

BAMBI TRAP

In America we have deer. Collisions with these animals cause many injuries and deaths each year. These animals behave in ways that to humans may seem insane but we must remember that deer have survived a long time behaving as they do. Their behavior patterns have served them well in the past. If Bambi senses the presence of a predator. It is best to stand very still and wait. Predators don't see Bambi easily if they aren't moving. Bambi then has time to figure out where the predator is by its sound and movement. As it gets closer Bambi goes from being alert to anxiety and then to blind terror. The problem with these instinctive reactions is they are programmed by thousand of years.

As the predator closes Bambi must time its move and then run as fast as possible to safety. Dodging this way and then that way. Surprised by the predators speed Bambi makes a desperate bid for freedom. It runs erratically in all directions trying to evade the illumination of death. Now only luck and seconds stand between you, Bambi, and the Big Splat.

Deer are most active at night, the late evening and early morning. They are most frequently encountered along lonely roads where the forests provide cover and nearby fields provide fodder. During hunting seasons ,deer may be pushed out of their usual haunts into more urban areas. Be alert. When you see Bambi near the road give him a brake. In fact if possible both your brakes, immediately. By slowing down you give yourself more time to react to whatever deer strategy it may use to escape you. Remember deer often travel in groups. If you see one cross the road it is likely that you will soon see another right after. Does will be followed by fauns or bucks depending on the season. Watch for their eyes in your headlights at night.

Bambi traps are a fact of life for bikers. The furry little four footers are out there everywhere, waiting for you. They will only obey their instincts. We humans are the predator , capable of anticipating unlikely events. Contemplation is a wonderful trait we possess. What could that animal have been thinking? What was it trying to do ? Where had it been hiding? Uppermost our minds thought is "%#* I COULDDA BEEN KILLED11111.