

## HUNT 08-112



We have several outfitters with extensive bowhunting backgrounds that we book for in New Zealand and one of the best is Mike Freeman's Kiwi Safaris. Mike has invested a great deal of time and effort with bow hunting clients and in doing so, he and his guides have accumulated vast experience in handling the extra effort needed for a successful bow hunt. Three species are at the top of most bow hunter's list: red deer, Himalayan tahr and chamois. Other antlered species include: fallow deer, Rusa deer and axis deer. In addition there are feral sheep and goats and wild turkeys.

**Red Deer** - These deer are hunted best during the rut (March-May) when they are very vocal. Antlers of 8x8 are common and larger ones can frequently be seen. A bow hunter can expect three shooting opportunities per day when hunting with Mike Freeman. **Price** - \$3,500 trophy fee for stags up to an SCI score of 300 to 320; up to 340 SCI = \$4,500; up to 355 SCI = \$7,000; management stags = \$1,500 with a daily rate of \$500 (1x1), \$350 (2x1 or more); non-hunter daily rate \$200. Non-hunter touring rate- \$350/day, all inclusive.

**Himalayan tahr** - Normally, the hunt for tahr requires the use of helicopters to access their normal range, however, Mike Freeman has exclusive rights to hunting areas with elevations less than 6000 feet and these areas can be hunted on day-hunts. In the SCI record book (bow category) eight out of the top ten Himalayan tahr were taken from Mike Freeman's concession. **Price** - Trophy fee is \$4,350 with daily rate of \$500 (1x1), \$350 (2x1 or more); non-hunter daily rate \$200.

**Chamois** - They are found exclusively on the South Island and usually run in herds of 20-50 animals. These chamois have longer horns than their western European relatives. This hunt is not easy, but Mike's success rate is running over 60%. **Price** - \$3,350 trophy fee with daily rate of \$500 (1x1), \$350 (2x1 or more); non-hunter daily rate \$200.

**Wapiti Elk** - **Price** - 300 - 320 SCI = \$3,500; 320-340 SCI = \$5,500; 340-360 SCI = \$7,500; management bulls \$2,500; with daily rate of \$500 (1x1), \$350 (2x1 or more); non-hunter daily rate \$200.

**Fallow Deer** - These deer offer great sport for the stalking bow hunter. They can be hunted from March 15 to August 31. The rut coincides with the late rut of the red deer with May and June being good months. **Price** - \$3,000 with daily rate of \$500 (1x1), \$350 (2x1 or more); non-hunter daily rate \$200.

**Sambar Deer** - One of the largest deer in New Zealand, the Sambar can weigh up to 600 lb. and stand 50" at the shoulder. They have 3x3 antlers, which are massive in the larger stags. Sambar are not as plentiful as the other antlered species, and this reality is reflected in the price. **Price** - \$7,500 trophy fee with daily rate of \$500 (1x1), \$350 (2x1 or more); non-hunter daily rate \$200.

**Rusa Deer** - Like axis and Sambar deer, the Rusa have 3x3 antlers. **Price** - \$5,000 trophy fee and daily rate of \$500 (1x1), \$350 (2x1 or more); non-hunter daily rate \$200.

Other species available while hunting with Mike Freeman are: wild boar (\$1,200), feral goat (\$600), feral ram (\$750).