





Editorial

Editorial director:

Pierangelo Pedersoli

Editor in chief:

Balázs Németh

Associate editors:

Gloria Ardesi

Paolo Tagini

Stefano Pedersoli

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Dear Shooters, Collectors, Firearm Enthusiasts all over the World,





Something is moving in Europe. Examining the happenings of the past few years, it is noted that the interest in blackpowder hunting is clearly increasing in this region as well. It is understandable in today's world where technical gadgets take away all the real challenges in life. European hunting culture is extremely rich. The hunting traditions of today evolved in the time of muzzleloaders, so it is not a question that these old front-loaded rifles have a place on the hunting fields today as well. They are accurate, they deliver enough killing power to hunt any game on Earth. Now it is time to put the highlight on blackpowder hunting in Europe as well. So if you think you have achieved everything you planned in hunting, think again. Blackpowder hunting offers a completely new world for you.

Our other topics for this issue are the recent international matches in target shooting and cowboy action shooting. We are proud to see that more and more shooters are reaching success with Pedersoli guns. Pedersoli guns showed again their extreme accuracy on the 25th muzzleloading World Championships and on the European Championship of western shooting.

Pierangelo Pedersoli Balázs Németh editorial director editor in chief



In focus: Blackpowder huntii

Blackpowder hunting in Europe is an undiscovered phenomenon. It is interesting to see that all the hunting activities with muzzleloaders are extremely popular and supported in the US, while they are nearly forgotten on the old continent where traditional hunting culture was born.

Nearly all European countries have strong ties to these traditions when it comes to hunting, although hunters seem to forget that the old muzzleloaders are still effective and accurate hunting weapons, even in comparison with today's modern breech loading rifles.

I am pretty sure that only 4-5 of every 100 European hunters know something about blackpowder hunting in general. In many cases, hunters do not even know whether it is legally possible in their country. This is a complex problem. The users of muzzleloaders in Europe are mainly sport shooters and collectors, till now only a smaller proportion have been hunters. However the world is changing, more and more European hunters are turning back to the roots. Hunters in ever increasing numbers are deciding to follow in the



ng in Europe

footsteps of our ancestors and choose a more traditional way of hunting. This is easily understandable in today's world: cutting edge computer technology is killing the art of hunting. Modern hunters are relying more and more on technical gadgets instead of working hard for the game and learning the meaning of hunting.

Blackpowder hunting offers a different point of view. The old muzzleloaders lead the hunter back to traditional values, they restore a part of the balance of nature. But do we know where we can use them in Europe? We shall help you with a small

summary about most EU countries.

The EU countries approach the case of blackpowder hunting three ways. There are some counties where it is clearly prohibited, some countries where it is legal, but with the adaption? of the rules for modern hunting rifles and there are some countries where there is a separate legislation for blackpowder hunters.

Austria

In Austria it is possible to hunt with a muzzleloader in some regions where the regional hunting legislation allows this kind of hunting method. It is allowed, for example, in Tirol. The fired bullet must meet the following? specifications:

- big game up to 30 kg gutted: minimum 1000 J energy at 100 m
- big game up to 80 kg gutted: minimum 2000 J energy at 100 m
- big game above 80 kg gutted: minimum 2500 J energy at 100 m

Belgium

In Belgium blackpowder hunting is prohibited by the current laws.

Finnland

It is possible to hunt with a muzzleloading rifle in Finland. These guns must meet the same requirements as modern cartridge rifles:

- for small size game (for example fox), the minimum weigh of the bullet must be 2,5 g, which must have a minimum of 200 J of energy at 100 m.
- In the case of wolf or lynx, the minimal bullet weight is 3,2 g, and the minimum energy at 100 m is 800 J
- In the case of reindeer, moose or bear, the minimum bullet weight is 3,2 g, and the minimal kinetic energy at 100 m is 2700 J. If the weight of the bullet is above 10 g, than 2000 J is enough at 100 m.







Red deer, the most important European big game

France



It is possible to hunt with a muzzleloader in in France. The bullet fired from a muzzleloader must have more than 1000 J of energy at 100 m.

The Netherlands



In the Netherlands the muzzleloaders are welcome in hunting, they must meet the same specifications as the cartridge guns: the bullet must have at least 2200 J of energy at 100 m.

Great Britain



In Great Britain it is possible to hunt with muzzleloaders. For muntjac and Chinese water deer only, the rifle must have a minimum caliber of not less than .220 inches and muzzle energy of not less than 1000 foot pounds and a bullet weight of not less than 50 grains may be used. For all deer of any species a minimum caliber of .240 and minimum muzzle energy of 1,700 foot pounds is the legal requirement. The hunter must also put the bullets into 100 mm group at 100 m to meet all requirements.

Germany



The German hunting regulations allow the

use of muzzleloaders provided they meet the same requirements as the modern cartridge hunting rifles:

- in the case of red deer, fallow deer and wild boar, the bullet must have 2000 J of kinetic energy at 100 m, and the bullet diameter must be 6,5 mm minimum.
- in case of roe deer, 1000 J is enough at 100 m

Norway



The Norwegian hunting regulations state that you have to use powder as a propellant for the projectile. This means that black powder is allowed – or at least not prohibited. As in the UK there are energy requirements as well. For deer, reindeer and moose, the



bullet weight should be at least 9 grams (139 grains) with an energy of at least 2700 (1991 ft./lbs.) joule at 100 meters. For bullets over 10 grams (154 grains) the minimum requirement is at least 2200 joule (1622 ft./lbs.) at 100 meters. For big game hunting the hunter has to pass a test each year in which he has to put five shots inside the kill zone of a reindeer target. The zone has a 300 mm (11.8") diameter. Roe deer, lynx, wolverine and bear require 980 joule (723 ft./lbs.) at 100 meters, but no shooting test is required.

