

# AFRICAN PREDATOR ETHICAL CONTROL



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Part 8*



**This 8th part is going to be extremely helpful in many ways, it covers the things we do wrong, how to get clever animals, when they answer and dont come in, brooms, and clearing out jackal dens.**

**Jackal that fell to a two caller setup, using two callers works very well, just make sure to shoot straight!**

## **THEY ANSWER BUT DONT COME IN**

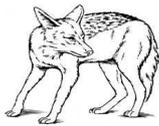


**T**he jackals answer but dont come in, sound familiar?... this is a topic I am often asked about, why dont they?..... well this can be because of many things, most of the time it is because of us and what we are doing wrong, here are a few possibilities, maybe this will help you see what you are doing wrong, but you can never tell most times, and in every callers career he WILL experiance this very irritating occurance, but thats hunting, nobody said its a walk in the park right! Maybe these small things will help you.

Does your truck diesel fuel smell?, this smell is associated with humans and predators know that too!, are you using shade cloth on the truck? Yes!, well stop, because it is bad news, its squeaky, shiny and makes a lot of noise, and how about black, never use black colours at night on the karoo plains, NEVER! It stands out and is easy to see, dont let netting bang or scrape against the bodywork of the truck, it is noisy, cut off round rings, also use 3 bottles of open cover scent in front of you downwind to hide your smells, put a rubber mat on the bakkie at the back, rubber is a neutral smell and does not effect predators, how about sound? Playing it to loud or the wrong sound for that time of the year?, to loud and to long?..... remember food, play 5 seconds on and wait 30 seconds to a minute and go again..... the moon is it correct for you?

Check NEW MOON, sit a week prior to new moon for cats, and a week after new moon for jackal, do you sit long enough?... an hour at least for a jackal or cat?.....Was it windy when you called for cats?.. no, well if no you stand less chance of success, cats like wind... Did you begin your hunt from after dusk when you arrived at the first place early in the daylight still? That first place is very important to start in the day, arrive early, cover up, await nightfall and sit below the chair, dont circle a lot in the day, they will spot you! **All these questions you will get the answers to during this series** - how about do you drive from place to place with red lenses over your truck lights? Well I hope you do!, do you use challenge sounds too much in breeding season, this is a huge mistake and many hunters make it, as you chase away last years jackal, they get scared, and you cannot call the small dumb ones... sitting 200-300m from a jackal proof fence? Not a good idea! Are you using the same sounds too often at the same place?

I hunted one night near a "**professional**" caller..... I could hear his caller playing in the distance, he played FIGHT FIGHT FIGHT without stopping for easily 30 minutes, if you call like this you also will call nothing.....



### **"TWO GOOD TIP'S"**



If you are marking out the spots with the wind that you will work that night then turn at your last marking point to make that the first spot and now face the wind all the way back, remember to ALWAYS after you drive through an open gate or at spots along the sand road, mark with a gps or a rock) at some places on a long sand road take a broom and sweep a metre line across the sand road, then drive to the places, on the way back to all your calling spots check all the broom marks for fresh tracks, and if cats or jackal tracks show stop and make a call quickly. This will work often to your advantage.

If you call at the normal time after it gets dark and suddenly your success is not what it used to be, wait a month, then go call at 2 hours before it gets light in the morning or after 12 at night, change tactics....., drive into the veld and wait an hour then start to call and work it that its 2 hours before dawn, we must change tactics from Dusk to Dawn if necessary!. Try different times.



### **PERSONAL**



**If all else fails, look at your underarm spray, maybe these jackals just dont like the brand you are using, maybe we must try a different brand, or after shave brand name, maybe yours is just no good, this is a joke, BUT remember to take a look at your person, dont use sprays before a hunt, and urinate at places you intend to call at.... NON contamination of an area is VITAL!!!!**

# THINGS WE DO WRONG



The following is the small things “**WE OFTEN DO WRONG**, but we all at some stage make errors, it is pretty normal, like standing 200-300m away from a jackal proof fence line, yes pretty obvious, but many people do that and animals cannot get to them! Do you urinate at a spot before you call, or talk, eat, smoke or simply make a lot of noise? Again pretty standard stuff many often do wrong! Dont poep, fart and talk crap and move about making noise, if you do stop, and if you have such a person with you tell him to STOP!

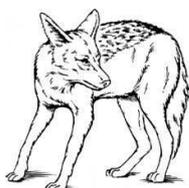
When you are ready to await nightfall, dont sit on the swivel shooting chair and turn and move a lot, cats see and pick up movement well, and jackal could spot you, keep low and after dusk and low light then climb up top to your chair.

Dont play a distress sound for 5 minutes, then go to another sound, and later to another etc, you are fooling around and not hunting, and know to play and create breaks between sounds and know how long to wait between sounds, pull off that dirt road, dont stand on the road and call, pull off the sand road, prepare truck well and sweep the back to stop noise inside the bak, all these things many hunters dont do, and they are big mistakes. DONT USE any white lights on a jackal hunt on your bakkie, drive to spots with red filters over your bakkie lights.

***This is a very good tip*** - If you hear them barking at you ( this is not a good thing most times) after you start to call, then put off your sound. Get a backpack and shooting tripod, and walk in the dark towards the sounds, if you hear the barks going left or right walk ahead of that angle, walk 350m and call on foot, use another sound and scan with a small light and use a tripod as a rest, Sometimes this style of tactic works well, even if the wind is wrong for you, just walk and take a chance, walk in the dark, DONT put on any flashlights at all. And use windmills also to call from, elevated positions are good, and offer great vision.

