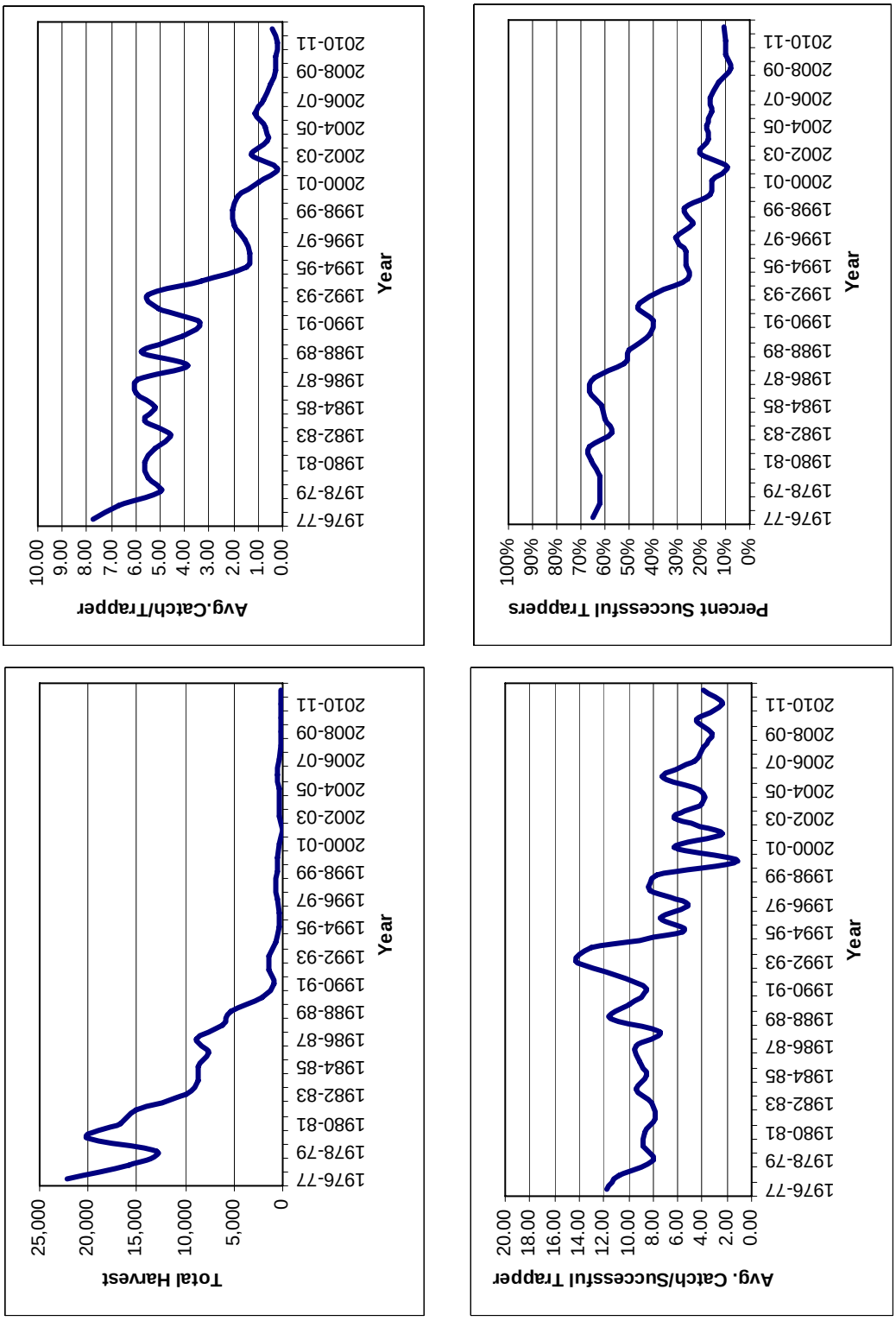

Figure 1. Seasonal trends in **mink** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

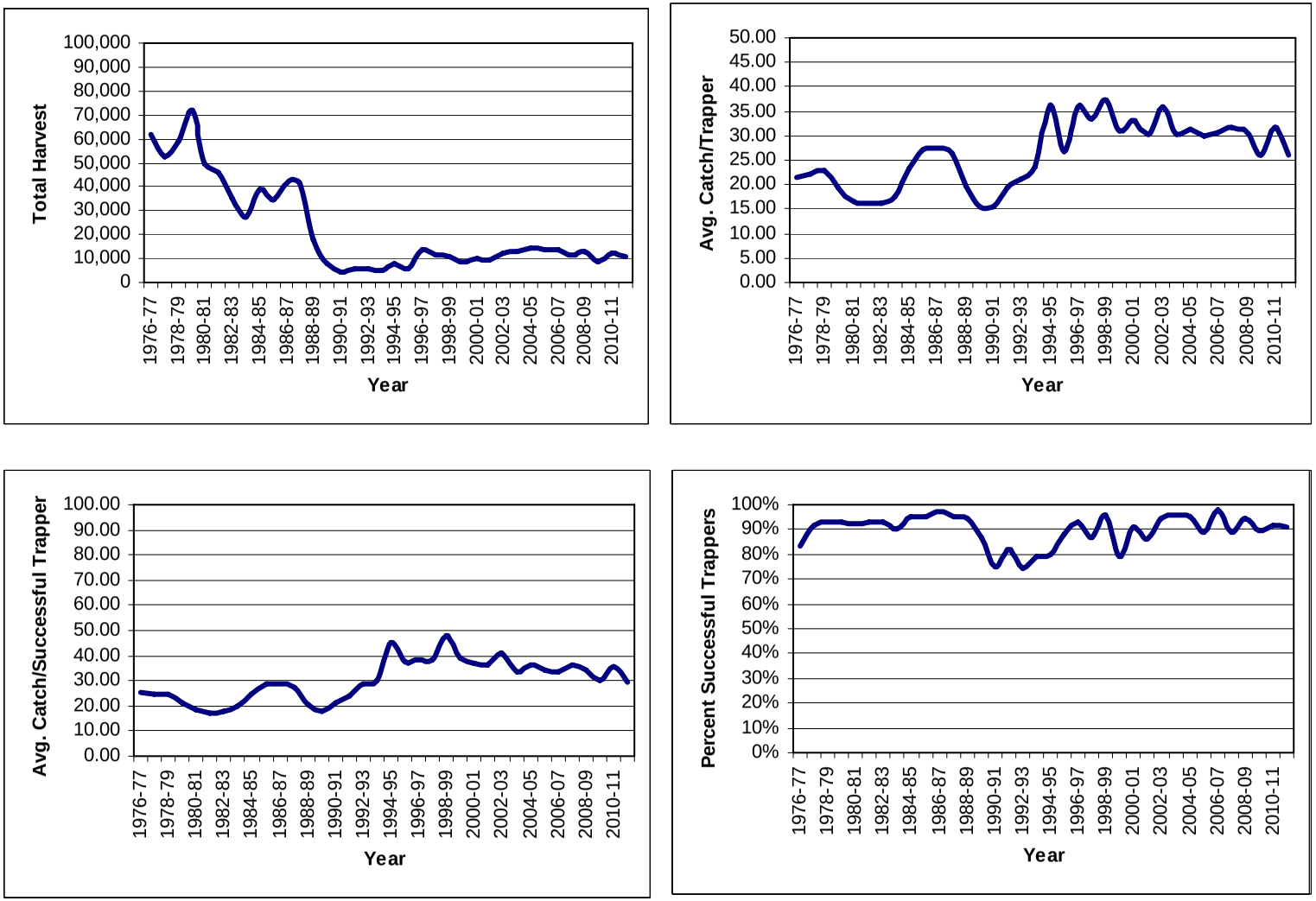

Figure 2. Seasonal trends in **raccoon** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