Italy



It is possible to hunt with muzzleloaders in Italy. The muzzleloaders must meet the same specifications as modern cartridge guns. There is no energy restriction but all caliber must be above .22" (5,6 mm).

Portugal



In Portugal, it is not possible to use the muzzleloaders for hunting currently.

Spain



In Spain there is no clear definition on whether muzzleloaders can be used for hunting or not. I assume every citizen with a

hunting license can use the muzzleloader for hunting as well.

Sweden



There is no legal possibility to hunt with a muzzleloader in Sweden.

The Central-Eastren European countries













The post-socialist Central European countries have a rich and very old hunting culture, however they are still a step behind the western states. Countries like Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Poland and Bulgaria have not discovered the possibilities in muzzleloading hunting. It is understandable as even blackpowder target shooting is new in these countries. Hungary is very supportive of traditional hunting methods as it is already possible to hunt with a bow, and birds of prey. Hungary has already taken the first steps, muzzleloading hunting will be listed in the upcoming new hunting laws. Romania – a country also known for its rich hunting culture - has problems with blackpowder shooting as well. The number of people interested in blackpowder target shooting is increasing, but the legal use of the muzzleloaders has not been solved so far.

Roe deer buck





A .58 caliber original European hunting rifle made by Miller Fa Baader

Muzzleloaders for European big game

If you want to hunt big game in Europe there are several rules you have to follow in choosing your rifle and load. First of all, the rifle must handle well. The stock must match your body perfectly so you don't have to spend too much time fighting for that sight picture if you have to fire that shot quickly. Pay attention to the sights: the diopter sights of target shooting will not be enough for hunting. They are extremely precise, but they do not let enough light into your eyes

and they are nearly useless in low-light conditions. Use open sights or ghost ring for easy aiming. Use a bead front sight polished bright. The light metal color will give you a good contrast sight picture even at sunset, and with good moonlight it will also help you place a good shot.

The rifle

The rifle must be capable of handling heavy





.45 cal Pedersoli Minié bullet fired from a Pedersoli Mortimer Whitworth rifle. E0=2720 J, bullet recovered from ballistic gelatine



loads, often over 100 grains of powder with a heavy conical bullet. So before buying a good looking, but cheap gun, check the manufacturer's recommendations on the maximum loads. There are many rifles that look decent at first sight, but there are strong limitations on the powder charges. In most of the countries, there are two energy levels mentioned: cca. 1000 J of kinetic energy at

100 m for medium sized game like roe deer, and 2000-2200 for big game like red deer. You never really know which game you are going to encounter during a hunt, so I suggest you go for the bigger energy, choose a rifle that is capable of 2000 J at 100 m. To meet this, you need enough velocity and a good bullet weight. So whatever maker you prefer, read its

Rifle, caliber, twist rate	Bullet, weight	Powder charge	V _{2,5_1 avg}	Eavg	Remarks
Miller Fa Baader .58 1-48"	RB, 19,1 g	6,84g	526 m/s	2643 J	
Miller Fa Baader .58 1-48"	Lyman Minié,32,94 g	5,44 g	396 m/s	2584 J	
DP Missuri River Hawken .50 1- 23"	RB, 11,9 g	3,24 g	465 m/s	1288 J	
DP Missuri River Hawken .50 1- 23"	Lyman Maxi, 23,9 g	5,83 g	467 m/s	2607 J	
DP Mortimer Whitworth .451 1- 21"	Lyman 451114, 29,1 g	5,18 g	424 m/s	2620 J	
DP <u>Missuri River Hawken</u> .45 1- 48"	RB, 8,37 g	6,48 g	649 m/s	1765 J	Max. allowed load
DP Missuri River Hawken .45 1- 48"	Pedersoli Minié, 22,35 g	5,8 g	483 m/s	2609 J	
Ardesa Ranger .45 1-66"	RB, 8,37 g	3,56 g	550 m/s	1267 J	Max. allowed load
DP Tryon .54 1-65"	Lyman Plains, 29,5 g	5,83 g	429 m/s	2716 J	
DP Double Classic Shotgun 12	RB, 30,54 g	5,77 g	376 m/s	2116 J	Max. allowed load
DP Denali (modern line) .50 1-23"	Lyman Plains, 25,93 g	9,72 g	531 m/s	3654 J	Max. allowed load



maximum load recommendation prior to purchase, knowing the caliber is only one part of the question.

It does not really matter which barrel length you choose, unless you feel comfortable with shooting and carrying the gun. But be careful: maybe you will carry that gun on your shoulder for a day... so what I recommend is a medium barrel length, half stock, big bore gun. The center of weight of this type is close to your supporting hand on

the forestock, so the gun will handle well while shooting. The shorter barrel, shorter stock, and big hole in the metal will mean less weight to carry.

If it comes to hunting, I do not care if the gun has set triggers or not. Of course it is a help, but any normal trigger can be adjusted for hunting purposes. You do not need a very light trigger. Be safe, and set a trigger pull between 1,5-2 kg.