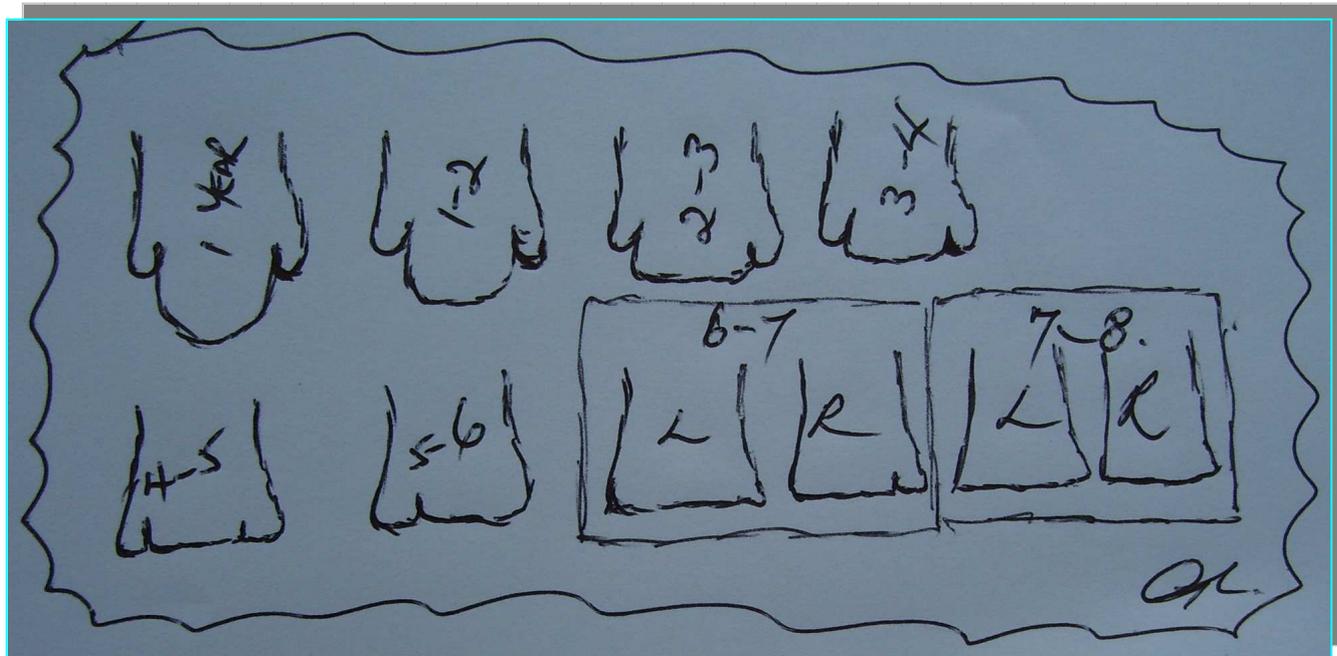
Try different styles, many times a different approach to your normal style of calling will help a ton, I know a guy who has a few elevated platforms on his farm, he goes by mountain bike from one to the other, and calls at night, it works well.

Never play your sounds too often on the same standing position, BUT if you go at night and find you stood at two places and killed with the same sound use it again, if something works dont change that sound, in other words dont try fix something that is not broken!



**AGE OF JACKALS;** This is a pretty good idea as to age , excuse my crude drawings, I cannot draw to save my life. What you can do is when you do manage to kill all the ages in this sketch, take the teeth out of that animals jaw and keep as reference in small plastic bags, and mark each plastic bag, then you can match them up easily when you go hunt each time. Cut heads off and throw in a place the ants will go, within a week the jaw is eaten clean.....

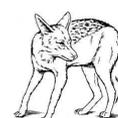
I made a sketch and this should offer a good idea, these are the front upper centre teeth.



The years are marked on each one. Print this out and leave in your bakkie.

If a jackal barks and does not come in, climb off the truck, walk about 350m and call from the ground, have somebody to shine a light and you shoot, walking to the area closer to that jackal works!

**Dont forget to hang a fresh dead jackal behind your truck** – it helps a lot! Watch the downwind side if he circles, sometimes you can noticeably see how he picks up the scent of the dead jackal and comes directly to your bakkie and NOT the caller sound, we have seen how he comes straight to us, in our wind and has NO idea we are on the bakkie, we have witnessed this personally, dead jackals hanging at the back HELPS!



## LINKS OF INTEREST REGARDING THE 8th part

<http://www.africanpredator.com/2012%20Jakkals%20en%20Kat%20Wenke%20oor%20nagskiet.pdf>

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<http://www.africanpredator.com/ROOIKAT%20ROEP%20WENKE%202012%20UPDATED.pdf>

<http://www.africanpredator.com/pdf-docs/61-JAKKALS-ROEP-and-good-responses.pdf>

<http://www.africanpredator.com/pdf-docs/60-ROOIKAT-AMBUSH-KILLING-TACTICS.pdf>

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<http://www.africanpredator.com/pdf-docs/15-Jakkals-Jag-SYSTEM-OF-CALLING.pdf>

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It was my aim to offer the people interested the chance to learn all the fine points regarding ethical predator removal and at no charge – this way all farmers / hunters that want to learn can benefit from this series and read it on the internet.

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