CPSO investigates deaths of exotic deer

Tuesday, November 1, 2011
Caddo sheriff's deputies are investigating the suspicious deaths of several exotic deer located on private acreage on Pinehill Road in north Caddo Parish, said Caddo Sheriff Steve Prator.

Monday evening, the owner of the property found nine deceased Axis and Sitka deer in close proximity on the 320-acre licensed deer farm. The animals were in varying stages of decay, and it's believed they died within a week of each other.

Some of the animals appeared to have been shot, but authorities have consulted a veterinarian to determine an official cause of death.

The farm, located on Pinehill Road across from Ricks Road south of Blanchard, is licensed by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry to raise and sell livestock not native to the area, such as elk, emus, antelope, and certain breeds of deer. It's enclosed by an eight-foot wire fence but parts of the property are visible to motorists from Pinehill Road.

Caddo sheriff's deputies are investigating the case and are being assisted by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry Live Stock Brand Commission and Caddo Parish Animal Control.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Sheriff's Office at (318) 675-2170, Shreveport-Caddo Crime Stoppers at 673-7373, or the Department of Agriculture and Forestry Brand Commission Crime Stoppers at 800-558-9741.