

YOUR HORRORSCOPE!

Aries (March 21 — April 19)



Famous deer industry Arians

Bernard Pinney, Ian Spiers, John Burrowes, Sir Peter Elworthy, John Marshall, Tim Wallis, Joseph von Kerckerinck, Prof. John Thonnard, James Guild, Piers Hunt

1989 for you

Like all Arians you are prone to rapidly lose weight during the rut. Make up for this by wallowing regularly. A thick coat and a steely eye fools all but the closest inspection. Although you tend to be shy and withdrawn, challenges from young Sika bucks may force you to assume a leadership role. Give them short shrift. Pay attention to your headgear — a coiffure of livestrand and rotting silage is indicated for the autumn months.

Taurus (April 20 — May 10)



Famous deer industry Taureans

Bernard Pinney, Peter Fraser jnr, Hub Hall, Clive Jermy, Whitley Otway, Christina Floyd, Bob Robertson, Phillip Morris, Bernie Chaney, Winston Day, Dr Desmond Williams, John Spiers, Bruce Thomsen, Bob Deadman, John Acland, Graham Carr, Keith Hood, Kees Taal, the Harts of Oakwood

1989 for you

Some Taureans are known for the way they spin the bull. Not you. As a judge of livestock you have few peers. Your bloodlines are the best in the world. That said, 1989 may prove difficult — enemies may allude to a touch of the tarbrush in your breeding. Hidden voices may say your herd is not really Tb accredited. Salesmen may force you into one of these silly new progeny testing programmes which tell the truth about bloodlines. Ignore them and increase your advertising budget in The Deer Farmer. Everyone knows Taurus baffles brains.

Gemini (May 21 — June 20)



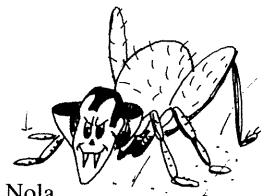
Famous deer farming Geminis

Bob Robertson, Mike Meuli, Jim Paterson, Graham Christie, Alan Ferens, Peter Sullivan, Dennis Clausen

1989 for you

Gemini is the sign of the twins. You are creative. You can argue both sides in the same argument. You can build up an industry in Australia or Canada at the same time as you do a 'good thing' for New Zealand. But others don't see it the same way. There's a whispering in the wind, a singing on the party lines, storms brewing in the committee rooms and tissue worm in the closet. Watch it!

Cancer (June 21 — July 22)



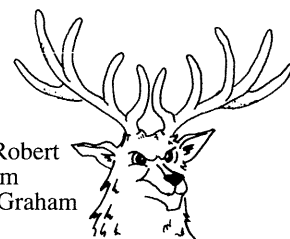
Famous deer farming Cancerians

Donna Elmiger, Elaine Hart, Christina Floyd, Nola Anderson, Julie McCall, Catherine Rapley, Alison Dinsdale, Heather Atkins

1989 for you

You will continue to make your major contribution to the deer farming industry in 1989, even though a few dip-sticks will say you're not a real man. Ignore this macho nonsense. You know who really wears the pants. If your bucks don't perform, give them a shot of melatonin. If that doesn't work, do the opposite. (Falling melatonin makes the male appendages grow, rising melatonin causes them to harden).

Leo (July 23 — August 22)



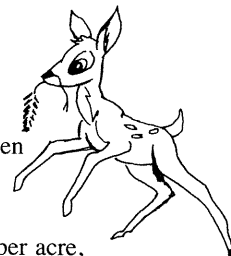
Famous deer farming Leos

Dick Sheridan, David Bond, Heather Atkins, Robert Geraghty, Geoff Findley, Murray Douglas, Tom Rowbotham, Tony van Stokkum, Ross Laird, Graham Robinson, Don Gregson

1989 for you

Go fishing. (There's no need to ring Matt Rata first, it's nothing personal you understand). Nighttimes will see you obsessed — wandering lightly clad amidst coastal pohutukawas looking for possum damage. Don't worry about this — it's normal. The next stage is grief. Daytimes you are obsessed with paspalum and kikuyu. You are prone to bouts of recreational spraying. (Apply to Monsanto and the Arts Council for a special grant.) Despite repeated requests your local NZDFA branch will fail to obtain a servicing manual for its photocopier. While monthly newsletters will get darker through the year, your prospects will get brighter. Don't forget you're at on the top of the NZ industry — geographically at least.

Virgo (August 23 — September 22)



Famous deer farming Virgos

Paul Wigglesworth, John Collie, Brian Marcroft, Ken Swainson, Joe Crowley

1989 for you

Now that your stocking rates have reached 20 deer per acre, it is time to investigate two-tier deer. Grazing platforms high in willow trees are indicated. Another possibility is training deer to walk only on their front feet, thereby cutting hoof damage to pastures in half. In the autumn months, compulsive drenching may become a problem. If your wife and children complain, add gin to hers and raspberry to theirs. If this doesn't work give them Ivermectin injections when they're sleeping. Your favourite expression: Liveweightgainforage.