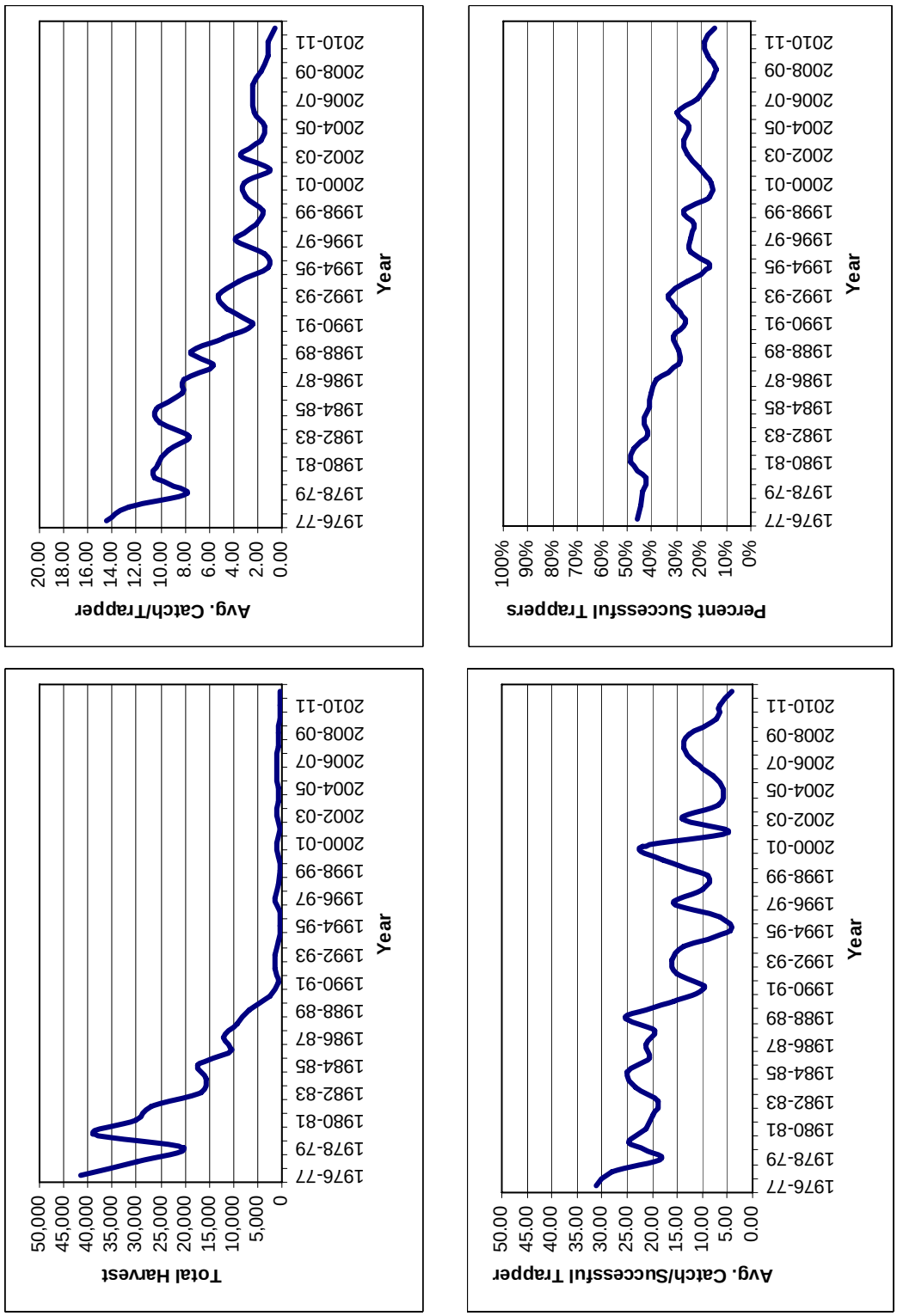

Figure 3. Seasonal trends in **muskrat** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

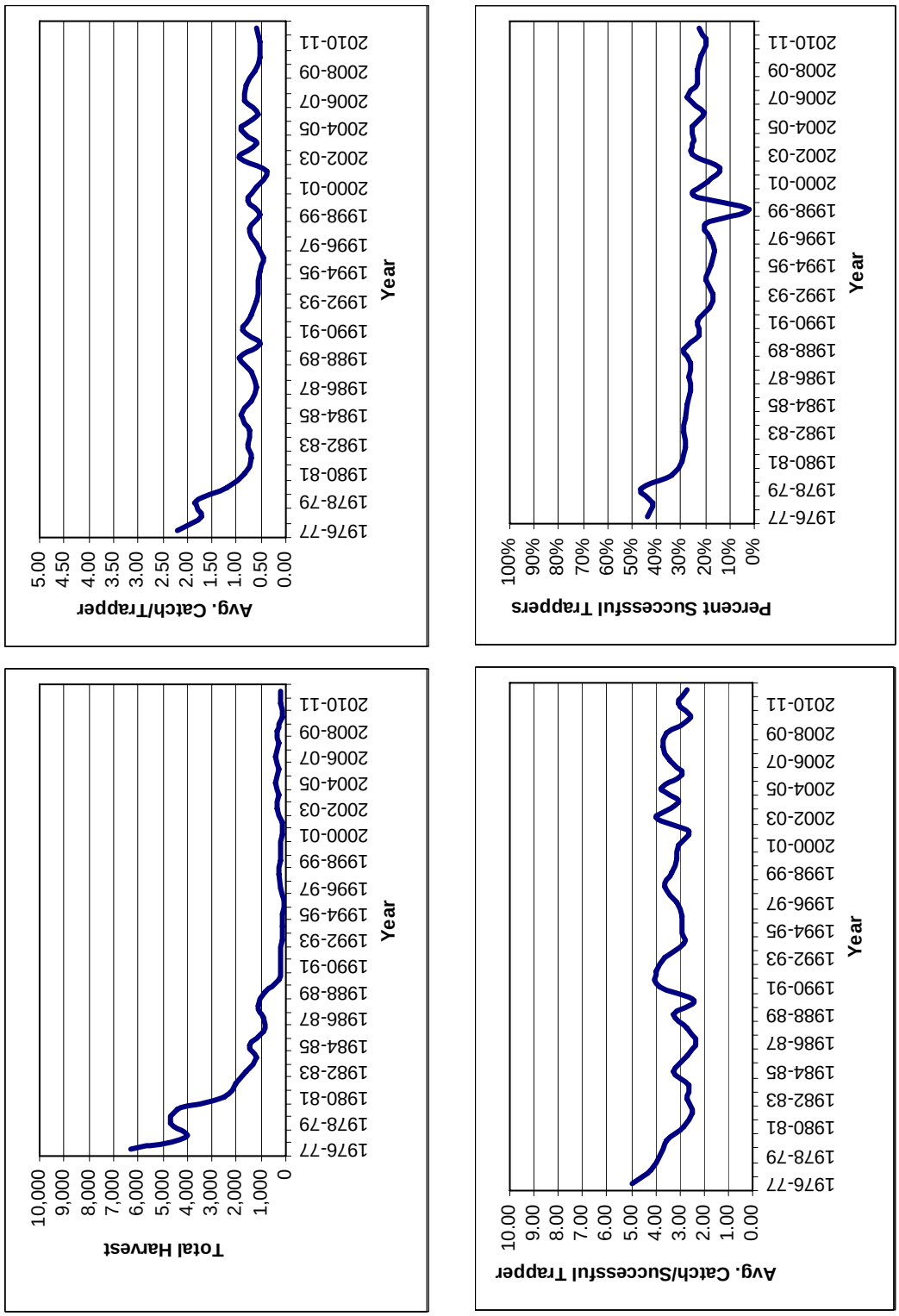

Figure 4. Seasonal trends in **red fox** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

