

Note:

AN ALBINO MULE DEER IN SOUTHEASTERN MONTANA—Murie (1979, *The Elk of North America*) stated that “almost all dark animals occasionally show some degree of albinism.” Although there are occasional reports of albino and partial-albino deer in Montana, I know of no documented cases.

On 16 July 1980 an albino mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) fawn was observed in ponderosa pine habitat in Powder River County, Montana. The fawn was observed with an apparently normal doe. Several photographs were taken of the fawn and the originals are presently on file at the Montana State University Zoological Museum. The photos show the fawn to be complete albino; the pelage is pure white and the eyes and ears are pink.

Several members of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks had received occasional reports of albino deer in southeastern Montana, but no one had actually seen an albino deer previous to this. Also noteworthy were the comments of several ranchers who informed me that they had observed a mature albino mule deer doe in this area several years previous to this observation.

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