

Summary of National Hunting Regulations: Hungary



Updated in August 2016

HUNTING AND TRAPPING LEGISLATION/ RESOURCES

Name of main legislation: 55/1996 Law on Protection and Management of Game Species and Hunting

Year of publication: 1996; modifications in 2006; 2004; 2016

Supporting legislation: 79/2004 Implementation regulation of the Law on Hunting

Legislation updates: 55/2016: latest modification: 1 July 2016, forthcoming modification 1 March 2017; 79/2004: latest modification 1 March 2016

Hunting legislation (web link): http://net.jogtar.hu/jr/gen/hjegy_doc.cgi?docid=99600055.TV;
http://net.jogtar.hu/jr/gen/hjegy_doc.cgi?docid=A0400079.FVM

Authority in charge of controlling hunting (web link): National Food Chain Safety Office (NFCSO) - <https://www.nebih.gov.hu/en/>

Major inconsistencies or loopholes detected (if yes please describe): none

Derogations (on EU Birds Directive and/or Bern Convention): none

HUNTING AND TRAPPING: METHODS AND RESTRICTIONS

	Legal methods/restrictions	Notes
Hunting	<p>Licenced hunting is permitted for certain species in specific seasons – see below.</p> <p>Legal tools/methods: licenced rifle (min. barrel length: 45 cm), licenced hunting bow, muzzle-loading gun (min. barrel length: 45 cm), bird of prey licenced for falconry, Hungarian Greyhound licenced for greyhound coursing.</p> <p>Restrictions: hunting out of season; hunting with illegal tools, and/or by illegal methods; hunting on restricted areas. Use of lead shots on designated wetland areas and in their buffer zones. If a wetland area is not designated, lead shots must not fall into water bodies.</p> <p>Illegal tools/methods: poisoned and explosive arrows, arbalest, muffler, muzzle-loading gun in group hunting, automatic and semi-automatic weapons (semi-automatic shotguns allowed only with max. load of 3 cartridges) , explosives, electric tools causing electrocution are all forbidden.</p>	
Trapping	<p>Legal methods/equipment:</p> <p>Tools and methods described in Council Regulation (EEC) No 3254/91 of 4 November 1991 and/or not align with human trapping standards (AIHTS) are forbidden.</p>	

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	Restrictions: stack, lime-sticks, toil, poisoned or narcotic bait, blind or truncated living decoys are forbidden.	
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HUNTING SEASONS AND SPECIES

Open Hunting Season	Legally huntable species	Notes
1 October – last day of February	Common Pheasant male	Common Pheasant: introduced species
1 October – 31 December	Grey Partridge Greylag Goose	Grey Partridge: with special permission/regulation; restricted to hunting grounds where the release of reared birds = min. 500 individuals in the given year. Greylag Goose: place setting restriction – see below.
1 October – 31 January	Common Pheasant female Bean Goose, Greater White-fronted Goose, Canada Goose, Egyptian Goose	Female pheasant: with special permission of the Hunting Authority, depending on location and yearly release Place setting restriction: Bean Goose + White-fronted Goose + Greylag Goose: max. 6 individuals / day / hunter, out of which Greylag Goose: max 2 individuals. Shorter hunting season for Bean Goose and White-fronted Goose in Eastern Hungary. Canada and Egyptian Geese should be reported to the National Game Management Database in the Szent István University, Gödöllő as there are invasive species (to our best knowledge, both are vagrants from neighbouring countries)
15 August – 31 January	Mallard, Common Woodpigeon, Eurasian Collared-dove	Place setting restriction: Common Coot + Mallard – max. 8 individuals / day / hunter (see below).
1 September – 31 January	Common Coot	Place setting restriction: Common Coot + Mallard – max. 8 individuals / day / hunter (see above)
without open hunting season	Eurasian Woodcock	Centrally controlled (Szent István University, Gödöllő) There is a derogation reported yearly on this species Monitoring takes place every spring; there's a quota along which individuals can be shot during their spring migration
1 July – last day of February	Black-billed Magpie, Eurasian Jay, Hooded Crow (Carrion Crow subspecies)	Thinning (hunting and trapping) in breeding season is possible on small game hunting areas with special permission of the Hunting Authority.

TRAPPING SEASONS AND SPECIES

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Open Trapping Season	Legally trapped species	Notes
<p>During hunting season</p> <p>Thinning (hunting and trapping) in breeding season is possible on small game hunting areas with special permission of the Hunting Authority.</p>	<p>Theoretically all game species can be trapped alive (with licenced traps) during their hunting seasons. In fact, only the ones below are trapped.</p> <p>Black-billed Magpie, Eurasian Jay, Hooded Crow (Carrion Crow subspecies)</p>	

TRADE AND PEST SPECIES

Legal trade	Notes
None know about bird game species	
Legislation on “pest species”	Notes
<p>For reasons of public health, aviation safety and agriculture, repelling, shooting, thinning and regulation of the Common Starling, Great Cormorant, House Sparrow, Mute Swan and Yellow-legged Gull and the Caspian Gull can be authorized.</p> <p>No permission is needed for repelling outside protected areas between 1 July – 28 February; and on airports and their safety zone throughout the whole year, respectively.</p> <p>No special permission is needed for thinning of the Great Cormorant between 1 September – 31 January, outside protected areas and SPAs, by licenced hunting tools/methods.</p> <p>No special permission is needed for thinning the Common Starling in vineyards, orchards and sweet corn field between 1 August – 31 October, outside protected areas and SPAs. Only licenced hunting methods and tools can be used.</p>	<p>13/2001 (V.9.) Ministerial Decree on protected plant and animal species, strictly protected caves and plant and animal species of conservation significance in the European Community.</p>

NGO: MME/BirdLife Hungary

Contact Person: Dr. Márton Horváth, species conservation manager (horvath.marton@mme.hu)

Data compiled by: Attila Králl (krall.attila@mme.hu)

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