JAWBONE REMOVAL

Take all other measurements from the deer and record the data on the jawbone card, then remove the jawbone. If processing more than one deer, be certain to match the proper jawbone to the card with the data from the same deer. The best and easiest way to remove a jawbone is with a jawbone extractor. You can simply cut the jawbone out, but it is much easier to use a jawbone extractor. The proper method for removing a jawbone with a jawbone extractor is illustrated in steps 1 through 8.

Step 1. Insert the jawbone extractor between the jaw and roof of the mouth and then, rotate the extractor to pry open the mouth.
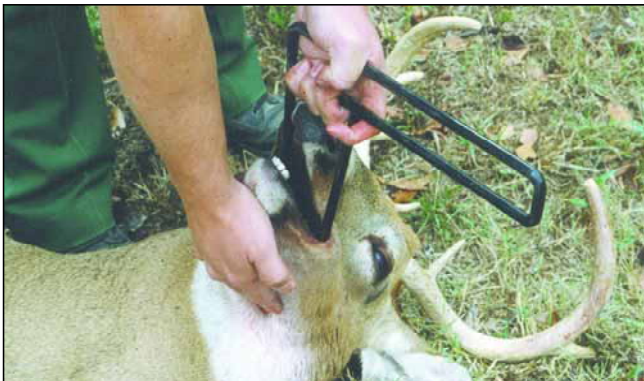

Step 2. Use the rounded end of the jawbone extractor to separate the muscles and hide from the jawbone by forcing the extractor downward between the jawbone and cheek. This will take a moderate amount of force. The inset shows the extractor in the position needed for complete muscle separation.

Step 3. Carefully cut the inner lip near the top of the jawbone between the front and back teeth. This step can be omitted if the deer will NOT be mounted by a taxidermist.

Step 4. Insert the jawbone extractor between the jaw and the roof of the mouth to pry open the mouth as shown in step 1. Insert the clippers between the two bars of the extractor and cut the jawbone at the back of the mouth. The inset shows where the jawbone should be cut.

Step 5. Insert the rounded end of the jawbone extractor through the cut just made in the jawbone. Then push the jawbone through the loop end of the extractor with your hand. Pull the extractor toward the nose of the deer stopping at the front teeth.

Step 6. Position of extractor after pulling it under the jawbone of a deer that is to be mounted. For deer that will NOT be mounted you may choose to pull the extractor completely under the jawbone and out the mouth breaking the bone at the front teeth.

Step 7. Cut the jawbone between the front and back teeth. Be careful not to cut the lip if the deer is to be mounted by a taxidermist.

Step 8. Remove the jawbone.