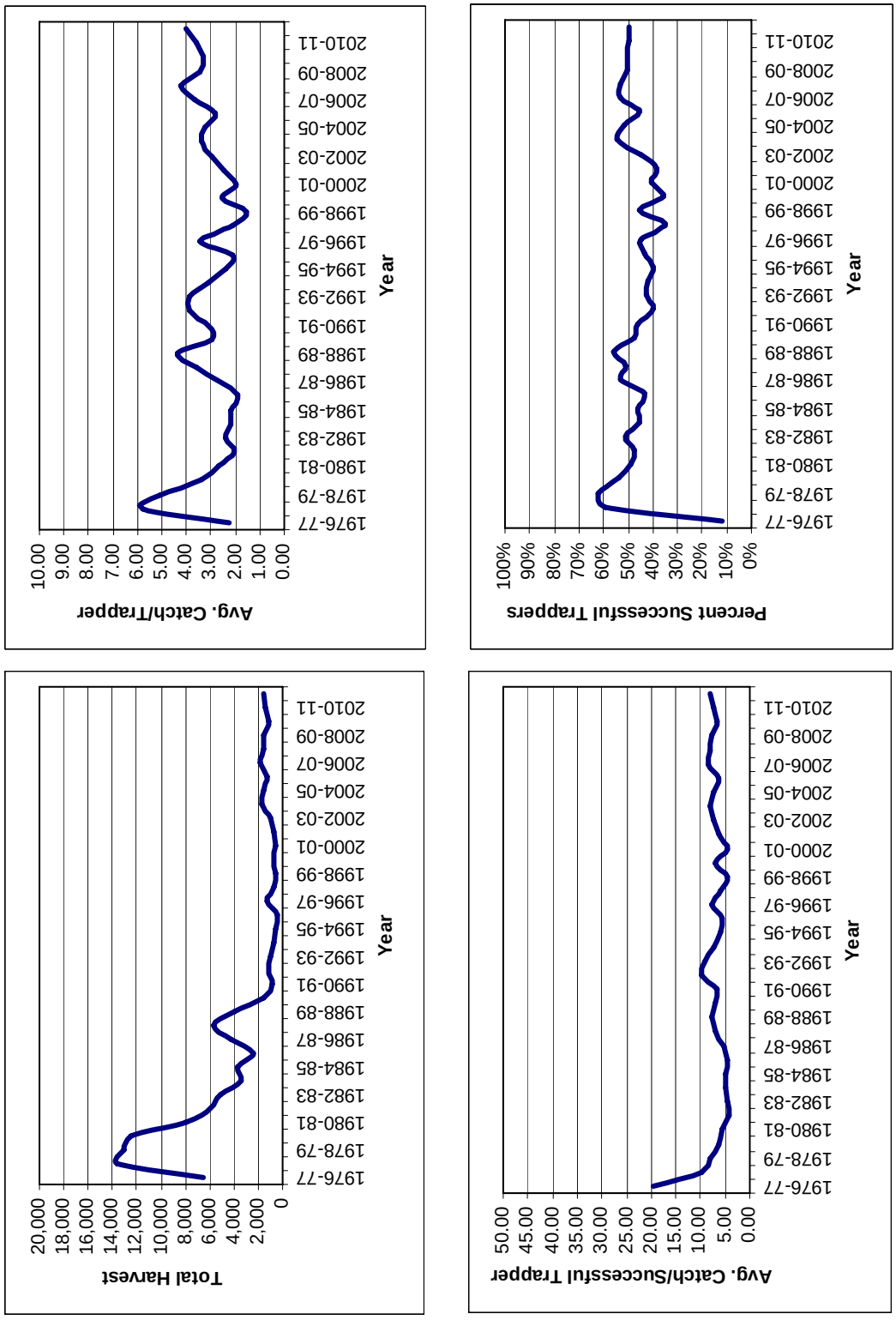

Figure 5. Seasonal trends in **gray fox** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

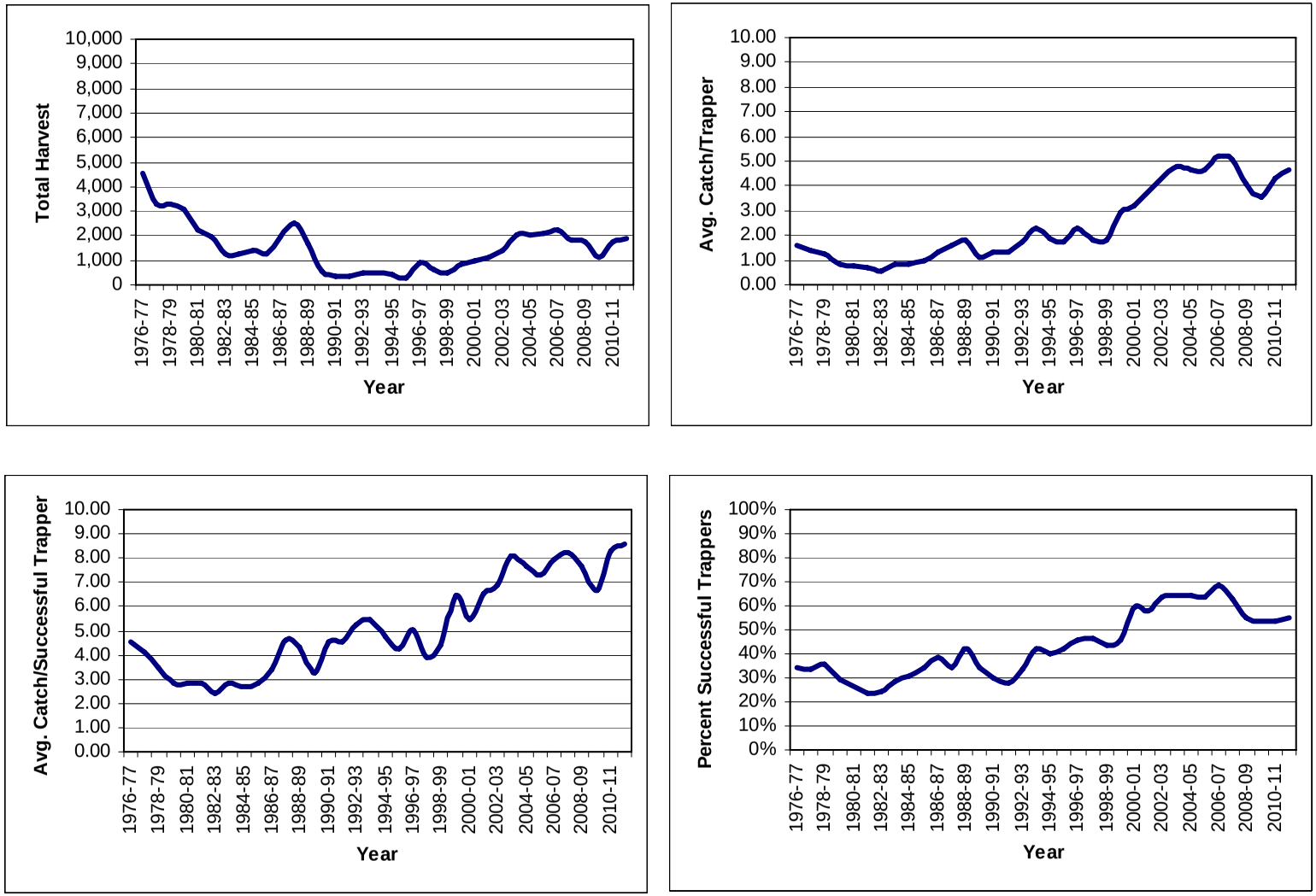

Figure 6. Seasonal trends in **bobcat** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

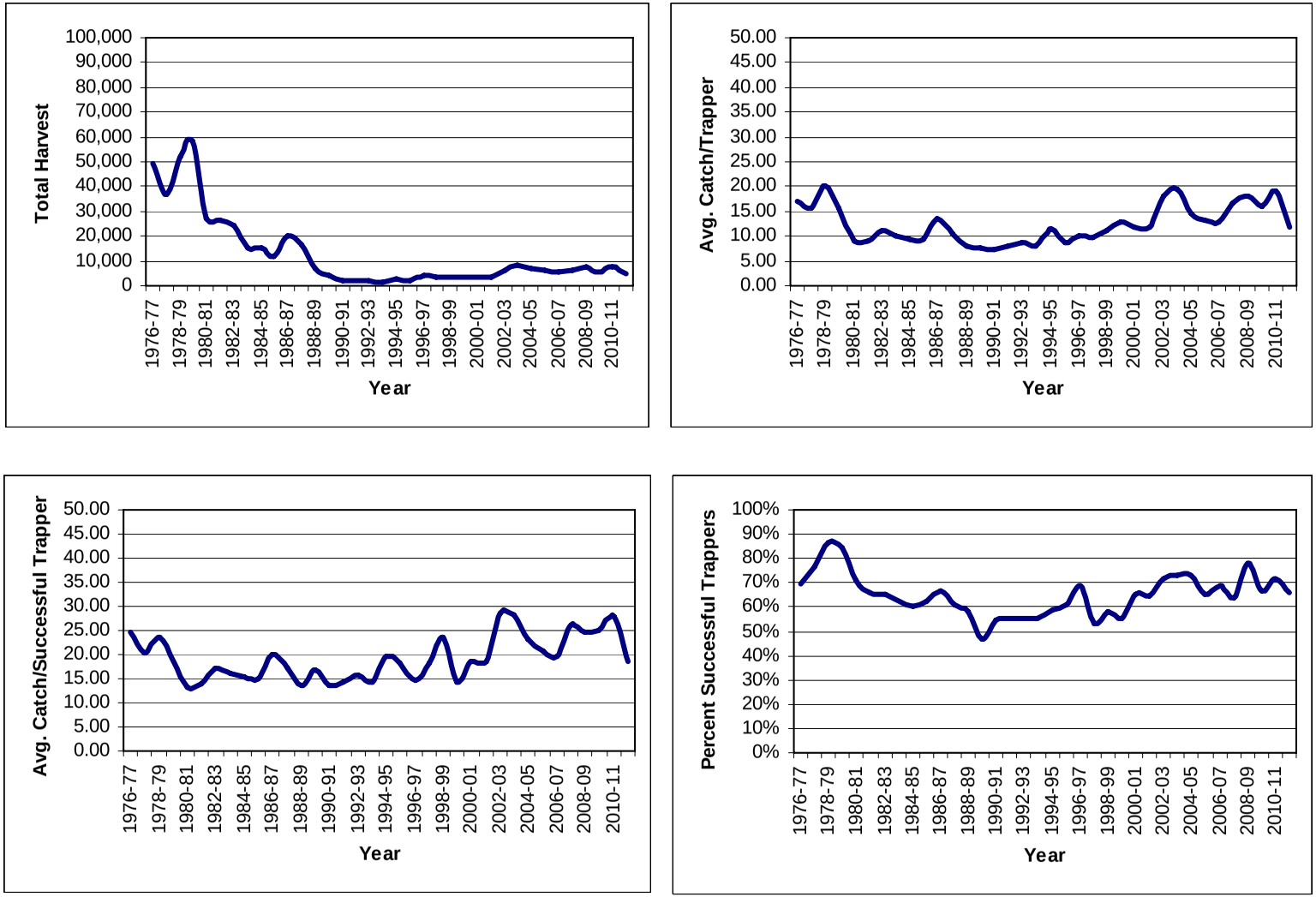

Figure 7. Seasonal trends in **opossum** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