D I S T R A C T I O N S

Libra (September 23 — October 22)

Famous deer farming librans

Bill Knight, Lesley Hakkaart, Gillian Dufty, Vicky Lucas, Trevor Walton, David Yerex, Don Bryant



1989 for you

Another confusing year. While yours is the sign of the scales, there will be those who think you're out of balance. Others will say you're wonderful, while still others will do a Bonifant.

If your proof reading gives you trouble, don't try and Wiggle out of it. If your hinds start growing velvet, harvest it, bank the proceeds but say nothing.

Your big Challenge — a duel with the Canterbury NZDFA, with venison sides at 50 paces. A futile but amusing task: To get the West Coast branch of the NZDFA to accept photos of North Islanders in the magazine.

Capricorn (December 22 — January 19)

Famous deer farming Capricornians

Ian Scott, Noel Beatson, Gilbert Van Reenen, Peter Wilson, David Beale



1989 for you

Frustration will give way to resignation that mating harnesses for deer are an impossibility. Tell your wife and she might come home.

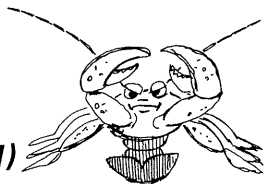
Your love of animals and waste-not want-not philosophy can go too far: Stop picking up dead hedgehogs, cats, roos, possums and wombats for your transplant freezer. It's full already. And yes, that story about making fashion hats out of hedgehog and echidna skins was only a joke.

Your methods of dispensing vet-only drugs also need to change. Refusing clients with funny sounding surnames would be a good way to go. Thinking up rationalisations will be good brain exercise as you Tb test your 10 000th deer for the year.

Scorpio (October 23 — November 21)

Famous deer farming Scorpions

Elaine Hart, John Thonnard, John Martin, Peter O'Brien, Nola Anderson, Bob Beames, Ross Thomson, John Roberts, Alan Rundell, Norm Craig



1989 for you

The scorpion is a desert creature and this may well have affected the locality in which you have chosen to farm. Flies will be a seasonal problem, then you are probably used to them. The same goes for snakes, goannas and dingos. You have a fear of tissue worm, are paranoid that Keating might notice your tax breaks. You toss and turn through sleepless nights worrying that genetic engineers may turn the wombat into a low-flying mammal as some sort of sick city joke. Breed of the Year: Wapiti. (Last year's favourite: Red) Other breeds: See ABDF peace-making schedule which ensures each breed gets one year in the limelight before 2010.

Aquarius (January 20 — February 18)

Famous deer farming Aquarians

David Hickman, Michael Pattison



1989 for you

Aquarius is the sign of the water-carrier, but in your case you hew the wood as well. Which is just as well, because management consultants lurk behind every tree. Just make sure you hew the right tree.

From time to time your wife will tell you that you can't be all things to all men. Especially not at all hours of the day and night. She is wrong. You are the ultimate one-armed paperhanger.

A 1989 New Year's prayer (said between clenched teeth): 'Lord give me bloody patience'. Followed by a resolution: 'I promise in future to suffer all fools gladly, nay, even to sanctify and coddle them as if they were my own flesh'. Serves you right, you chose the job.

Sagittarius (November 22 — December 21)

Famous deer farming Sagittarians

Michael Rice, Andrew Duncan, Jock Macintosh, Stuart Macintosh, Geoff Young, Graham Christie, Peter Walters, Malcolm Linn.



1989 for you

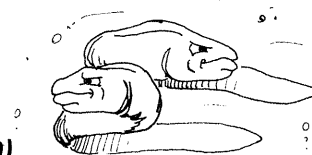
A journey to foreign lands is likely. Don't forget to take a geiger counter (to explain the disadvantages of foreign product); sufficient clothing and funds for a very long stay (that's if you expect to launch a GIB industry mark to your clients on this trip) and a world atlas to show American customers where New Zealand is/was. (Continental drift can fool even the most regular of overseas travellers.)

Your nightmares of ever-increasing venison prices may be past their worst. A hypnotist will give you the persuasive powers you need to get farmers to part with their deer when they are needed by the market. Keep a watchful eye on John Parker. Pray that the Kiwifruit Marketing Authority collapses in its first year.

Pisces (February 19 — March 20)

Famous deer farming Pisceans

Margaret Davidson, Alan Thorley, Nigel Ramsden, Elaine Fouhy, Jane Bowden, Angela Walton, Gray Hodgkinson, Carole van Hulst, Anna Vaughan, Christine Talbot



1989 for you

Still waters run deep, as all Pisceans know. As one of the backroom team on TDF you get to do all the behind the scenes work. You're bloody good at what you do. You don't get much visibility, but then it doesn't pay to be a duck in the duck shooting season.

Since you produce the smartest farming magazine in New Zealand and the leading deer farming publication in the world, don't be ashamed to pat each other on the back. Shout the directors a drink. Feel good about yourself. By the way, changing C. Elaphus to C. Blephus was not funny.