Calculating Wildlife Opening Sizes

LINEAR OPENING:

Acres = length (L) x width (W)

\[
\text{Acres} = \frac{\text{length} \times \text{width}}{43,560}
\]

Example:  
\[
\begin{align*}
W &= 75 \text{ feet} \\
L &= 150 \text{ feet}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\frac{150 \times 75}{43,560} = 0.25 \text{ (1/4 acre)}
\]

FIELD CORNER OPENING:

Note: Measure along each axis (e.g. field border, fence) from corner and connect the two points.

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{1}{4} \text{ acre} &= 104.4 \times 104.4 \text{ feet} = 10,899 \text{ sq. ft.} \\
\frac{1}{2} \text{ acre} &= 104.4 \times 208.7 \text{ feet} = 21,788 \text{ sq. ft.} \\
1 \text{ acre} &= 208.7 \times 208.7 \text{ feet} = 43,560 \text{ sq. ft.}
\end{align*}
\]

MEASUREMENT & AREA CONVERSION TABLES:

**Length**

- Foot = 12 inches = 0.3048 meters
- Yard = 36 inches = 3 feet = 0.9144
- Mile = 1,760 yards = 5,280 feet = 1.61 kilometers = 80 chains

**Area**

- Acre = 4,840 square yards = 43,560 square feet = 0.4047 hectare
- Hectare = 10,000 square meters = 2.47 acres
- Square mile = 640 acres = 2.59 square kilometers = 1 section

Calculating the acreage of an irregularly shaped wildlife opening can produce highly variable results without the use of a GPS or smartphone app. These relatively new technologies make it much easier to accurately determine the acreage of irregularly shaped wildlife openings. A GPS or smartphone app allows managers to walk or ride around an opening to determine the acreage. Accurate determination of wildlife opening acreage allows managers to apply the proper amounts of lime, fertilizer and seed.

This information is provided by the Alabama Forestry Commission
For more information please visit: www.forestry.alabama.gov