.50 cal Pedersoli
Maxiball bullet fired
from a Pedersoli
Denali rifle.
E0=3654 J,
V0 = 531 m/s
bullet recovered from
ballistic gelatine

.45 cal Lyman Longball bullet fired from a Pedersoli Mortimer Whitworth rifle. E0=2620 J, V0 = 424 m/s, bullet recovered from ballistic gelatine





The caliber

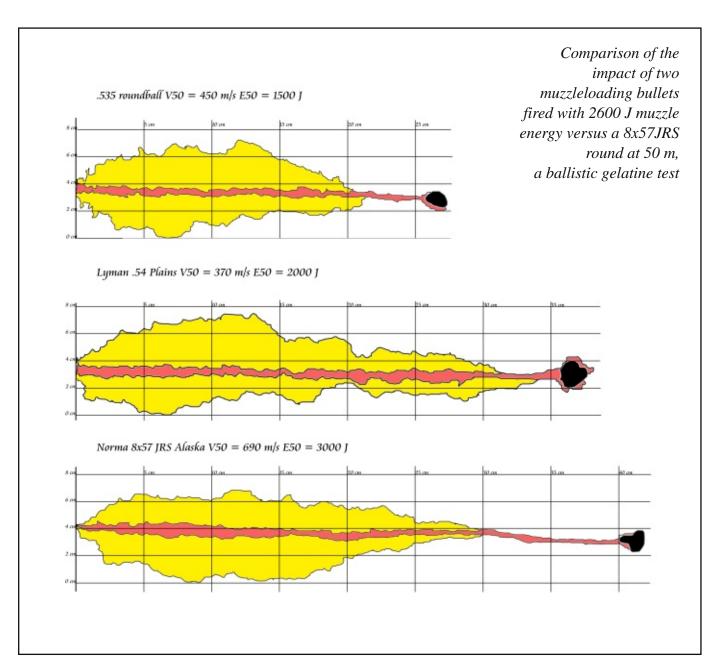
For big game, you need good bullet weight for deep penetration, and big diameter for a wound giving strong bleeding on both sides of the game. To meet the energy regulations, follow these rules:

.45 cal:

Choose a rifle that has a fast twist bore that is capable of shooting long bullets. To

stabilize a 400-600 grain long bullet you need a twist rate less than 1 turn in 30". The long bullets work perfectly in the game: the penetration is excellent, the deformity is strong. The rifles in this class are the Mortimer Whitworth or the Tryon Match and Tryon Creedmoor. All are good hunting rifles if you equip them with an iron sight instead of the diopter. If you want a flatter trajectory, go for the 1:48" twist rate .45 cal Pedersoli





rifles, like the Tryon Target or the Missouri River Hawken. Use them with Pedersoli's .45 Minié bullet for good terminal ballistic effects.

.50 cal:

In this caliber I also recommend you choose a bore that is suitable for conical bullets. The Missouri River Hawken makes an excellent choice. With its 1:24" twist rate, it is capable of shooting the 450 grain Pedersoli .50 cal long bullet to great distances with pinpoint accuracy. The slower twist fifties can also match the criteria. The 1:48" bores will shoot the popular conical like the Maxi or Real with pleasing effect, while these rifles will be acceptable with a round ball also for medium sized game.

.54-58 cal:

For European big game hunting the .54 or .58. is most definitely not the best caliber. These rifles have a slower twist rate - 1:66" but they are able to stabilize the Maxi, REAL, or Minié bullets, while they can also reach the big game energy limit with a patched round ball. Pedersoli is the only manufacturer on the market offering traditional European hunting rifles in this segment. The elegant English Mortimer rifles won tons of medals in 100 m shooting events at international matches, and they can deliver enough killing power for any European big game. The Germanic Jäger is also an iconic hunting rifle. One of the best choices on the market today.

.54 cal Lyman Plains bullet fired from a Pedersoli Tryon rifle. E0=2719 J, V0 = 429 m/s, bullet recovered from ballistic gelatine

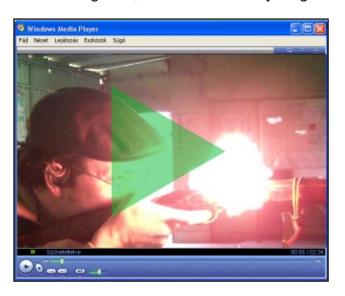




We have to write a few words about the double rifles as well. It is often necessary to put a second quick shot into the same place during a hunt. This is especially true if you plan to go for a driven boar hunt or dangerous game hunt - for example, bear hunting in the Carpathian mountains - where speed is critical. In this case, your choice must be a good double rifle like the Kodiak Express in .50, .54 or .58 caliber. But be careful, the barrels are set to cross somewhere between 30-50 m distance, so shooting the second shot to 70-100 m van be tricky.

.69-71 cal:

The Gibbs Hunter and Safari Express both deliver devastating power. Of course they are capable of hunting any European big game, but their real field of operation is in exotic territories like Africa. If you plan to hunt the "big five", do not choose anything



else.

Remember, it is not enough to check only the caliber of the gun before making the decision. Ask the manufacturer about the maximum allowed load. Here is our short reference chart about the rifles used in our tests.

The limits of the muzzleloader

There is no significant difference in killing power between the muzzleloaders and modern rifles within 100 m distance. I made some comparisons of a 8x57 JRS round and a .54 Maxi bullet impact in ballistic gelatin at 50 m distance. The two cavities in the material simulating the flash were nearly identical, good proof for all who think that the terminal effect of our bullets is inferior compared to this reliable hunting cartridge. The limit of our guns is in the effective distance. The trajectory is not as flat as with the modern cartridges. While you can hunt with an 8x57 cartridge up to 200 ms without sight adjustment, this distance is less than 100 m for the black powder rifle. This does not mean that the rifle is not accurate at higher distances. This is only the limitation of the curved trajectory, this is the range where you will be able to use your rifle without raising or lowering your rear sight.

Check our videodocumentary about comparing the terminal ballistic effect of a modern 8x57 JRS round versus muzzleloading bullets in ballistic gelatine.



Days of Truth is a real all European jamboree for the enthusiasts of the cowboy culture. It was the first time for Hungary to hold this event, and it was really a great challenge for Hungarian western shooters. DOT is an interesting championship. It is not an official SASS European championship, but all the nations regard it as the most important cowboy action shooting match in Europe. With the support of SASS, these matches are recognised as a real intentional trophy.

