

## September Roadside Counts

### Texas Quail Index

**Summary:** Observer will drive 10-mile transect in early morning and late-afternoon hours during first two weeks of September to count any quail observed.

**Purpose:** Roadside counts are an index to quail abundance and provide some idea as to brood survival.

**Materials:**

- 1) data sheets

**Schedule:** Initiate in early September; repeat at least 3 times over a 2-week period.

**Procedure:**

- 1) Drive 10-mile route; maintain speeds less than 20 mph.
- 2) Repeat counts a minimum of 3 times during the period. Alternate starting/ending points (i.e., direction of travel) between counts.
- 3) Record all quail observed on route on data sheet. Entries should correspond with that particular mile segment on the data sheet; i.e., if a covey of 11 quail is observed between mile marker 3 and 4, record that sighting in the box for mile marker 3. If you start at Mile 10, be sure and mark observations in “reverse” order.
- 4) Report number of quail observed per sighting; if chicks are present, give approximate age (e.g.,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , or  $\frac{3}{4}$  grown). If both bobwhites and blue quail occur at the site, be sure and indicate which species was observed for each sighting.
- 5) Compute totals for each column.
- 6) Submit data sheets in timely manner. File copies in your notebook.