

“Bears eat oats and does eat oats and...what?”

Wait, [doesn't the song say "Mares"](#)? What with all the recent talk about which oat varieties deer prefer to eat, George Fedak tells us that bears do, indeed, eat oats, too:

“Black bears like mature oats. Reminds me of when I was swathing a field of oats on the family farm some decades ago. Bears were in the field. The tractor-swather scared them off, but on the next round they were back. This was repeated ‘till dusk, when I left and they took over.

Northern Saskatchewan can grow fantastic crops of oats. One year, my brother seeded a quarter-section down to oats and optimized the inputs. The ensuing crop was so thick that ‘you could walk on it’. Even the deer wouldn’t try to go through it but went around.”

So there you have it – bears eat oats!