

“JACKAL OR LYNX”

I am often asked on courses what we will hunt and how to call both predators at the same time, well!.....

This is a decision you will have to make yourself, keep in mind both are different animals, and are called in different conditions, cats like cover, so call near cover, dogs roam open plains, weather and moon play an important part etc, cats are best called under dark skies, dogs are easier called on a little moon above etc etc... BUT here are a few ideas!

Myself personally I hunt areas with both animals; both critters walk the areas I call, so this is how I work it.

If a farmer has a jackal or cat problem I call that specific animal ONLY, if he generally says he loses to jackal I then call them and don't worry about cats, if calling cats I use only food sounds and NO jackal vocal sound (obviously).

If I want to call both and we are not told of a specific area that both are active I call lets say 8 places at night of each stand of about 1 hour each, I call with food and jackal vocal for jackal at 6 places, and 2 stands with food only for cats. It also depends on the moon if it's a moon I won't really bother to call cats at all, just gooi jackal vocal and food for dogs. **If it is overcast, a wind blowing and pitch dark skies I will then CALL CATS A LOT**, as these things have taught me over the years that it is best for a cat, that's if cats are active in the area.

BUT to be honest I love to call jackal, it is far more fun, than calling an illusive feline, and I prefer calling canines on good farms.

GENERALLY IT IS YOUR CHOICE, YOU MAKE THAT DECISION ON WHAT PREDATOR TO CALL

I will say that in the years I have been calling jackal I have called jackal in jackal areas and never called a cat in a place with active jackal, well as far as I can remember anyways, but you can never tell, we don't have a rule book when predator calling, you can never really tell what will happen next.

Here is an insert from my course I offer, note the differences, this will help when deciding what predator you want to call;

CATS & DOGS

The course is divided into two parts, namely cats and dogs, **BECAUSE** these two predators are totally different in every way. **SEE HERE** as an example.

Jackal

- He is best called on small moon to quarter, very active
 - Called in Karoo and plains
 - Likes realistic sounds
 - Approaches fast and determined
- Responds to vocal sounds of other jackal
 - Has a cycle to match in year
 - Is a pack animal
 - Raises a family with 2 adults
 - Both adults raise pups
 - Has bad eye sight
 - Has excellent smell
 - Is generally an intelligent animal.



**Taken
from our
course
material**

Cats (LYNX/ WILDCAT)

- He is called in dark skies
 - Called near cover
- Likes busy sounds not boring sounds
 - Approaches slowly and cautious
- He **DOES NOT** respond to vocal cat sounds
 - Does not have a cycle
 - Is a solitary animal
- **DOES NOT** raise a family with two adults
 - Female raises kittens
 - Has excellent eye sight
 - Has bad smell – humans

Is generally a stupid animal - that's why it is easily cage trapped

If you are hunting in a time of the year that cats have kittens more often than normal (summer) and its lets see, say November (W Cape) and this is also jackal puppy time, so a food sound will call jackal and the cats, you don't need vocal jackal really, then you have a good chance of calling both.

OR

Some people ONLY like food for jackal, so then you can call both the same time, as long as the area you work is good for both predators **and the moon and weather matches both.**

As people who know me will know, I prefer combos when calling jackal and this is jackal vocal music and also food music, on two callers so I must change my strategy totally if calling ONLY cats.

What you will find, and take note of this – is cats are best or more called with hand calls, you will call far more cats with a hand call than what you did with any electronic caller – reasons are plenty BUT the one reason is the sounds, they are always different and it intrigues cats, and with hand calls you don't need to place a caller away from you as they are dumb animals (lynx) if you place a caller away from you and he comes in you wont see his eyes in your light as he will look the wrong way, so cats with calling with hand calls will give you more results than any electronic will. Many professional callers will agree that hand calls give better results on cats.

I use night vision most times, so I need to place a call away from me to get the attention far from me when using the moon on jackal hunts, cats it is more dark skies and calling them directly towards you with a dimmed red light- that will work just fine.

See this article as example with using a hand caller, we called in a cat without actually wanting to and had no gun!

http://www.africanpredator.com/art_rooikat_en_murph.html

In general, cat or jackal calling all depends on the area and how active it is, you make the choice of what to call, keep the moon and weather in mind, and what it favors, either good for cats or better for jackal, use sounds that will benefit that single predator or if at a good time of year use food on both to try call any of them in (some people use food all year all the time on jackal) so then with that you can call cats and jackal, as long as the moon is right.

MY PERSONAL MOON CALENDER:

Here is how I work the moon; I look at the calendar, NEW MOON lets say is the 10th. So, I go back 5 days, and start hunting the 5th, then I have total darkness just about all night, then from the 10th it starts getting a moon, then I hunt through till the 18th. So, this gives me about 7 days of no moon and a few days with a small moon. This is best for both predators.

I have called more cats with an open reeded caller than I have with any electronic, they seem attracted to active, squeaky juicy sounds!

The nice thing when you call with only food sounds is you can never tell what will approach the call, it's an even game, I would not mind a cat or a jackal, either one is fine with me!