The Hungarian team accepted the challenge. They did not just plan to organize the event, but they decided to make it the best ever DOT. This was not an easy job, as the total number of CAS shooters is not more than 20-30 in this small country.

The Hungarian team did a great job. They managed to hold a really successful event for 187 shooters coming from 16 countries. The program was not only the 12 stage main match, but also several side matches were held: duels, cowboy trap, night shooting,

The 12 stage main match

This was the real core of the competition.

The shooters could choose from more than 10 different categories. Separate divisions by gender, age, propellant of the cartridge, separate classes for revolver shooting style. Of course the greatest champion of the match was the overall winner, who shot the best results in all categories.

The funniest category is "B-cowboy". No, it does not have any connection to the sexual behaviours of the competitor. It only shows that in this class the shooter must wear a costume that represent the World of the B, C, D category western movies of the early years of 20th century.

Prize offered by Capandball.eu - Kapszli.hu





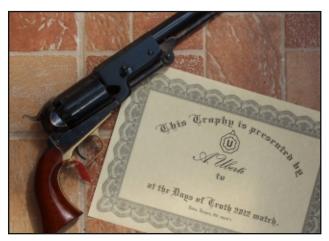
Wild Bunch

The Wild Bunch match is shot with two semi auto 1911 Colt pistols, a pistol caliber lever action rifle and a pump action 1897 Winchester shotgun. The scoring is the same as with the ordinary CAS matches. The shooter shoots a 4 stage competition in two days.

Blackpowder Night Shoot

One of the most interesting side matches

Prize offered by Uberti



were the night shooting matches. The singe day event started at 22:00, after sunset in complete darkness. The 3 stage CAS match was shot using only blackpowder cartridges. Those old revolvers and rifles seemed like ancient fire spitting dragons in the night. This event had a real special atmosphere.

Precision events

Holding precision shooting events on a CAS match is not new, but the way it was done in Hungary is something that must be continued. Valuable prizes were offered by Uberti srl (a Walker revolver) and by Kapszli.hu-Capandball.eu (the on-line centre of Hungarian shooting sports offered a Pedersoli cased derringer set) to the winners.

It is common to have long range matches for single shot breech loading rifles, but this year 6 separate classes were available for the shooters:

100 m single shot breech loading rifle optical



50 m offhand shooting with western repreating rifles. Categories: black powder cartridge and smokeless cartridge

sight BP ammo

100 m single shot breech loading rifle optical sight smokeless ammo

100 m single shot breech loading rifle open sight BP ammo

100 m single shot breech loading rifle open sight smokeless ammo

50 m revolver caliber lever action rifle smokeless ammo

50 m revolver caliber lever action rifle BP ammo

Altogether 100 shooters entered the competition with excellent results. The 100 m events were shot from cross sticks, while the 50 m events were shot offhand. In all cases the target was a cowboy picture. The

bull's eye value was 20, then the 10 ring and all the others. Only shots within the body silhouette of the cowboy were considered a hit. The best results were achieved by Pedersoli rifles in the 100 m event, and Uberti rifles in the 50 m event.

Cowboy Trap

The competitors could also take part in some clay target shooting. The coach gun is definitely not the best for this job. The shooter must be very quick to make a hit before the clay flies too far, where the chance to hit drops dramatically. However it was great fun for the participants.

100 m shooting with western sigleshot rifles.
Categories: black powder cartridge optical, black powder cartridge open sight, smokeless cartridge optical, smokeless cartridge open sight







Top Gun duels

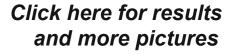
It is impossible to imagine a cowboy action match without duels. Western shooting is great fun overall, but the duels raise the excitement to a different level. These side matches follow the trail of the main match, and give another opportunity to decide who is the best. The competitors don't shoot against the clock but against each other, shooting side by side. The one who wins goes to the next round, the one who loses the duel leaves the game. At the end there can be only one.

The event showed again the unity of the European western shooting society. The Hungarian nationwide TV-s were common visitors at the competition. All the news programs devoted a few minutes in prime time to this shooting event, even if it was held during the Olympic days. To put shooting sports in prime time on TV is something that hardly happens nowadays. Cowboy action shooting proved again that it is one of the best tools to win the heart of the public for shooting sports and gun culture.





Check or video about the night shooting









Pedersoli medals at the 2012 MLAIC World Championships in Pforzheim, Germany

The 25th World Muzzle Loading
Championships were held in Pforzheim,
Germany on August 12-19, 2012.
For the Davide Pedersoli Company, each
international meeting is an important
occasion to showcase our high performing
products and have confirmation of the
confidence expressed by many shooters in
our product. Our name has become
synonymous with technical quality and
ballistic accuracy, and top shooters know
this well.

During the last event, the winners using Pedersoli guns could count an additional forty two medals: twelve gold, fourteen silver and sixteen bronze. We honor the shooters achieving their prestigious successes.

In the individual disciplines, three gold medals were won by the German shooter Josef Mayr in the Miquelet event with the An IX musket, Tania Heber in Minié with the Enfield rifle and Alfred Bailer in Pennsylvania with the Mortimer rifle. Tania Heber and Alfred Bailer also had the satisfaction of achieving two new world records in each discipline, respectively with scores of 97 and 99. A fourth gold medal was awarded to the Belgian shooter Willy Wanhille, winning the Cominazzo with the Le Page pistol.

