

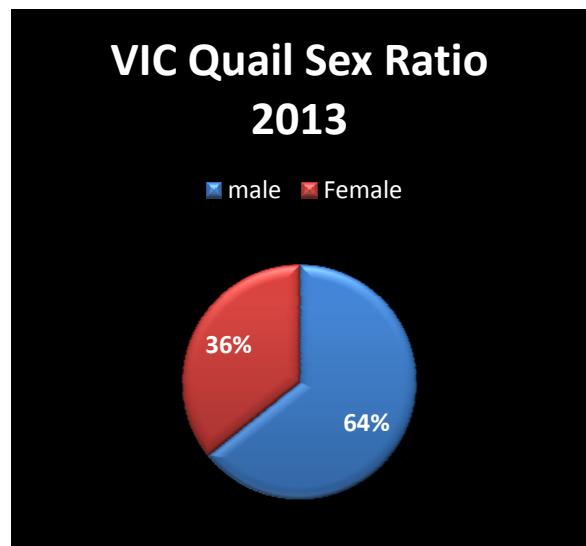
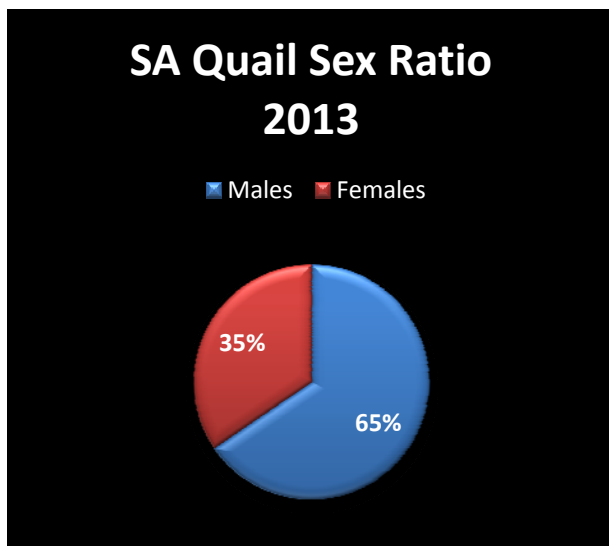
## SSAA National Stubble Quail Research Project 2013 Analysis

The following information was determined from samples provided by hunters in South Australia and Victoria during their 2013 stubble quail seasons.

