



CANADA GOOSE AND CONTROL ISSUES FACT SHEET

1. Canada Goose Facts¹

- a. **Life Expectancy** - approximately 24 years
- b. **Offspring** - clutch size varies from 1 - 15 per pair per year, averages at 5
- c. **Appetite** - The average goose will eat approximately 5 pounds of turf per day. They prefer young grasses and pull the shoot up to the root.
- d. **Fecal Loading** - The average goose defecates 1.5 pounds per day. 100 geese x 1.5 pounds x 365 days/year = 54,750 pounds of geese manure per year

2. Border Collies and their Efficacy in Bird and Wildlife Control²

- a. Border collies provide an actual threat as opposed to a perceived threat in the minds of the birds
- b. Canada geese, nuisance birds, and wildlife cannot habituate to the Border collie
- c. Border collies put a predator into your predator free environment. They are a predator that you can control, by directing, where, when, and what they hunt
- d. Border collies are versatile and can control various bird and wildlife populations, such as deer, Canada geese and other waterfowl, egrets and herons, cormorants, and sand hill cranes to name a few
- e. Border collies have a high endurance and can deal with a variety of climates and terrain
- f. Border collies are not retrievers by nature. They do not have to bring the bird to you to feel they have succeeded.³
- g. Border collies are silent workers, a trait bred into them hundreds of years ago to prevent them from disturbing the sheep when working. By moving the birds and wildlife with their "eye", and not their "bark", they can be effective in noise-ridden areas.
- h. Swimming is a vital part of moving the geese to another location. There is more to working geese than just chasing after them. Training a dog to do the specific items that are needed to control geese populations takes someone that has knowledge of geese and training dogs.



¹ As quoted by Flyaway Farm Bird Control and Goose Removal Services based in Chadbourne, North Carolina www.flyawaybordercollies.com

² Ibid.

³ (It is illegal to have a dog harvest geese.)