Silver medals were achieved by six shooters of different nationalities: the Finnish Timo Aulis Näätänen in Miquelet with the An IX musket; the French Didier Brun in Cominazzo with the Le Page pistol and Mathieu Ducellier in Pennsylvania with the Swiss Match rifle; the German Franz Lotspeich in Lorenzoni with the Mortimer shotgun; the Spanish Josè Ramón Galán Talens in Donald Malson and the Belgian Rudolph Lambert in the combined Remington discipline with the Remington Pattern revolver.

Finally, eight bronze medals were won in the individual matches. Five of them by German shooters: Peter Käpernick in Miquelet with the Mod. 1777 musket; Martin Kloke in Cominazzo with the Le Page pistol and in Mariette with the Remington Pattern revolver; Alfred Bailer in Lamarmora with the Württembergischen rifle; Rita Pamer in Walkyrie with the Gibbs rifle

The other three bronze medals were won by the Swiss shooter Hans-Peter Rüfenacht in Minié with the Württembergischen rifle, by the French shooter Guy Vigouroux in Lorenzoni with the Mortimer shotgun and by the Belgian shooter Rudolph Lambert in Donald Malson with a Remington Pattern revolver.

The results obtained with Pedersoli guns in the individual disciplines are very gratifying: the two new world records (the one in Minié with the Enfield rifle recently introduced) and the complete podium in the Miquelet and Cominazzo disciplines is an exemplary result.

In the team disciplines the gold medal saw Pedersoli's succeed in the muzzleloading rifle matches: seven triumphs for Germany and one for Spain. The German shooters were first in Halikko (Alfred Bailer, Peter Käpernick and Josef Mayr with the An IX muskets), in Pforzheim (Walter Massing with the Bristlen Morges rifle), in Lucca (Alfred Bailer with the Mortimer rifle), in Magenta (Tania Heber with the Enfield rifle, Josef

Mayr and Wolfgang Virsik with the Württembergischen rifles), in Enfield (Alfred Bailer and Josef Mayr with Württembergischen rifles), in Amazons (Rita Pamer with the Gibbs rifle) and in Kossuth (Alfred Bailer with the Mortimer rifle and Thomas Baumhakl with the Swiss Match rifle).

The Spanish gold was won in Hawker (Jaume Torras Roca with the Mortimer shotgun).

New world records have been achieved in the Halikko discipline (282), Magenta (281), Amazons (290) Hawker (127 clay pigeons). While in Kossuth, it has matched the existing record of 287.

The silver medals were won by: Belgium in Wogdon (Eddy Desmet and Willy Vanhille, with the Le Page pistol and Rudolph Lambert with a Mortimer pistol); Finland in Halikko (Antero Mustamäki, Timo Aulis Näätänen and Sakari Viertola with the An IX musket); to Switzerland in Lucca (Hans-Peter Rufenacht with the Mortimer rifle); France in Amazons (Virgine Decomble with the Gibbs rifle), in Magenta (Vèronique Tissier with the Württembergischen rifle) and in Kossuth (Mathieu Ducellier with a Swiss Match rifle and Noel Risch with a Mortimer rifle); to Germany in Hawker and in Batesville (Franz Lotspeich with a Mortimer shotgun).

Also the eight team winners of bronze medals were: Germany in Wogdon (Karl Hamman and Martin Kloke with the Le Page)

Check out our short video review:





and in Peterlongo (Rita Pamer with the Remington Pattern); Poland in Forsyth (Mariusz Rychlik with the Kuchenreuter pistol); Switzerland in Halikko (Katharina Stierli with the Mod. 1777 musket); Italy in Amazons (Giuliana Casucci, Angelina Simone and Adriana Tivelli with the Tryon Creedmoor rifle); France in Lucca (Noel Risch with the Mortimer rifle and Laurent Thomas with the Jäger rifle); Austria in Kossuth (Gerhard Reiter with the Swiss Match rifle and Andreas Gassner with the Jäger rifle); Great Britain in Hawker (Richard Morris and David Elvin with the Mortimer shotgun).

An equally positive result in the team disciplines: to the above mentioned records we can add the complete podium in Halikko and in Hawker disciplines.

Overall the guns produced by the Davide Pedersoli Company in the hands of skilled shooters achieved about the 44% of the medals, in the disciplines in which they were entered. Twenty medals have been won by German shooters, with the host country in first place for the medals won throughout the event. The other medals saw shooters

coming from different European nations: Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Great Britain, Italy, Poland, Spain and Switzerland demonstrating how Pedersoli's guns are popular and appreciated among the shooters.

The Davide Pedersoli company thanks all the shooters who stepped onto the podium at the event and all those muzzle loading shooters throughout the world who enjoy shooting black powder guns, it does not matter which brand, whether original or replica.

As muzzle loading target shooting develops around the world we must thank all these shooters and the hope for the future is for many more nations to approach this wonderful sport. It is no longer just "folklore", the great target shooting results clearly show the accuracy of this sport. The Olympic Games Committee could and should address its attention to this discipline as part of the shooting program.

Check out our interview with David Bigden, SG of MLAIC





Visit the homepage of MLAIC to check the complete list of results and see the new constitution

Pedersoli highlights of the 2012 World Championships





The new Pedersoli Enfield will be a good choice for Minié and Lamarmora events

The Le Page Flintlock pistol won the gold, silver and bronze medals in the Cominazzo discipline; the silver and the bronze medals in the Wogdon Team discipline.





The Mortimer .54 caliber flintlock rifle won the gold medal in Pennsylvannia discipline, achieving the new world record score of 99!



The Desert's Son

After a short pause, Davide Pedersoli offers a new model to include in the "Ten Years of Collection" project by introducing one of the pistols equipping the Mamelukes, faithful fighters of Napoleon's Imperial Guard.