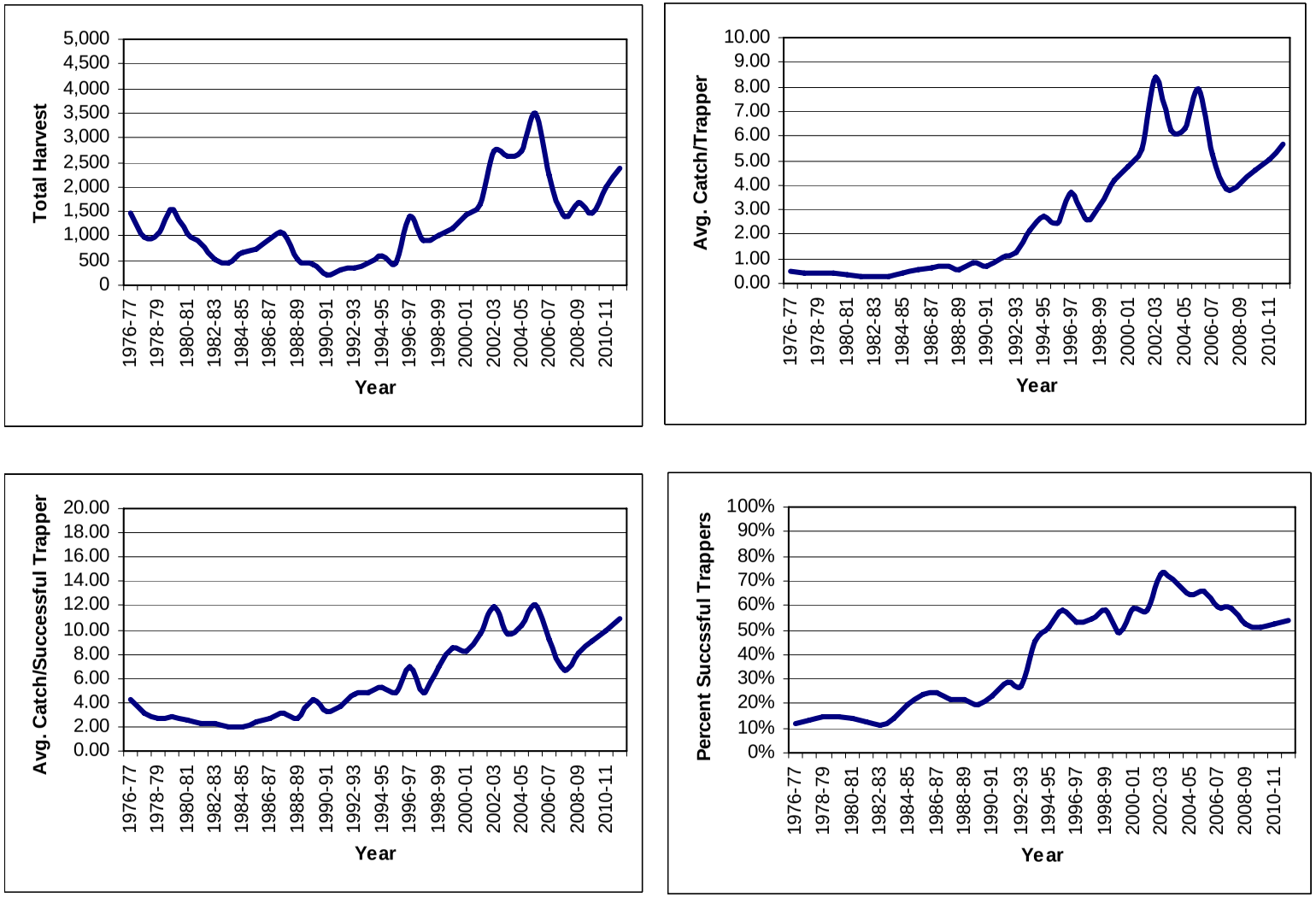

Figure 8. Seasonal trends in **otter** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

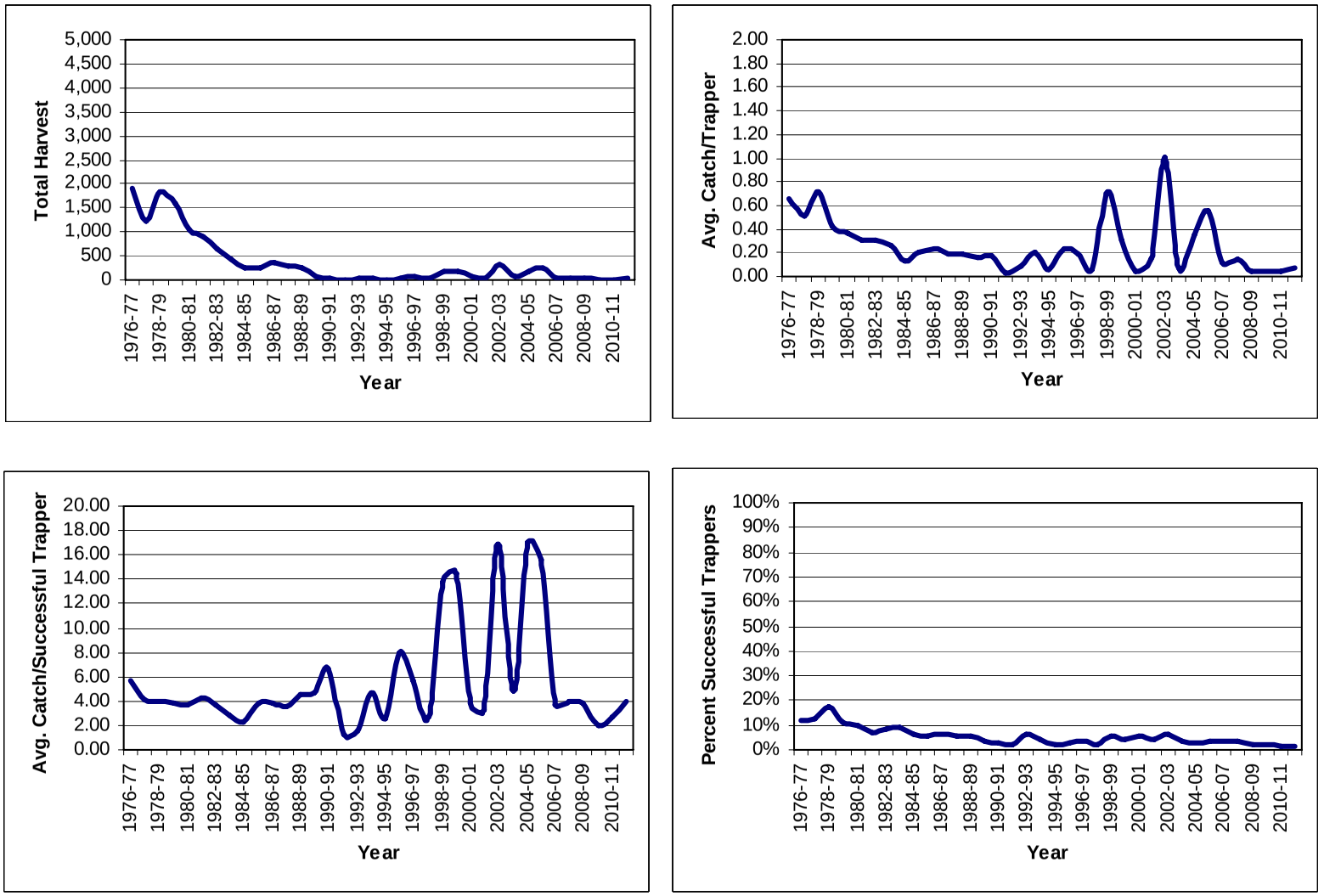

Figure 9. Seasonal trends in **spotted skunk** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