### 1. Sample Sites



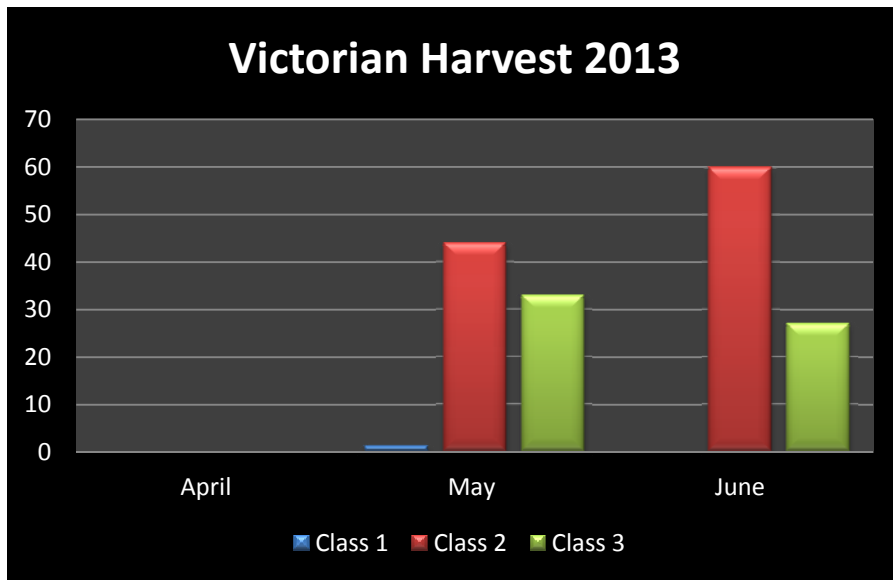
### 2. Sex ratios



### 3. Age classes

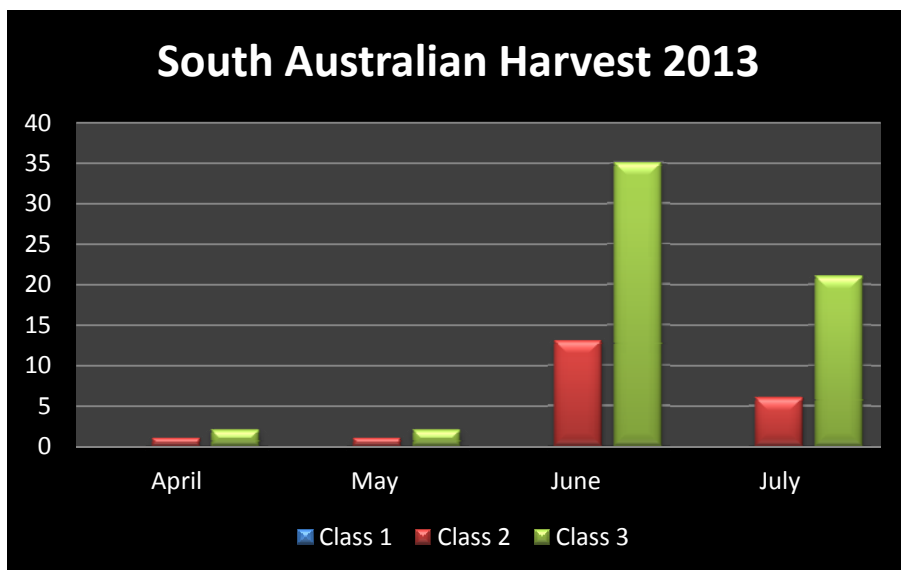
#### Victoria April May June

Class 1	0	1	0
Class 2	0	44	60
Class 3	0	33	27



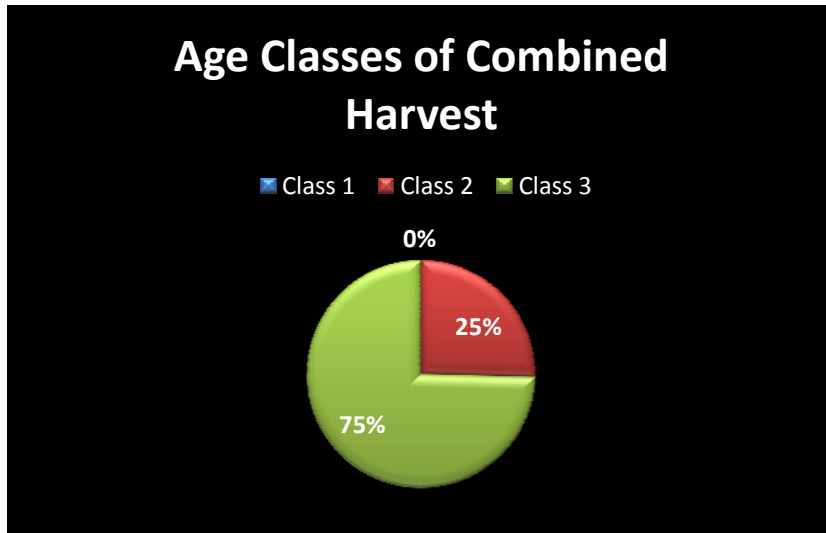
#### South Australia April May June July

Class 1	0	0	0	0
Class 2	1	1	13	6
Class 3	2	2	35	21



### Age classes of the combined harvest in Vic and SA

Class 1	0 sample (0%)
Class 2	48 samples (25%)
Class 3	141 samples (75%)



### Conclusions

- Using the technique of Crome et al. (1981), it is possible to see the majority of birds taken in Victorian where Class 2 and in South Australia Class 3.
- The relative absence of Class 1 birds throughout the sample indicates that breeding occurred well before the start of hunting seasons unlike the extensive breeding events experienced in 2011 following the breaking of the drought
- The age structure of combined harvest suggests a high breeding potential for birds in Victoria and moderate potential for birds in SA this coming breeding season.
- The South Australian data reflects field reports that birds dispersed during the early part of the season (low harvests recorded) and then began showing signs of returning late in the season or after the season. High numbers of Class 3 birds suggest harvest of resident bird populations was higher than previous samples prior to arrival of more nomadic individuals back into hunting areas.
- The southern location of harvest areas within Victoria, is vastly different to the northern locations sampled during the 2012 season. This indicates that quail hunters providing samples in 2013 may have only hunted local areas (2 locations) with success and did not need to travel to other areas.

### Acknowledgements

We wish to thank all those who provided samples and supported this project. We thank you and we look forward to your efforts and support in the 2014 seasons.

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