Everything started during the Egyptian Campaign in 1799 when the Mamelukes cavalry regiments, who were fighting in defence of the king in that area, aroused



curiosity and admiration for their courage and their military organization. Napoleon Bonaparte decided then to include these cavalrymen in his army, creating in 1802 the first Mamelukes squadron of the Republic led by General Jacques François de Menou.

With the decree dated 29th of July 1804, the unit was incorporated into the Cavalry Hunters regiment of the Napoleon Imperial Guard, however soon after, the Mamelukes became an independent unit. Born fighters, the Mamelukes attended all Napoleon's campaigns and distinguished themselves for their skill in battle and great courage. In 1812, the year of the Russian campaign, only 75 Mamelukes were aggregated to the First Cavalry Hunters regiment led by the General Claude-Etienne Guyot. The cavalrymen of the Imperial Guard did not take part in the battles before getting to Moscow, but they succeeded in protecting the retreat and maintaining a kind of order among the soldiers weakened by the terrible march.

The individual armament equipping the Mamelukes was generally bulky: a short curved Turkish sabre, a short musket with swamped barrel, a dagger and a couple of pistols: one in the holster and one in the belt. this last carried in a hidden holster under the silk band around the waist. The couple of pistols carried in the belt showed some differences compared to the couple of pistols carried in the holster, such as the shorter barrel and the lack of a holster ring in the butt cap. Like all the guns equipping the Imperial Guard, the Mamelukes pistols were manufactured at the Versailles Armoury under the direction of Nicolas-Noel Boutet. Such guns were famous as really robust and also particularly for the aesthetical and crafted details of the guns.

The commemorative pistol introduced by Davide Pedersoli is the holster model, with round barrel 14,5mm caliber, 194mm long with the feature of five flats at the breech, the upper one continuing along the barrel's length to the front sight. On the upper flat there is the mark Ent.se Boutet. On the lock, two lines with the text M.RE Imp.LE / De versailles. The trigger guard, the butt cap and the screw washers of the lock are made

of brass; on the butt cap, a screw is fitted with a steel ring; the ramrod is made of steel with brass tip. On the grip is a medallion showing a Mameluk cavalryman dressed in his oriental ordnance outfit.

The 2012 commemorative pistol will be produced in a limited series of 500 units intended for French, Italian and German collectors, each receiving unique numbering series (F001-F200 for France, I001-I200 for Italy and D001-D100 for Germany). Each gun has its own certificate of authenticity on parchment paper. Those collectors that purchased 2004-2009 commemorative guns will have the right to obtain the same series numbers dedicated to the Mamelukes squadrons for the 2012 collection. On request there is a lined display case with a glass lid available.











.357 Magnum for wild boar hunting

In summary: Adequately "pumped", without exceeding the CIP pressure limits, the 357 Magnum becomes rifle ammunition in all respects and with one of Pedersoli's Lightning rifles we saw that it produced hard hitting effects on target, making it suitable for wild boar hunting too.

The idea of being able to use one calibre of ammunition both in a pistol and a rifle is perhaps old as metallic cartridges themselves: it is certainly a logical and utilitarian idea. In the past there was "dual use" ammunition, like the .32-20, .38-40 and .44-40; more recently we can remember the .44 Magnum, appearing in 1955 together with the synonymous Smith & Wesson revolver. The 44 Magnum started to be chambered in various rifles in 1962. A similar development occurred for the .357 Magnum (introduced in 1935, also in this case with the legendary S&W revolver), for many years custom rifles were chambered in this calibre by skilled American gunsmiths. The next development was in 1979, when Marlin started producing one version of their

lever action rifle M94 in .357 Magnum, hence the official imprimatur of an ammunition also usable in a rifle.

These days, the .357 Magnum is used both in a revolver and rifle, especially in the Western Action competitions and for wild boar hunting; initially to have a "soft" cartridge with an easier to handle recoil than the .45 Colt, while for hunting, the need is for a powerful load that is effective on wild





The author shooting the Pedersoli Lightning in the factory's test range

boar and other medium game. The idea to test the .357 Magnum load for rifles came from our friend Giovanni "Johndog" Giancane (pict.1), well known IPSC and Western Action shooter (www.centroattivitasportive.it), who, between matches and shooting courses, also dedicates time to hunting. The specifications of Johndog's cartridges: Fiocchi 158 grains Soft Point bullets, 15.5 grains of Vihtavuori N110 powder, standard CCI Small Rifle primers (not Magnum ones). Vihtavuori N110 is one of the fastest burning powders for rifles, adaptable for calibres with small capacity cases, such as the .22 Hornet or the .30 M1 calibres and the loading of 15.5 grains completely fills the case, the 158 grain bullet is in the mid-high weight range for the .357 Magnum. Immediately you

understand that the cartridge is a hot load and to avoid any surprise, it was sent to the National Proof House where tests were made into a manometer barrel: the average pressure value was 2.174,2 bar, safely under the maximum pressure permitted under the C.I.P standard of 3,000 bar. This ammunition fired in the manometer barrel 150mm long, had an average muzzle velocity of 441.5 m/sec (the standard deviation was 4.1 m/sec) and the corresponding energy was 738 ft/lbs (1000 J). Therefore, being sure of the safety of our cartridges, we finally tested them in a rifle, a Pedersoli "Lightning" rifle with 24" barrel (610mm,); the Pedersoli Company offered its shooting range for the test. In this rifle, the muzzle velocity of the cartridges increased to a medium average of 551.0 m/sec with the kinetic energy of 1147







ft/lbs (1550 J). Don't forget that the kinetic energy increases as the square of velocity and what can be obtained from a manometer barrel 150mm long versus a rifle's barrel four times longer, illustrates very well the full potential of the .357 Magnum calibre which can perform at a high level.