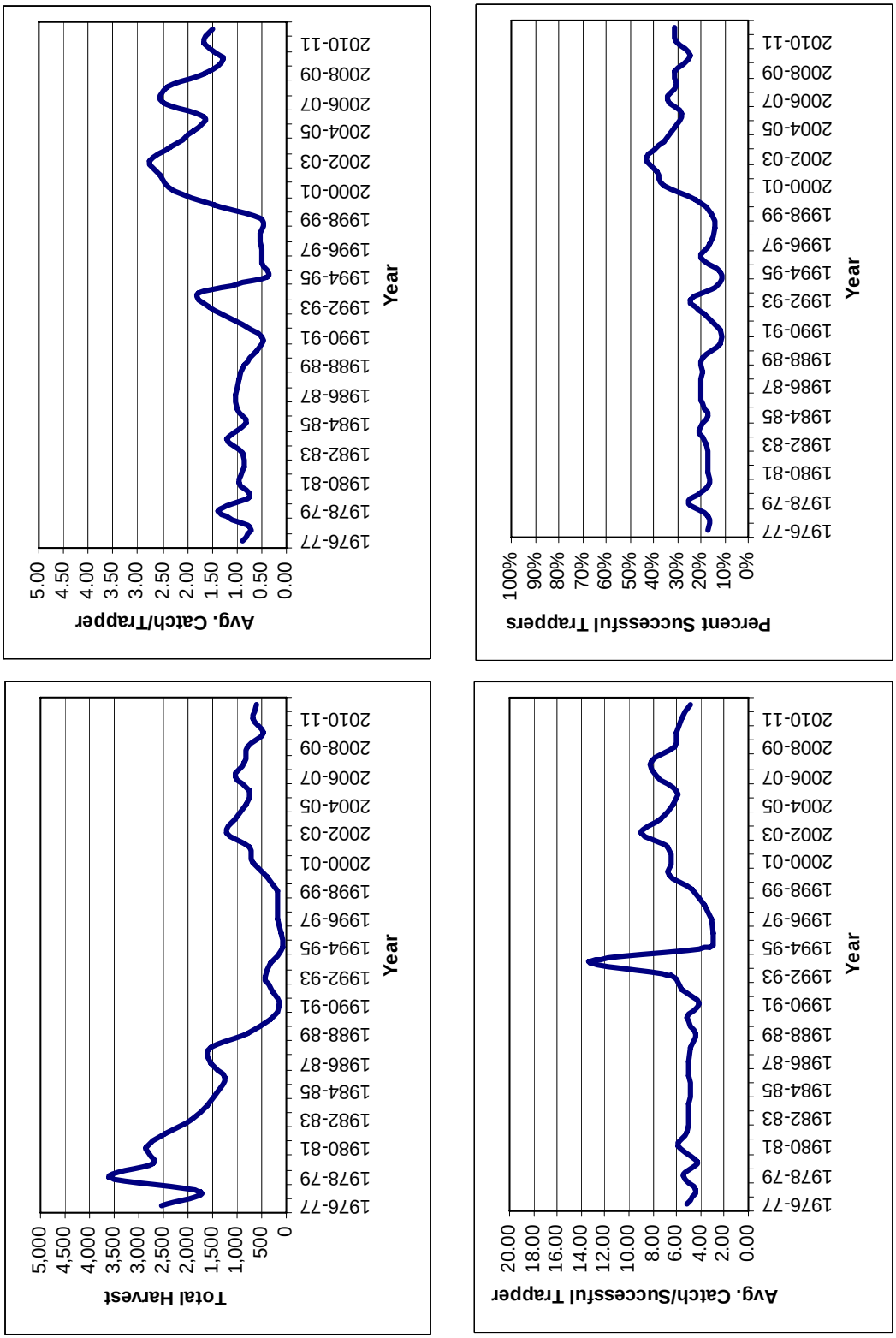

Figure 10. Seasonal trends in **striped skunk** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

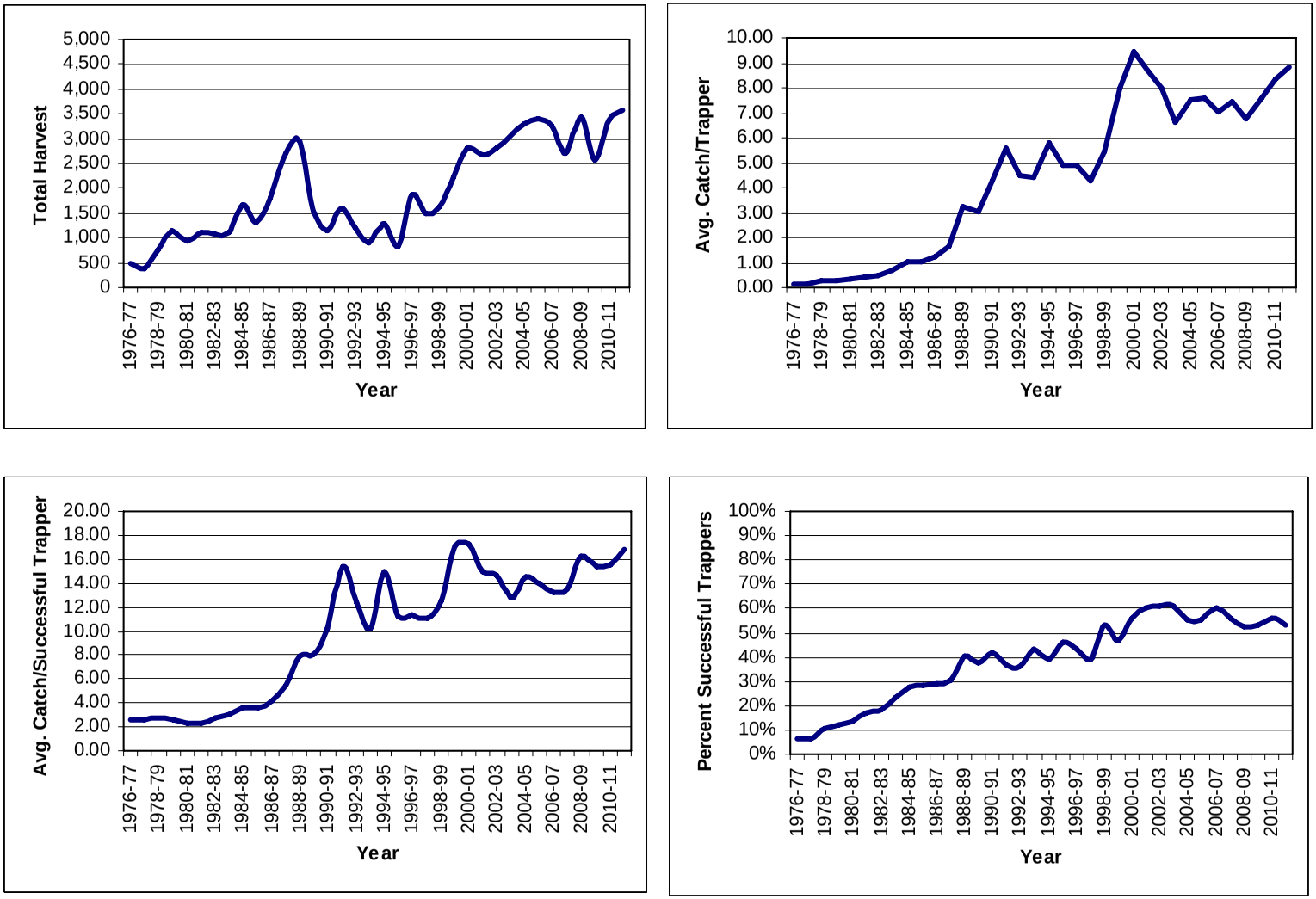

Figure 11. Seasonal trends in **coyote** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

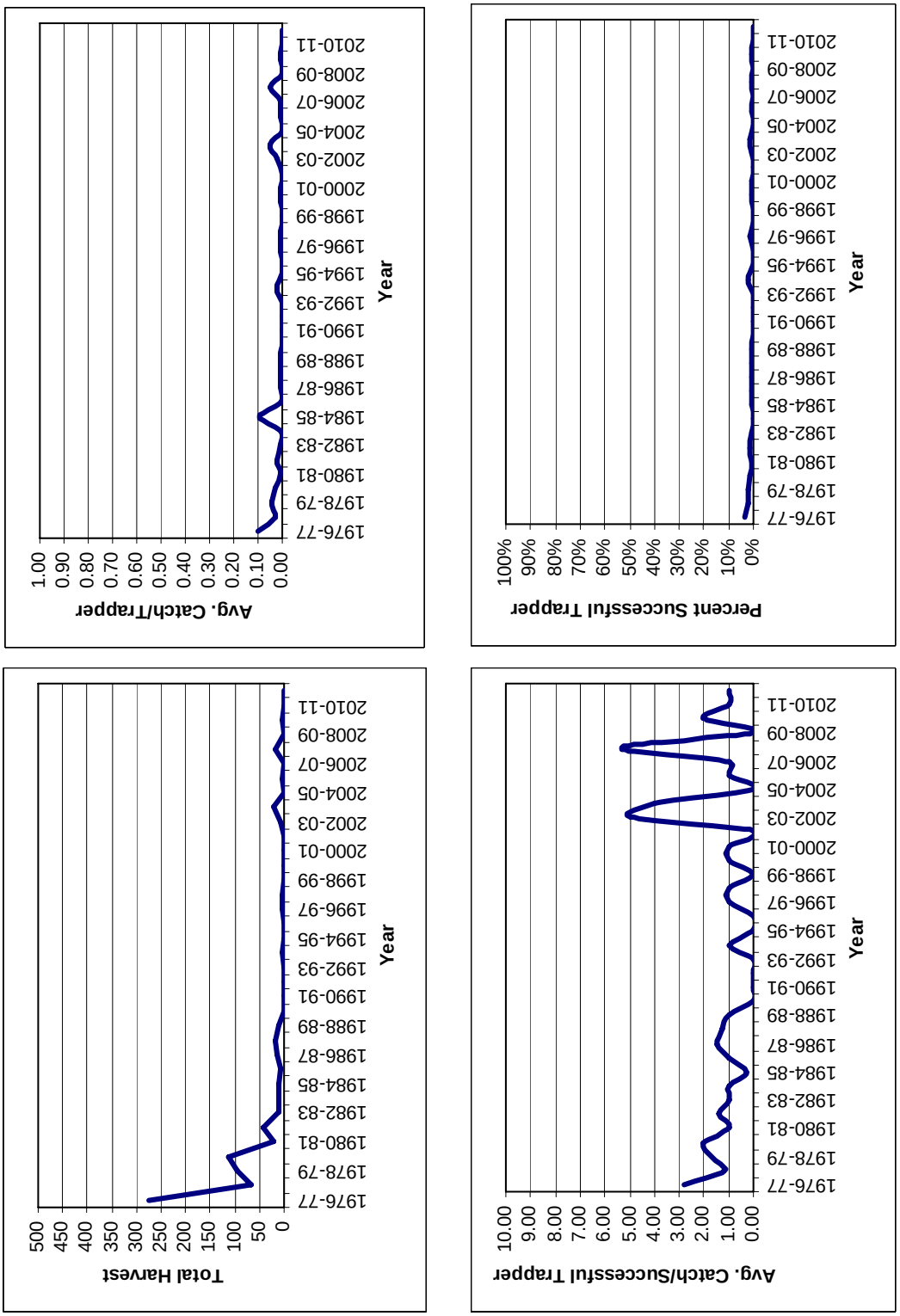

Figure 12. Seasonal Trends in **weasel** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

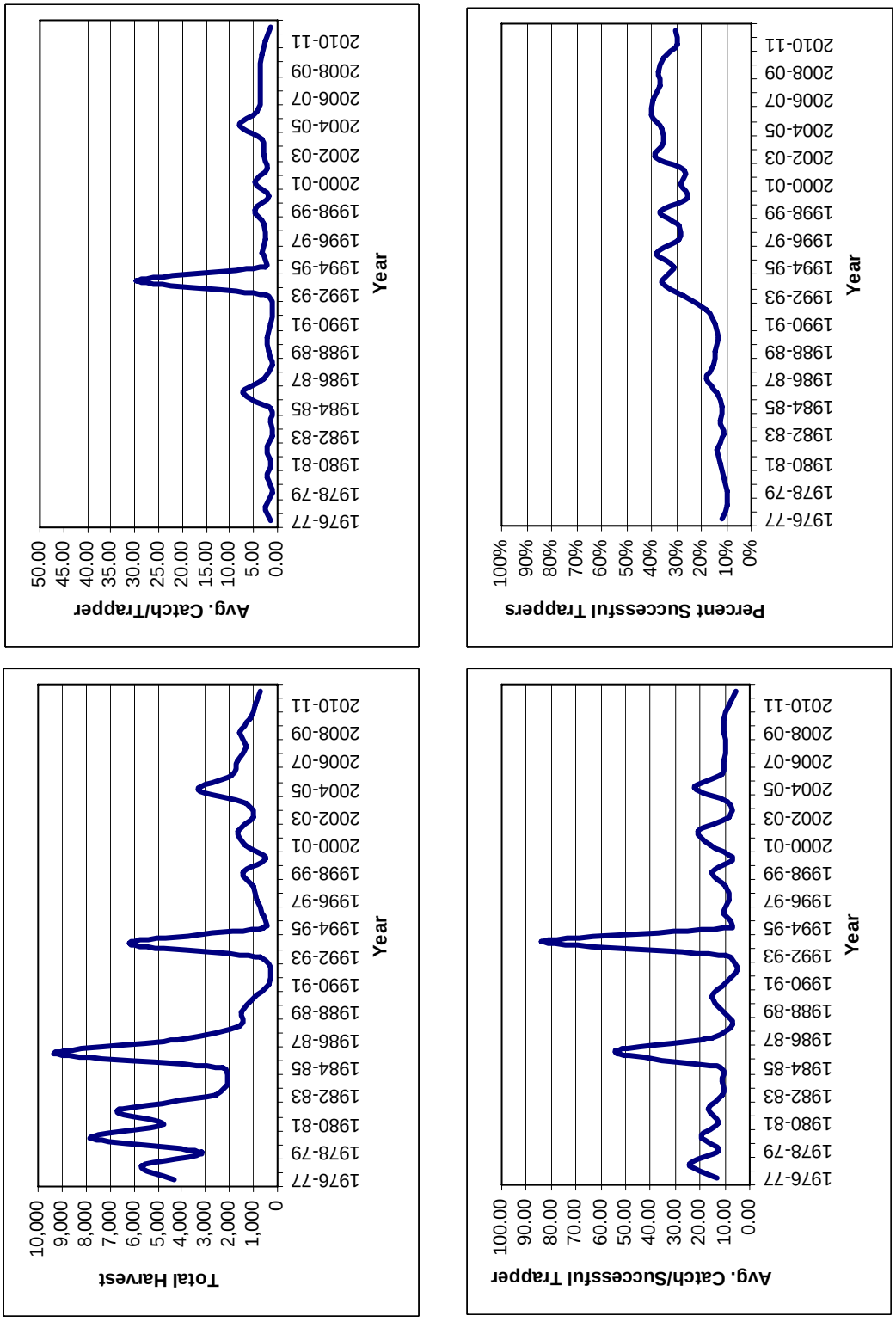

Figure 13. Seasonal trends in **nutria** trapping and harvest estimates in Mississippi