The question remains: what will the terminal ballistic the effects of our loads be? While we wait to perform a test in the hunting field, we tried some tests that do not have any scientific pretence, however we believe they can be an indication of the real potential of the .357 Magnum in a rifle. We experimented at two possible ranges typical in the hunting field: 25 and 50 meters. To simulate the impact and penetration of the toughest hide and muscle of the prey, at 25 meters we placed nine pine wood boards, each 20 millimetres thick : our .357 Magnum bullet stopped inside the fifth board, while penetrating enough to mark the sixth one. We removed the bullet and it was interesting to note that it still weighed 146 grains, meaning that going through the 5 boards it lost 12 grains, only 7.5% less. To evaluate the penetration through something that would simulate the soft tissues of prey, we used the classic phone directories, previously dumped in water: an empirical test (widely used) but it is also indicative. From the distance of 25 meters our .357 Magnum bullet had no difficulty going through the 15 centimetres thickness of our directories and we could not recover the bullet. At 50 meters, we used a kind of

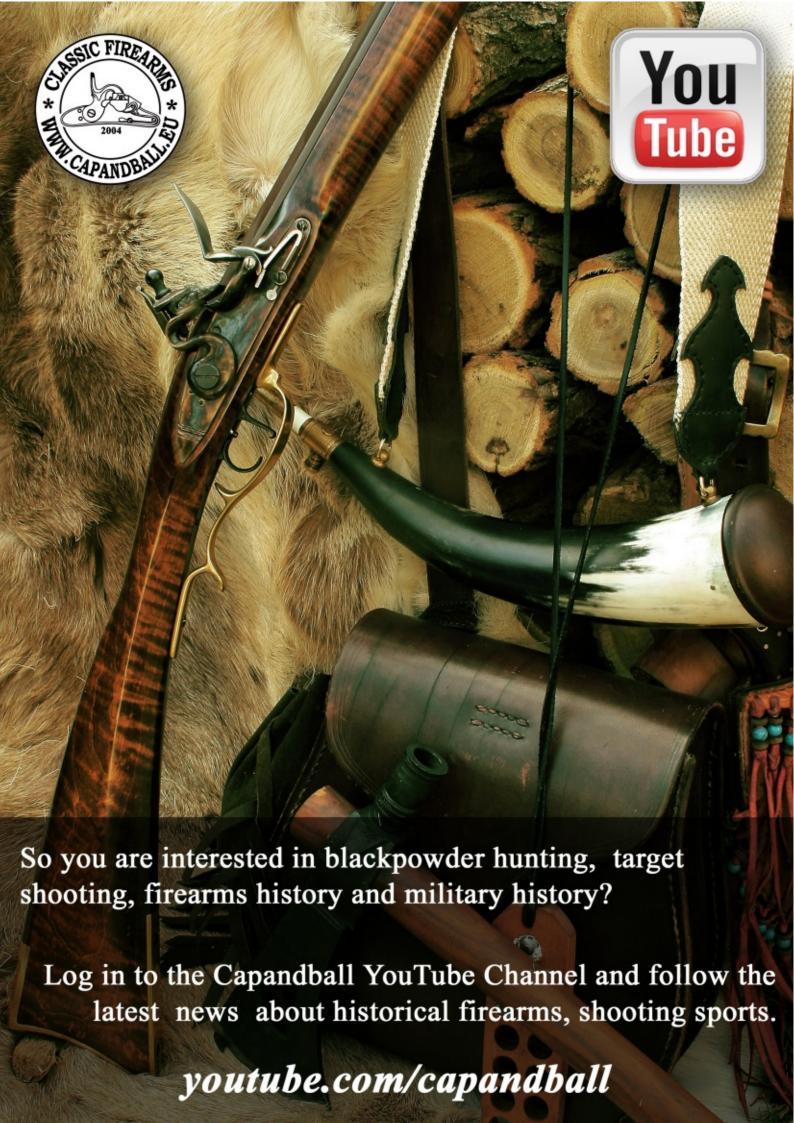
composite target, a wet phone directory, two pine boards 20mm thick and another phone directory. The result: the bullet went through the first phone directory, the two pine wood boards and penetrated about 20 millimetres into the second directory. We completed our experiments with an accuracy test at 100 meters with the rifle on the bench with the standard sights fitted to the rifle: the classical blade front sight and the Buckhorn type rear sight. Remember that the Pedersoli Lightning is a Western style replica, reproducing the original style sights, which by design are not typically suited for target shooting, being more hunting oriented rather than the finer style used for target shooting. So, if we discount one shot that was a mistake, as Johndog called it, the grouping of 125 mm diameter, is a very good result for hunting use.

SUMMARY

Even if it was developed for a revolver, the .357 Magnum revealed itself as being a calibre also suitable for a rifle when safely loaded within pressure limits with the proper loads without taking risks. The kinetic energy developed in the Pedersoli Lightning rifle is higher than several other calibres offered in these rifles; considering the bullet weight. Furthermore, our empiric tests showed good penetration and accuracy.

Written by: Paolo Tagini Photos: Stefano PEdersoli







Shooting the Pedersoli P58

We have quite a few good articles about the history of the Enfield rifles and rifles musket, so now I am going to save your time, and focus on the shooting of Pedersoli's new Enfield rifle. This rifle was waited for so long by the shooters. The request was not only a rifle that is capable of putting the bullets into the same hole, but they also cried for an accurate, authentic copy, that they don't have to "defarb" for another few hundred bucks.