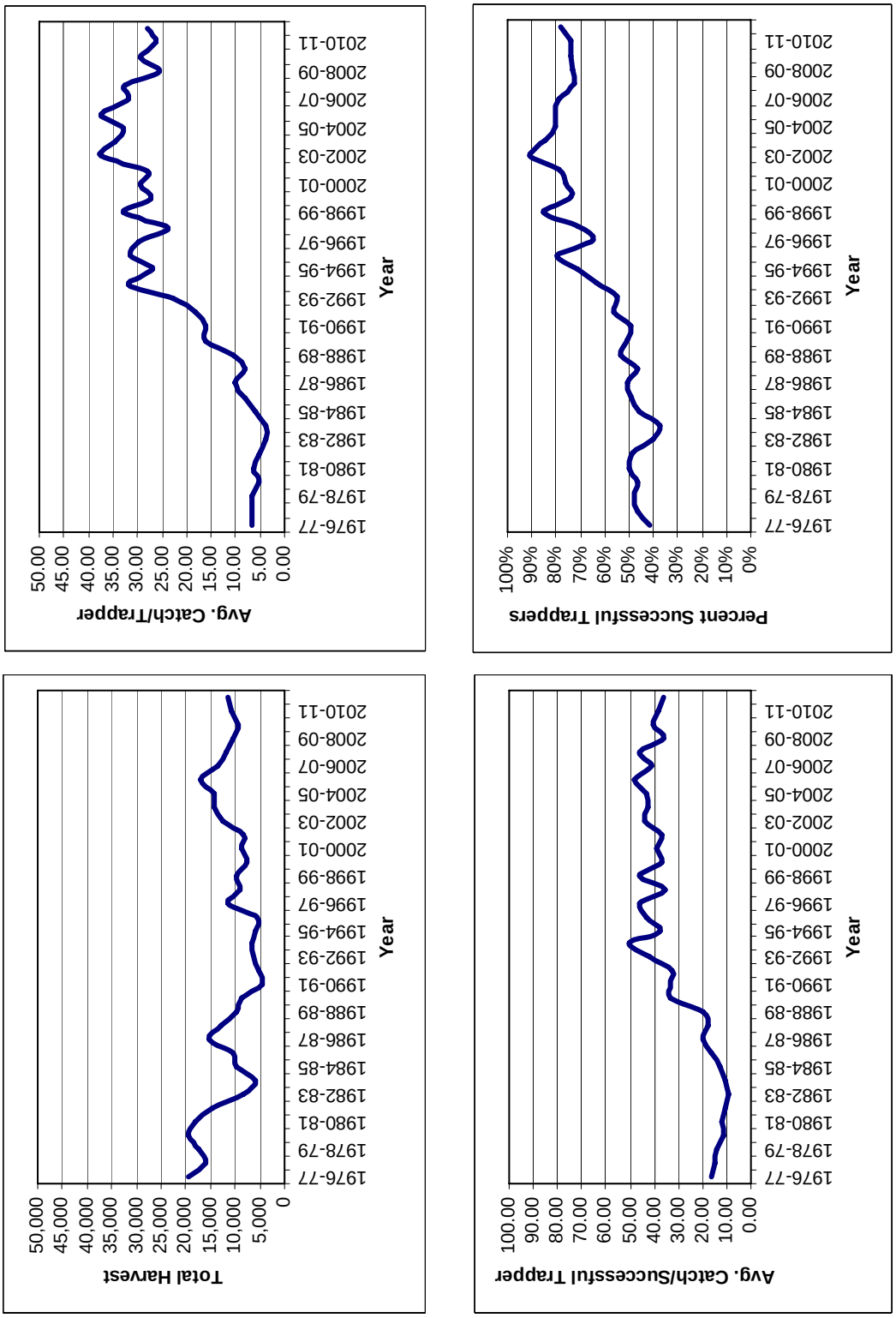

Figure 14. Seasonal trends in **beaver** trapping harvest estimates in Mississippi

Appendix A

2011-12 Mississippi Trapper Harvest Survey Instrument

2012
Mississippi Trapper
Harvest Survey

Conducted for the
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks
by
Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory
Forest & Wildlife Research Center
Mississippi State, MS 39762

2012 SURVEY OF MISSISSIPPI TRAPPERS …… PAGE 1

Questions #1-9 of this survey are MANDATORY information all trappers must provide as a condition of their purchase of a Mississippi trapping license.

1. Did you trap furbearers in Mississippi during the 2010-2011 trapping season (November 1, 2011 – February 28, 2012)?

1 YES
2 NO – ***(If NO, Please go to Question #6)***

2. In what county did you do most of your trapping?

_____

3. How many days (or nights) did you have traps set?

_____

4. How many traps did you use of the following trap types?

_____ LEGHOLDS

_____ SOFT CATCH

_____ CONIBEAR (KILLER TYPE)

_____ SNARES

5. How long was your trap line?

_____ MILES

6. What kind of trapper do you consider yourself?

1 Strictly land trapper
2 Mostly land trapper
3 50% land – 50% water trapper
4 Mostly water trapper
5 Strictly water trapper

7. What is your age: _____ YEARS

8. How many years have you been trapping?

_____ YEARS

9. What was your catch for this past season (2011-2012)? If you trapped with a partner, include only your portion of the partnership catch.

	Total Number Trapped	*Total Number Taken by Hunting*	*Others Taken (Road kills)*	*Total Number Sold*
(a) Mink	_____	_____	_____	_____
(b) Raccoon	_____	_____	_____	_____
(c) Muskrat	_____	_____	_____	_____
(d) Red Fox	_____	_____	_____	_____
(e) Gray Fox	_____	_____	_____	_____
(f) Bobcat	_____	_____	_____	_____
(g) Opossum	_____	_____	_____	_____
(h) Otter	_____	_____	_____	_____
(i) Spotted Skunk (Civet)	_____	_____	_____	_____
(j) Striped Skunk	_____	_____	_____	_____
(k) Coyote	_____	_____	_____	_____
(l) Weasel	_____	_____	_____	_____
(m) Nutria	_____	_____	_____	_____
(n) Beaver	_____	_____	_____	_____

In Questions 10-29, please tell us about your trapping activity and experience. This portion of the survey is <u>COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY.</u> The information you provide will remain strictly confidential and you will not be identified with your answers.

Questions #10-29 deal with general questions about your trapping experience and preferences.

10. How many days did you trap in the 2011-2012 trapping season?

    _____ DAYS TRAPPED IN MISSISSIPPI

    _____ DAYS TRAPPED ELSEWHERE

11. What type of land do you primarily trap on in MS?

    1 Private
    2 Public
    3 Both

12. Are you a member of a trapping or conservation organization?

    1 YES --- ***(If YES, how many organizations?_____)***
    2 NO

13. Do you subscribe to any wildlife-related outdoor magazines?

    1 YES --- ***(If YES, how many? _____)***
    2 NO

14. At what age did you have your first trapping experience?

    _____ AGE OF FIRST TRAPPING EXPERIENCE

15. How many years have you considered yourself a "Trapper"?

    _____Years

16. Would your family and friends label you as a "Trapper"?

    1 YES
    2 NO

17. Have you introduced anyone to trapping is the last five years?

    1 YES --- *(if YES, how many? ____)*
    2 NO

18. To the best of your recollection, what individual introduced you to trapping?

    _____

19. Who do you currently trap with most often? (***Please circle only one***)

    1 FATHER
    2 GRANDFATHER
    3 BROTHER
    4 SON
    5 FRIEND
    6 ALONE
    7 OTHER (***please specify***): _____

20. Which animal do you <u>most prefer</u> to trap in Mississippi?

    _____ FIRST CHOICE

    _____ SECOND CHOICE

    _____ THIRD CHOICE

21. How many members of your immediate family currently hold a valid hunting or trapping license?

    _____ Total Number

22. Have you ever taken a trapper education course?

    1 YES
    2 NO

23. Which of the following best describes the community where you grew up?

    1 Urban
    2 Suburban
    3 Rural
    4 Rural-Farmland
    5 Rural-Ranch Land

24. Compared to your other outdoor recreation activities (such as fishing, camping, golfing, etc...) would you rate trapping as: *(Please circle only one answer)*

    1 YOUR MOST IMPORTANT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
    2 YOUR SECOND MOST IMPORTANT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
    3 YOUR THIRD MOST IMPORTANT OUTDOOR ACTIVITY
    4 NONE OF THE ABOVE

25. Assessment of attitudes toward wildlife recreation are important because they are indicators of feelings, beliefs, and values possessed by individuals. Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with the following attitude statements regarding wildlife.

Please start each statement with **"It is important to me personally…"**	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a) To trap game animals for recreation	1	2	3	4	5
b) To know that wildlife exist in nature	1	2	3	4	5
c) That wildlife are included in educational materials as the subject for learning more about nature	1	2	3	4	5
d) To trap furbearing animals for sale of fur or pelts	1	2	3	4	5
e) That I consider the presence of wildlife as a sign of the quality of the natural environment	1	2	3	4	5
f) That game animals are managed for an annual harvest for human use without harming the future of the wildlife population	1	2	3	4	5
g) That I tolerate most levels of property damage by wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
h) That local economies benefit from the sale of equipment, supplies, or services related to wildlife recreation	1	2	3	4	5
i) To talk about wildlife with family and friends	1	2	3	4	5
j) To trap game animals for food	1	2	3	4	5
k) That I tolerate the ordinary risk of wildlife transmitting diseases to humans or domestic animals	1	2	3	4	5
l) To observe or photograph wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
m) To express opinions about wildlife and their management to public officials or to officials of private conservation organizations	1	2	3	4	5
n) That I appreciate the role that wildlife plays in the natural environment	1	2	3	4	5
o) That I understand more about the behavior of wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
p) To see wildlife in books, movies, paintings, or photographs	1	2	3	4	5
q) That I tolerate most wildlife nuisance problems	1	2	3	4	5

26. Knowing the worth of trapping is helpful for MDWFP in justifying its budgetary needs to the Mississippi Legislature. Identifying the types of motivations that can be achieved through trapping can also help MDWFP improve service delivery and provide more benefits. Please indicate how important each of the following items is as a reason for trapping in Mississippi.

	Not at all Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
a) To gain a sense of self-confidence	1	2	3	4	5
b) To be with individuals that have values similar to mine	1	2	3	4	5
c) To compare my trapping equipment with other trappers	1	2	3	4	5
d) To be with people that enjoy trapping as much as I do	1	2	3	4	5
e) To test the extent to which I can trap	1	2	3	4	5
f) To become better at trapping	1	2	3	4	5
g) To get my family together for a while	1	2	3	4	5
h) To be close to nature	1	2	3	4	5
i) To develop my trapping skills and abilities	1	2	3	4	5
j) To bring my family closer together	1	2	3	4	5
k) To be challenged	1	2	3	4	5
l) To catch an animal	1	2	3	4	5
m) To obtain a feeling of harmony with nature	1	2	3	4	5
n) To test my trapping equipment	1	2	3	4	5
o) To do something with my family	1	2	3	4	5
p) To be with my friends	1	2	3	4	5
q) To seek peace in the outdoors	1	2	3	4	5
r) To discuss my trapping equipment with other trappers	1	2	3	4	5
s) To become more acquainted with wildlife	1	2	3	4	
t) To become more acquainted with the natural environment	1	2	3	4	5
u) To trap with my companions	1	2	3	4	5
v) To develop a sense of self pride	1	2	3	4	5
w) To enjoy the smells and sounds of nature	1	2	3	4	5
x) To harvest a specific animal	1	2	3	4	5
y) To be with members of my trapping club/organization	1	2	3	4	5

27. What is your approximate annual household income before taxes?

1	Under $10,000	7	$60,000 - $69,999
2	$10,000 - $19,999	8	$70,000 - $79,999
3	$20,000 - $29,999	9	$80,000 - $89,999
4	$30,000 - $39,999	10	$90,000 - $99,999
5	$40,000 - $49,999	11	$100,000 and ABOVE
6	$50,000 - $59,999		

28. What is your highest completed level of education? (*Please circle only one answer)*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	9 10 11 12	13 14 15 16	17 18 19 20 21 22+
elementary	high school	college	graduate school

29. Which of the following ethnic groups do you most identify with?

1 WHITE OR ANGLO
2 BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN
3 HISPANIC/LATINO
4 NATIVE AMERICAN OR ALASKAN NATIVE
5 ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER
6 OTHER *(Please specify: _____)*

Is there anything else you would like to share with us about trapping or wildlife management in Mississippi?

Your contribution of time to this study is greatly appreciated. Please return your completed questionnaire in the postage paid business reply envelope as soon as possible. Thank You.

Mississippi State University
Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690
3/12

Appendix B

Survey correspondence with trappers for the 2011-12 Mississippi Trapper Harvest Survey

10000

Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory
Forest & Wildlife Research Center
Box 9690
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690

April 1, 2012

John Trapper
123 Coniber Lane
Greenville, MS 38701

Dear John:

We are conducting a study of licensed trappers in Mississippi for the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries & Parks (MDWFP) and we need your help. We conduct this annual study to determine the trapping activity and harvest rates of Mississippi trappers. However, in addition to the mandatory effort and harvest questions we ask you to complete each year, we are interested in collecting some voluntary information this year on your characteristics, motivations, and attitudes.

Most of the research on trapping and trappers has been conducted in the Northeast U.S. and very little information exists that would help us better understand trapping in the South and how your needs or attitudes differ from trappers elsewhere. This latter information will form the basis for Charles Woodard's Masters of Science Thesis and can provide valuable information to agencies seeking to promote trapping, recruit new trappers to the activity, and educate non-trappers on the importance of trapping to wildlife management and reducing human/wildlife conflicts.

The enclosed survey contains 29 questions. Questions #1-9 are the mandatory effort and harvest questions you are required to complete. Questions #10-29 are the voluntary questions about your characteristics, motivations to trap, and your attitudes toward wildlife. Although voluntary, we hope that you will take 10-15 minutes to provide your input on these latter questions.

It is important that YOU and no one else complete the questionnaire. Your responses are important to us whether you trap often, just occasionally, or if last year was your first time trapping in Mississippi. All responses will be strictly confidential, and you will not be identified with your answers. Your answers will be grouped with other respondents in a non-identifiable manner and MDWFP will never receive any identifiable data. The survey has an identification number for mailing purposes only. This is so we can remove your name from the mailing list once your survey is received. After you complete the questionnaire, please return it to Mississippi State University in the postage-paid, business reply envelope as soon as possible.

On the back side of this letter are the results on trapper harvest in Mississippi from the information licensed trappers provided in last year's survey. Additional harvest data going back to 1976 can be found on our trapper website (**https://hdclel.org/trapper/trapper.htm**). If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or Charles at Mississippi State University at (662) 325-4153. Thank you for your assistance and good luck during the upcoming trapping season.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin M. Hunt
Associate Professor & Director

Charles E. Woodard
Graduate Research Assistant

Table 1. Expanded statewide harvest estimates, average catch per trapper, average catch per successful trappers, and percent successful trappers by furbearer species for the 2010-11 trapping season. There were n=478 licensed trappers in Mississippi in 2010-11.

Species	Harvest	Average Catch Per Trapper	Average Catch Per Successful Trapper	Percent Successful Trappers
Mink	93	0.23	2.37	10.20
Raccoon	12,569	31.70	35.68	91.50
Muskrat	466	1.19	6.36	19.05
Red Fox	229	0.54	3.07	19.39
Gray Fox	1,435	3.59	7.46	50.00
Bobcat	1,714	4.34	8.29	53.74
Opossum	7,647	19.13	27.81	71.43
Otter	2,010	5.01	9.97	52.38
Spotted Skunk	14	0.04	2.75	1.31
Striped Skunk	665	1.68	5.64	30.61
Coyote	3,374	8.37	15.61	56.12
Weasel	1	0.00	1.0	0.34
Nutria	939	2.37	8.15	29.93
Beaver	10,925	26.13	38.44	73.81

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Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory
Forest & Wildlife Research Center
Box 9690
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690

April 21, 2012

John Trapper
123 Coniber Lane
Greenville, MS 38701

Dear John:

About three weeks ago, we sent you a survey of licensed resident and non-resident trappers in Mississippi. As of today, we have not received your completed questionnaire. If you have recently returned your survey, please accept our thanks. You and the other trappers who have not returned their questionnaires may represent a completely different portion of the trapper population. Because there are so few trappers in Mississippi to determine trapping activity and harvest rates, every response matters and we need your help. In case you misplaced your survey, we've enclosed another. Questions #1-9 of the survey are the ones you are required to complete as a condition of purchasing a Mississippi trapping license.

Questions #10-29 are voluntary questions about your characteristics, motivations to trap, and your attitudes toward wildlife. This latter information will form the basis for Charles Woodard's Masters of Science Thesis and can provide valuable information to agencies seeking to promote trapping, recruit new trappers to the activity, and educate non-trappers on the importance of trapping to wildlife management and reducing human/wildlife conflicts. Although Questions #10-29 are completely voluntary we hope that you will take the 10-15 minutes to provide your input.

It is important that YOU and no one else complete the questionnaire. Your responses are important to us whether you trap often, just occasionally, or if last year was your first time trapping in Mississippi. All responses will be strictly confidential, and you will not be identified with your answers. Your answers will be grouped with other respondents in a non-identifiable manner. The survey has an identification number for mailing purposes only. This is so we can remove your name from the mailing list once your survey is received. After you complete the questionnaire, please return it to Mississippi State University in the postage-paid, business reply envelope as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at Mississippi State University at (662) 325-4153. Thank you for your assistance and continued success in your trapping endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin M. Hunt
Associate Professor & Director

Charles E. Woodard
Graduate Research Assistant

10000

Human Dimensions & Conservation Law Enforcement Laboratory
Forest & Wildlife Research Center
Box 9690
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9690

May 15, 2012

John Trapper
123 Coniber Lane
Greenville, MS 38701

Dear John:

Over the past two months we have sent you a survey of licensed resident and non-resident trappers in Mississippi. As of today, we have not received your completed questionnaire. If you have recently returned your survey, please accept our thanks. You and the other trappers who have not returned their questionnaires may represent a completely different portion of the trapper population. Because there are so few trappers in Mississippi to determine trapping activity and harvest rates, every response matters and we need your help. In case you misplaced your survey, we've enclosed another. Questions #1-9 of the survey are the ones you are required to complete as a condition of purchasing a Mississippi trapping license.

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It is important that YOU and no one else complete the questionnaire. Your responses are important to us whether you trap often, just occasionally, or if last year was your first time trapping in Mississippi. All responses will be strictly confidential, and you will not be identified with your answers. Your answers will be grouped with other respondents in a non-identifiable manner. The survey has an identification number for mailing purposes only. This is so we can remove your name from the mailing list once your survey is received. After you complete the questionnaire, please return it to Mississippi State University in the postage-paid, business reply envelope as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at Mississippi State University at (662) 325-4153. Thank you for your assistance and continued success in your trapping endeavors.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin M. Hunt
Associate Professor & Director

Charles E. Woodard
Graduate Research Assistant