I was also really curious about this rifle. The factory maintained a close relationship with collectors and shooters to understand the request of the market. It was extremely

important for Pedersoli to come out with a rifle that is welcomed by the hard core reenactors and top line target shooters as well. I was also extremely excited to put my hands on one of the first models leaving the factory, so I asked Pierangelo to save one for me form the first shipment going to the US. We were in Pforzheim in August at the MLAIC World Championships where I was able to pick up my test rifle. I have a shooter in my team shooting an original P58 rifle, so we immediately made the comparison in the hotel. The rifles did not have a minute to rest: we compared all the small details, and tried the original and the Pedersoli repro feel. The result was satisfying. I could not



Enfield rifle

wait to arrive home to test the gun.

The stock

The stock of the gun is made of oiled American or European walnut. I remember my Euroarms two bander. I sold it a few years ago as it was nearly impossiblie to make a good sight picture because of the very high comb. My other problem with the gun was that it was very heavy because of the African wood used for the stocks. I was really happy to see that Pedersoli copied the originals and used appropriate wood material. These problems do not exist with this new repro.

The barrel

If you are a shooter, the most important part of the gun is the barrel. This is the very heart of the rifle. I know that for many collectors, reenactors, shooters the small details are also important, but I see the rifle through the eyes of the sportsman. So this is the part that is the most important for me.

First of all the barrel is a swamped barrel, meaning that the weight and balance of the bore is very close to the original. The weight of the total gun is only 3600 g, 600 g less than the weight of the Euroarms reproduction.

The rifling of the bore is also a nearly perfect copy. The barrel has a 1:48" twist rate with 5 grooves and 5 lands. The size of the lands and grooves are the same as with the original rifles. The only aspect of the rifling that is not copied is the progressive depth. The bore is polished mirror bright even in the grooves, so you it will be easy to control the fouling.

I slugged the bore to determinate the exact diameter. The land to land diameter is .578 on my rifle, so I had to size my bullets to .577" to shoot accurately.

The bullets

I started my tests with Pedersoli .577 Minié bullet weighing 630 grain. This bullets drop from the mold with .575-576 diameter, so I was afraid that it will not give satisfying result in this bore. According to my experience the original rifles with progressive depth rifling were able to handle exteremly undersized bullets. My original .581" bore Bridesburg rifle musket shoots hole in hole with .575 bullets. On the other hand the repros with constant rifling depth need bullets sized to the land to land diameter or 0,001" under that size. I sized my Pedersoli bullets to .575", but I also prepared my Lyman 575213PH mold, and casted 30 bullets that

The Enfield sight offer a clear and sharp sight picture, but it is not adjustable horizontally



have a diameter of .578-579". This bullets were sized to .578".

If it comes to serious testing I always measure the weight of my bullets. I only keep the ones within +/- 0,5 % of weight deviance, all the rest goes back to the melting pot.

I had very good results with all my Pedersoli military rifles with 3Fg Swiss powder, so I decided to devote my first test day to the Swiss No. 2. I pre-measured my charges with the accuracy of 0,1 grain.

My grease is home made. If it comes to Minié shooting I believe that the good lube is a key factor for maximum accuracy. It is not allowed to wipe the bore between the shots on international matches or at NSSA events, so you must have something in the bore that can effectively keep your fouling soft. There are four basic factors the influence fouling:

- The weight and type of the powder you use: Of course you need a clean burning, good powder, so do not save money on this aspect.
- The effectiveness of your lube: your lube must keep your fouling soft even on dry, hot days.
- The polishing of the bore: if the bore is not

polished correctly the fouling will adhere to the bore strongly, making a rock hard layer, ruining the accuracy by deforming the bullet.

- The humidity of the weather: on a hot, dry Summer day the fouling will build up quicker than on a rainy Autumn day for sure. Your lube must handle the difference in the weather conditions.

My lube is a simple recipe. There are several good, but expensive lubes on the market, but this one always worked for me: melt 100 g os beeswax in a pot, and add 400 g of synthetic engine oil (0W40). Let it cool. If it seems too hard, add more oil after remelting.



Let it cool, and there you go. This lube can be used in Pedersoli's easy to handle grease dispenser. Using a soft lube means a bit more mess at the shooting line, as you cannot lube the bullets at home.

Shooting the rifle

The trigger pull was a bit too heavy for me. It is understandable that the factory is shipping the gun with "safe triggers", so you will need to work on yours to make the rifle perfect. I started the shooting with the Pedersoli bullets. My first load was 40 grains of 3Fg Swiss + the Pdersoli bullet sized to .575". The first shot was high because of the clean bore, all the rest four went into the same group but not with a group size I would say perfect. I lowered the load to 36 grains, and the group size shrank a bit. Two of my shots went higher to the right because the front barrel band went loose that I did not recognize. After curing the problem the next two shots went back into the group. I experimented with a lower load as well, I went to 30 grains of 3Fg. The group opened up, so the point where the powder can upset



the bullet into the rifling is somewhere between 30 and 36 grains of 3Fg Swiss powder.

I expected a hole in hole accuracy from this rifle so I continued the work with the Lyman bullet that's diameter matches the bore much better. 36 grains of powder was not enough to upset the thick skirt of the Lyman PH bullet into the rifling, so my first group was absolutely no good. I raised the load to 40 grains, and that worked. The rifle started



The soft bullet grease is a key factor in muzzleloading military rifle shotting



to put the bullets into a very small group, clearly showing that the key of setting this load is the proper size of the bullet. I shot nearly 40 shots without cleaning that day, and I have to say the rifle did not loose the accuracy. The polished grooves and lands are a great help in military rifle matches, and they also help the easy cleaning at the end of the day.

Don't forget. This is only one bullet, and one powder. You have plenty more chances to find the bullet and load that fits your shooting style best.

It is also important to note that the Richmond, Springfield and the Enfield are only the first form the Silver Line Civil War series products. In the near future the Zouave, Mississippi and Cook and Brother will also hit the market. So stay tuned for a few more reviews.



Check out our video report about the range testing:

