JAGVEILIGHEID

VEILIGHEID IN DIE JAGVELD DEEL II

KOSRUBRIEK

SPRINGBOK-EN-SPEK-HAMBURGERS MET 'N BIER-EN-CHEDDAR-SOUS

BIG-GAME HUNTING

REFLECTING ON BUFFALO HUNTING… TWO NIASSA DAGHA BOYS

Die tydskrif vir die jagter en bewaarder / The magazine for the hunter and conservationist

JAGTER

SUID-AFRIKAANSE • SOUTH AFRICAN

HUNTER

Stofpaaie

MET DIE .30-06 SPRINGFIELD

BOOGJAG

VLAKVARKJAG MET 'N PYL EN BOOG

RELOADING – above and beyond

JAGSTORIE

DIE UITGESLAPE ALLEENLOPER

CONSERVATION

THE IMPORTANCE OF AGING SOUTHERN BUFFALO ACCURATELY

Adrenaline-packed

BUSHPIG HUNT IN THE DRAKENSBERG

The lost-and-found BROWNING B25

UITGAWE • EDITION

JUNIE/JUNE 2022

NO. 06177

RSA R75.00

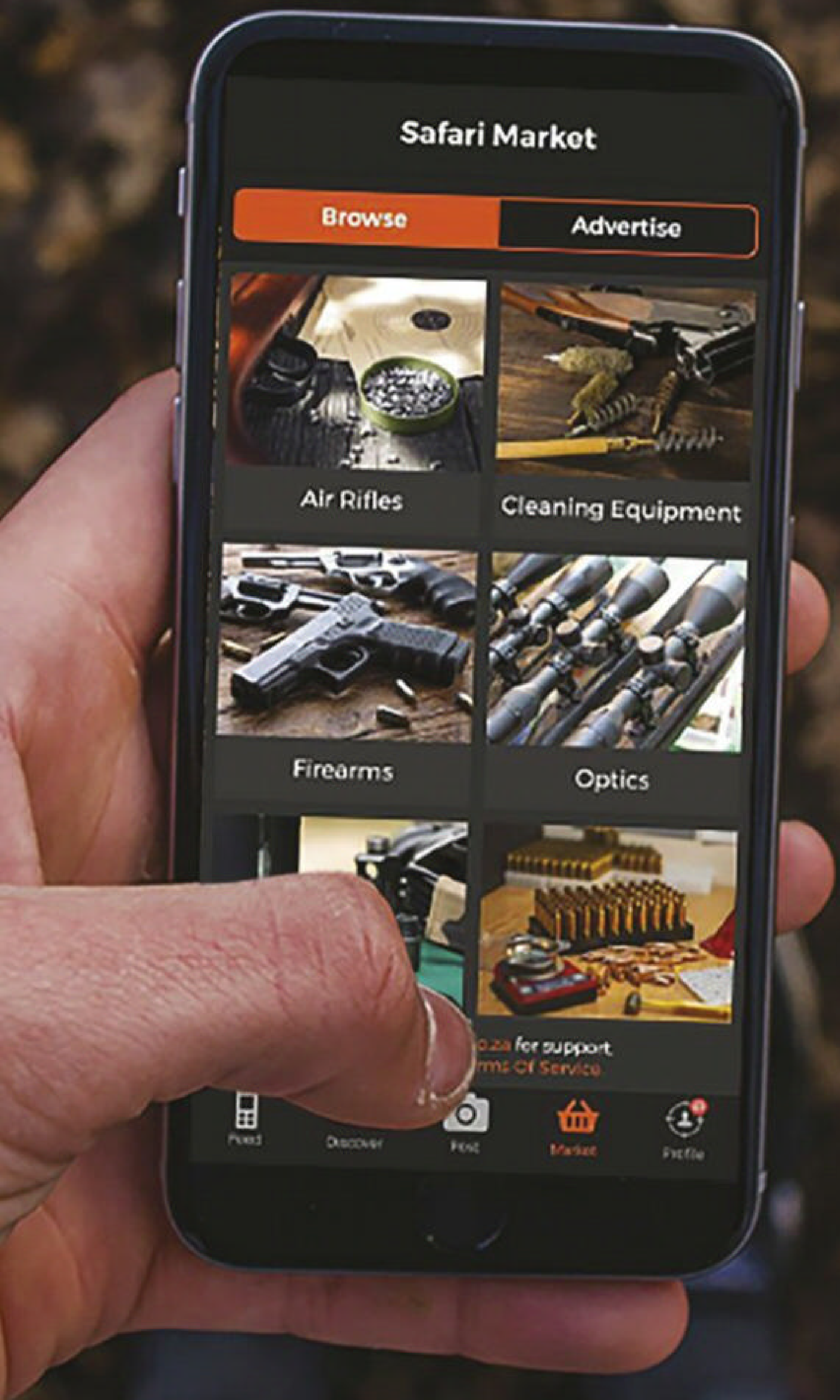
(BTW INGESLUIT)

NAMIBIË N$75.00

06177

9 770259 935002

SAFARI OUTDOOR



Time to

CLEAN UP YOUR SAFE with Safari Outdoor

New feature

MARKETPLACE

Advertise and sell your second-hand firearms or related products on the Safari Outdoor app.

DOWNLOAD THE FREE APP

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play | Available on the AppGallery

SEARCH FOR KEYWORDS **SAFARI OUTDOOR**

JOHANNESBURG
Rivonia Crossing II,
3 Achterweg, Sunninghill
Tel: 086 114 3545

PRETORIA
Lynnwood Bridge-sentrum, h.v.
Daventry- & Lynnwoodweg
Tel: 086 122 2269

STELLENBOSCH
Devon Place-sentrum, h.v. R304
& Bottelaryweg, Koelenhof
Tel: 086 111 4330

OOS-RAND
East Rand Retail Park,
North Randweg, Boksburg
Tel: 086 100 0071

WES-RAND
Cradlestone-winkelsentrum,
Hendrik Potgieterweg, Ruimsig
Tel: 086 111 4324

volg ons op sosiale media — of koop aanlyn: www.so.co.za

JAGTER
SUID-AFRIKAANSE • SOUTH AFRICAN
HUNTER

WEBTUISTE
www.sajagterhunter.com
ALGEMENE NAVRAE
072-700-9147 (kantoorure)

REDAKSIE

REDAKTEUR: Johan van Wyk
Johan.vanWyk@media24.com
johan@sahunter.org
PRODUKSIEREDAKTEUR: Elfriede Ainslie
(Taalversorging)
elfriede@sahunter.org
SUBREDAKTEUR: Marisa Beeton
(Taalversorging, webblad en sosiale media)
marisa@sahunter.org
Marisa.Beeton@media24.com
KOS-SUBREDAKTEUR: Karla Janse van Vuuren
UITLEG EN ONTWERP: Marthie van Dyk
marthie@sahunter.org
Marthie.vanDyk@media24.com
KANTOORBESTUURDER:
Maphuti Mongatane (Navrae/Administrasie)
Maphuti.Mongatane@media24.com
Tel: 012-485-9382 Faks: 086-535-4058
MEDEWERKERS:
Herman Jonker
Cassie Nienaber
Prof. Brian Reilly
Pierre van der Walt
Francois van Emmenes

ADVERTENSIES

BESIGHEIDSBESTUURDER:
Dirk Lamprecht
Dirk.Lamprecht@media24.com
ADVERTENSIEKONSULTANT:
Jacques Boshoff Tel: 012-485-9357/079-528-8793
Jacques.Boshoff@media24.com

NAVRAE EN INLIGTING

INTEKENARE:
Tel: 087-353-1300/Faks: 086-296-6681
SMS: 32361
E-pos: subs@media24.com
SAJWV-LEDE: Michel Schoeman
Tel: 012-808-9300/E-pos: michel@sahunt.co.za
RAKVERKOPE: Armand Kasselman
Tel: 021-503-7164
E-pos: armand.kasselman@onthedot.co.za

MEDIA24

MEDIA24 WEEKLIKSE TYDSKRIFTE
HOOFBESTUURDER: Minette Ferreira
UITGEWER: Theuns Venter
ADMINISTRASIE: Johan Terblanche
SIRKULASIEHOOF: Johan Sadie
KATEGORIEBESTUURDER SIRKULASIE:
Armand Kasselman
INTEKENARE: Elmarie Eygelaar
HOOF MEDIA24-TYDSKRIFTE: Ishmet Davidson
HOOF FINANSIES-TYDSKRIFTE: Jameelah Conway

CTP printers
Gedruk deur
CTP Printers Kaapstad

UITGEGEE & VERSPREI:
Media24 (Reg. no. 05/038385/06),
Heerengracht 40, Posbus 2271,
Kaapstad, 8000

PUBLISHER RESEARCH COUNCIL

© Kopiereg ***SA JAGTER/HUNTER.*** Alle regte voorbehou. Menings van medewerkers, rubiekskrywers en korrespondente word nie noodwendig deur SA JAGTER/HUNTER onderskryf nie. Die redakteur behou die reg om artikels en briewe te verander en/of te verkort. Die uitgewer aanvaar geen aanspreeklikheid vir die inhoud van advertensies nie.

SA JAGTER/HUNTER ruil nie advertensiespasie of gunstige redaksionele verslae oor produkte en/of jagbestemmings vir gratis jagte of produkte nie.

INHOUD

NEEM ASSEBLIEF KENNIS
Redakteursnavrae kan gerig word aan: Francois van Emmenes ***francois@sahunter.org***

COVER:
An A1-grade FN Browning B25 12-bore shotgun, manufactured in 1950.
PHOTO: Johan van Wyk

RUBRIEKE

4 PADLANGS
6 BOSPOS
8 SNELVUUR
9 KOMPETISIE
10 DOOIERUS – DIE REGTE ADRES
44 SPRINGBOK-EN-SPEK-HAMBURGERS MET 'N BIER-EN-CHEDDAR-SOUS
48 BOKSPOG
63 NATUURFLITS – DIE ELEGANTE DUINBEWONER
69 GEDIG – BOSOGGEND-VOETPAD

TEST REPORTS

50 NEW KID(S) ON THE BLOCK: VAROTEC PRODUCTS
PROF BRIAN REILLY

68 Q GUN
FRANCOIS VAN EMMENES

70 BURRIS ELIMINATOR IV – AIMING MADE EASY
JACQUES BOSHOFF

72 HOU JOU VLEIS OF DRINKGOED KOUER VIR LANGER
JACQUES BOSHOF

ARTIKELS

12 THE LOST-AND-FOUND BROWNING B25
A timeless classic resurrected
JOHAN VAN WYK

16 THE IMPORTANCE OF AGING SOUTHERN BUFFALO ACCURATELY
Aging Africa's legendary bovine accurately
DR KEVIN ROBERTSON

24 VEILIGHEID IN DIE JAGVELD – DEEL 2
In die vorige uitgawe het ons gekyk na 'n paar insidente wat met my in die verlede gebeur het en die lesse wat daaruit te leer was. Vandeesmaand kyk ons na nog 'n paar situasies wat tot trane kan lei.
FRANCOIS VAN EMMENES

28 VLAKVARKJAG MET 'N PYL EN BOOG
Moet nooit 'n vlakvark onderskat nie – hierdie koddige kalant is vinniger, gevaarliker en taaier as wat jy dink!
REAN STEENKAMP

32 STOFPAAIE MET DIE .30-06 SPRINGFIELD
Dié ou soldaat het nou meer lewe as ooit tevore
JOHAN VAN WYK

36 RELOADING – ABOVE AND BEYOND
Reloading with precision for the best results can be expensive but is a hugely rewarding exercise.
PIERRE VAN DER WALT

40 REFLECTING ON BUFFALO HUNTING… TWO NIASSA DAGHA BOYS
Something primal yet deeply respectful happens when a true hunter ends the earthly magnificence of a wild animal.
PIERRE PRETORIUS

52 ADRENALINE-PACKED BUSHPIG HUNT IN THE DRAKENSBERG
A bushpig hunt of a different kind.
NICO KOTZÉ

56 RECOMMENDED READING FOR THE MODERN SHOTGUNNER
Some things never change, no matter how much water passes under the bridge…
JOHAN VAN WYK

60 DIE UITGESLAPE ALLEENLOPER
Die storie van 'n vasberade skoolseun met 'n .308 en 'n slinkse ou rooibokram
PIETA OOSTHUIZEN

64 DIE DUISTER(NIS)
'n Professionele jagter wat sy sout werd is, sal weet: Daar is tye wat jy 'n opstroppelis jagkliënt moet reghelp, en daar is tye wat jy liewer stilbly.
THINUS STEYN

JOHAN VAN WYK

AS DIE LANGPAD ROEP...

Teen die tyd dat ons getroue lesers hierdie beskeie paar woorde van my lees, sal my tyd as redakteur van SA JAGTER/HUNTER reeds iets van die verlede wees. In die net meer as drie jaar wat ek by die tydskrif betrokke was, het die wêreld om ons weens onvoorsiene omstandighede letterlik oornag verander en daarmee saam ook die manier van doen by die tydskrif. Ewe skielik moes dinge op 'n drasties ander manier gebeur en die beplanning was sommer heelwat ingewikkelder. Dit was voorwaar 'n paar onstuimige, uitdagende jare wat ek nie gou sal vergeet nie!

Soos met bykans alles in die lewe, is 'n tydskrif soos SA JAGTER/HUNTER nie noodwendig 'n verlengstuk van die redakteur se grille en geite nie (dis in elk geval nie veronderstel om te wees nie!), maar eerder die eindresultaat van 'n span mense wat 'n gemeenskaplike doel nastreef. Ek was bevoorreg om wonderlike ondersteuning te geniet van redaksielede en kollegas soos Marisa Beeton, Elfriede Ainslie, Jacques Boshoff en Marthie van Dyk, en te oordeel na die stand van die tydskrif se gesondheid, was ons saamwerkpoging darem nie te sleg nie! 'n Innige DANKIE! aan julle almal van my kant af vir jul ondersteuning deur dik en dun!

Wat die toekoms betref, is ek vol moed en vertrou dat ek nie net 'n gesonde tydskrif aan my opvolger, Francois van Emmenes, oorhandig nie, maar dat Francois inderdaad ook 'n groot sukses van hierdie nuwe uitdaging sal maak. Ek het gepoog om Francois na die beste van my vermoë vir sy toekomstaak toe te rus. Die feit dat ek en hy reeds baie jare vriende is, het dinge vergemaklik. Ek het egter ook gevoel dat dit in die tydskrif se beste belang is dat 'n mate van kontinuïteit gehandhaaf word ten einde die unieke karakter daarvan te behou, tesame met 'n gladde oorgang van een bestuur na 'n ander. As die teendeel gebeur, is die nuwe redakteur se pad gewoonlik maar met dubbeltjies besaai – iets wat ek niemand toewens nie... Van my kant af bied ek dus 'n opregte "Sterkte, Francois!" aan.

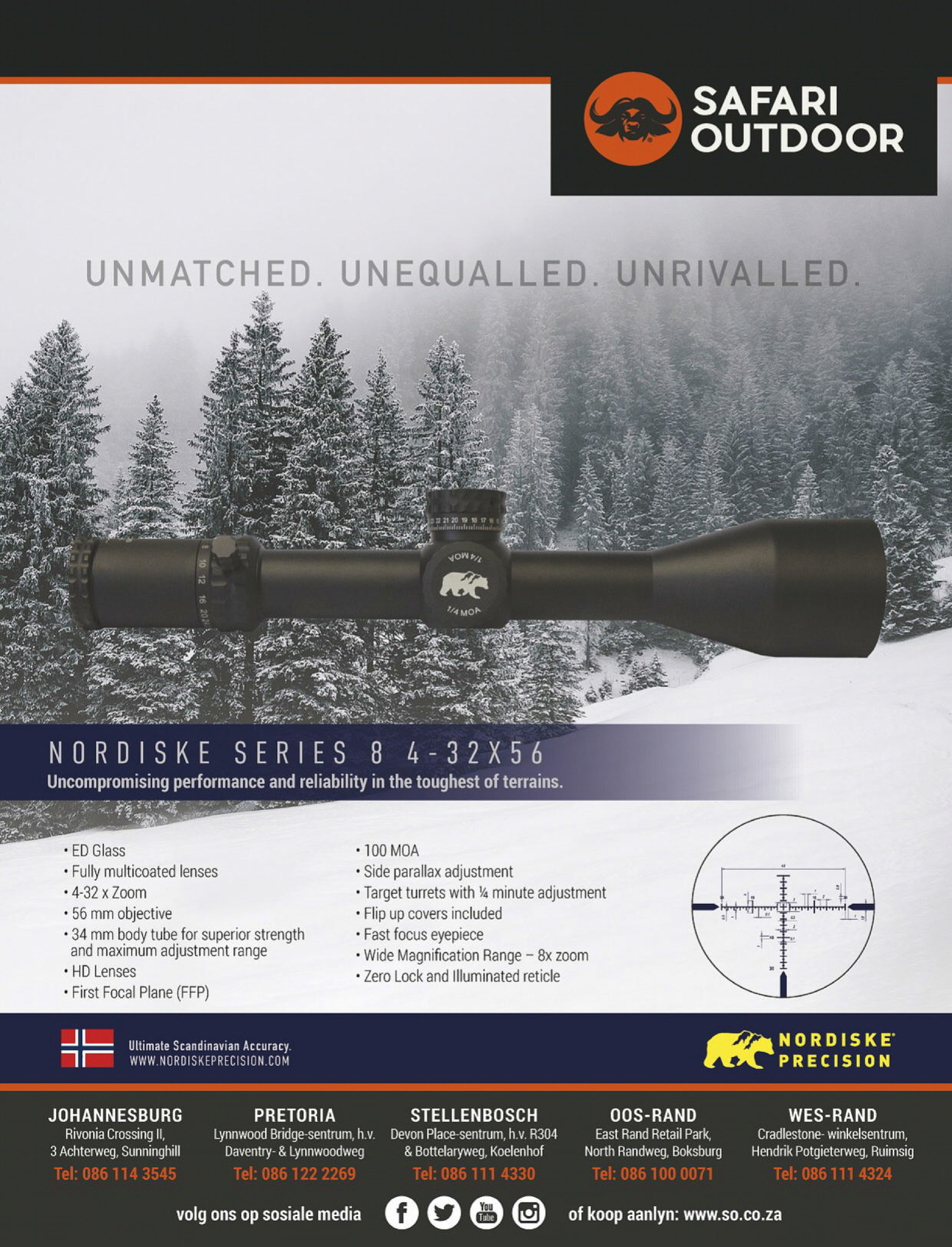
Alhoewel ek nog in 'n mindere mate by die tydskrif betrokke sal wees, wink die langpad vir my en my eggenoot na nuwe wêrelde en uitdagings. Afrika, sy bos, diere en mense sal egter vir altyd deel van ons bly, ongeag waar die langpad ons heen mag voer of die suidewinde ons waai.

Die laaste maar beslis nie die minste nie: my hartlike dank aan ons lojale lesers, adverteerders, vryskutskrywers en ander betrokkenes. Julle is die gom wat 'n tydskrif soos SA JAGTER/HUNTER bymekaarhou – iets waarop julle met reg trots kan wees!

En al roep die langpad my, beteken dit nie dat ons paaie nooit weer sal kruis nie.

Vir oulaas dus, wees veilig!

J.v.W


SAFARI OUTDOOR
UNMATCHED. UNEQUALLED. UNRIVALLED.
1/4 MOA
NORDISKE SERIES 8 4-32X56
Uncompromising performance and reliability in the toughest of terrains.
• ED Glass
• Fully multicoated lenses
• 4-32 x Zoom
• 56 mm objective
• 34 mm body tube for superior strength and maximum adjustment range
• HD Lenses
• First Focal Plane (FFP)
• 100 MOA
• Side parallax adjustment
• Target turrets with ¼ minute adjustment
• Flip up covers included
• Fast focus eyepiece
• Wide Magnification Range – 8x zoom
• Zero Lock and Illuminated reticle
Ultimate Scandinavian Accuracy.
WWW.NORDISKEPRECISION.COM
NORDISKE® PRECISION
JOHANNESBURG
Rivonia Crossing II,
3 Achterweg, Sunninghill
Tel: 086 114 3545
PRETORIA
Lynnwood Bridge-sentrum, h.v.
Daventry- & Lynnwoodweg
Tel: 086 122 2269
STELLENBOSCH
Devon Place-sentrum, h.v. R304
& Bottelaryweg, Koelenhof
Tel: 086 111 4330
OOS-RAND
East Rand Retail Park,
North Randweg, Boksburg
Tel: 086 100 0071
WES-RAND
Cradlestone- winkelsentrum,
Hendrik Potgieterweg, Ruimsig
Tel: 086 111 4324
volg ons op sosiale media
of koop aanlyn: www.so.co.za

BOSPOS

Sê jou sê...

E-pos na: **marisa@sahunter.org**

WENBRIEF — JA, VROUE JAG OOK!

Die dae dat jag net vir mans is, is verby. Al hoe meer mans vat hul kinders om vroeg al hul eerste bok plat te trek. Dis 'n tradisie, 'n gevoel, die adrenalien van iets doen om kos op die tafel te sit, 'n bietjie outyds gekombineer met modern. Waardes en lesse word oorgedra en kwaliteittyd word saam deurgebring in 'n tyd waar ons almal spartel om werklik tyd te maak vir wat belangrik is.

Ons as gesin, woonagtig in Bloemfontein, geniet jag. Ons kinders, HP en Li-Zé, jag saam. Hulle skiet en jag al van jongs af saam met ons. Dit is belangrik vir ons om 'n liefde daarvoor by die kinders te kweek. Ons leer hulle ook die belangrikheid van balans in die natuur, reëls ten opsigte van vuurwapens en die gebruik daarvan, vuurwapenveiligheid, en ook dat 'n mens nie net iets skiet wat jy nie bereid is om te eet nie.

Ja, die gogga het gebyt...

Ek het op 'n plaas in De Aar in die Karoo grootgeword en jag was nog altyd deel van hoe dinge gedoen is. Vir my 38ste verjaarsdag in Julie 2020, het ek besluit om 'n vrouejagnaweek vir my verjaarsdag te reël – 'n jagpartytjie, soos my kinders sal sê. Ek het van my vriendinne bymekaargekry en só is die idee gebore.

Tydens ons eerste vrouejag in Julie 2020, het ons vyf vroue heerlik saamgekuier. Slegs twee van ons het gejag en twee gemsbokke het geval. Elke vrou is die geleentheid gegun om op 'n teiken te skiet, en niemand behoort verbaas te wees dat vroue eintlik heel akkuraat skiet nie!

Die klomp het dit só geniet dat ons besluit het om dit die volgende jaar weer te doen. Ons tweede vrouejag het toe in Mei 2021 op St. Marc-plaas buite Zastron plaasgevind. Die groep het gegroei tot tien vroue, met ses jagters en 13 bokke wat geval het. Dié keer was daar blesbokke, wit blesbokke, swartwildebeeste en 'n rooihartbees waaruit die lekkerste vleisdisse in elke formaat op die tafels in ons huise opgedien is. Só het dit nou 'n jaarlikse instelling geword.

Hierdie jaar vind die jag van 14-17 Julie 2022 by Boschfontein naby Ficksburg plaas. Die groep sluit nou al vriendinne van heinde en verre in. Susters en vriendinne kom van Kaapstad en De Aar af vir die geleentheid. Ons is tans nege jagters vir vanjaar se jagtog en het springbokke, blesbokke, sebras, swartwildebeeste en waterbokke in die visier.

Ek vra elke jaar my man, Poon Pieterse, om met die dames se jagnaweek te kom help. Ons jag gewoonlik met my wapen, 'n Model 70 .243 Winchester, aangesien ek die enigste vrou met 'n vuurwapen is. Dit was 'n geskenk van my pa, Frikkie van Zyl.

Een wapen is natuurlik te min vir so 'n klomp vroue. My man bring dus gewoonlik sy CZ 550 Lux .30-06 Springfield en Howa .243 Winchester saam.

Vroue wat vorige kere net saamgegaan het, besluit nou om saam te jag. Ook vroue het 'n behoefte om 'n bietjie van die alledaagse lewe weg te kom en net jagstories om 'n vuur te deel en dit te geniet.

As vroue, mammas, susters, vriendinne, sakevroue, tuisteskeppers, versorgers, enkelouers en soms broodwinners, kry ons nie aldag die kans om sulke dinge te doen nie. Hiermee wil ons ook ons deel doen om vroue aan jag bloot te stel, hulle 'n jaggeleentheid te bied, te bemagtig en 'n liefde vir jag by hulle te kweek om dit só ook aan hul kinders oor te dra.

Dit hou nog die plaaskind in my lewendig en maak my beker vol sodat dit weer kan oorloop na ander.

JULIE PIETERSE

(Brief verkort – Red.)

** Julie wen die R1 000-geskenkbewys van Safari Outdoor. Baie geluk!*

PRODUCT TEST | By FRANCOIS VAN EMMENES

EVAPO-RUST RUST REMOVER

BEFORE AFTER

A rusted piece of barrel (left) before and after (right) treatment with Evapo-Rust. All rust was removed, and the bluing remained untouched in this instance.

ABOVE LEFT: The severely rusted metal file before treatment, ready for the scrap heap.

ABOVE RIGHT: The same file after 24 hours in the solution – as good as new with sharp edges.

ARTIKEL IN MEI-UITGAWE

Ek verwys na 'n spesifieke artikel in die Mei-uitgawe van SA JAGTER/HUNTER.

Ná 'n baie positiewe artikel deur Francois van Emmenes oor die Evapo-Rust-produk, net die volgende:

Ek stel voor dat die redaksie voortaan eers seker maak van 'n produk se beskikbaarheid al dan nie, voordat daar voorbrand voor gemaak word.

Ek het die nommer soos voorsien geskakel, en die man daar het my meegedeel dat hulle nie voorraad het nie en het ook nie geweet wanneer dit beskikbaar sou wees nie. Ook kon hy nie sê wie reeds geoormerk is om die produk plaaslik (Pretoria) aan te hou nie.

Dit is na my mening vals inligting wat versprei word en ek glo dit doen die tydskrif nie goed nie.

THEO POTGIETER

KOMMENTAAR: *Die betrokke personeellid van die verspreider was ongelukig nie bewus dat die voorraad reeds beskikbaar was nie en het aan mnr. Potgieter verkeerde inligting verskaf. Ons het mnr. Potgieter hiervan laat weet. Alle produktoetse word deeglik nagevors en voorraad beskikbaarheid is een van die oorwegings wat aandag kry voordat enige produk se toetsverslag gepubliseer word. – Red.*

Hornady

AUTO CHARGE® PRO

Making reloading accurate and efficient

Features & benefits

- Accurate within 0.1 grain
- Custom trickle speeds for various powder types
- Custom interval time settings
- Easy-to-read backlit touch screen
- Large powder capacity
- Built-in bubble level
- Has a large knob and removable trickler tube on the side to simplify powder removal
- Smaller footprint that takes up less space
- Smokeless powder only
- Reloading is a fun and economical way to obtain maximum accuracy if you have the right equipment

BACKLIT TOUCH SCREEN

SIMPLIFIED POWDER EMPTYING

LARGE POWDER CAPACITY

Available at all participating dealers.
Contact Inyathi to locate your nearest dealer.

Tel: 012 808 9911 • info@inyathi.net

Terms & conditions apply. E&OE. While stocks last.

iSS INYATHI SPORTING SUPPLIES

SNELVUUR

SKRYF VIR *SA JAGTER/HUNTER*

Dit is vir ons by *SA JAGTER/HUNTER* altyd 'n plesier om bydraes van nuwe vryskutskrywers te ontvang. Ons wil graag ons lesers aanmoedig om die pen op te neem en hul ondervindings in die jagveld of tegniese kennis met ons te deel. Wees asseblief so vrymoedig om enige materiaal of selfs net idees vir moontlike artikels aan die redakteur te e-pos by: *francois@sahunter.org* 'n Mens weet nooit wanneer die volgende groot skrywer dalk in ons tydskrif gaan ontluik nie! Ons sien uit na julle bydraes!

NUWE REDAKTEUR VIR SA JAGTER/HUNTER

Francois van Emmenes, wat vanaf 1 Junie die leisels as redakteur van SA JAGTER/HUNTER oorneem, skryf sedert 2004 oor jag, skiet, herlaai, bewaring en produktoetse vir verskeie plaaslike asook oorsese jag- en geweertydskrifte. Hy is sedert 1998 lid van die SAJWV en het ook sowat tien jaar in die bestuur van die Pretoria-Oos-tak gedien. Benewens die SAJWV, is hy ook lid van BASA, SAAACA en Premier Skietklub.

Francois het 'n sagte plek vir Pre-'64 Model 70 Winchester-gewere (wat hy versamel), asook grootkalibers. Sy gunstelingjagplek is die Kalahari, met die res van die Noord-Kaap kort op die Kalahari se hakke. Sy gunstelinggeweer en -kaliber is sy pasmaak-.500 Jeffery, maar hy poog om ten minste een maal per jaar elkeen van sy gewere te gebruik. Hy is baie lief vir voëljag, veral watervoëls. Hy droom ook om eendag 'n mooi olifantbul en 'n luiperd te jag. Francois woon in Pretoria en is getroud met Lynelle. Hulle het twee dogters, Danielle en Anine.

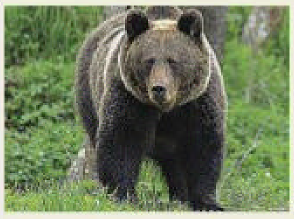
TAITA-VALKE ONDER DRUK IN DIE NOORDE VAN MOSAMBIEK

Berigte vanuit die noorde van Mosambiek lui dat Afrika se skaarsste valk, die Taita-valk *(Falco fasciinucha)*, bedreig word deur die insurgensie in die Niassa-streek van Noord-Mosambiek.

'n Span wetenskaplikes het 'n broeikolonie Taita-valke ontdek in die granietkoppies wat eie aan die Niassa-gebied is. Uit die meer as 30 granietkoppies wat deel van die soektog uitgemaak het, is Taita-valkneste in ses koppies gevind, met lewendige kuikens in die helfte van dié neste teenwoordig. Daar is slegs sowat 500-1 000 Taita-valke in Afrika, en dus is die ontdekking in Niassa van groot belang vir die voortbestaan van dié spesie.

Alhoewel Niassa een van die grootste bewaringsareas in Afrika is met 'n oppervlakte van sowat 4 200 000 ha, is dié gebied onder druk vanweë die voortslepende onrus in Noord-Mosambiek, veral in die Cabo Delgado-provinsie.

(Bron: Frontline Despatches)



KONFLIK IN DIE OEKRAÏNE IS SLEGTE NUUS VIR WILDLEWE

Oorloë is gewoonlik glad nie goeie nuus vir die natuurlewe en omgewing nie en die konflik in die Oekraïne is geen uitsondering nie. Sowat 3 000 km² is in dié land vir die wildlewe opsygesit. Kenners vrees nou dat die migrasieroetes van sekere spesies tussen die Oekraïne en ander lande soos Pole en Roemenië in gedrang kan kom. Daar heers ook erge kommer oor grootskaalse ontbossing as gevolg van die konflik.

Die Europese bruinbeerbevolking in die Oekraïne migreer tussen hierdie land en Roemenië om die uitruil van gene tussen dié twee lande se bere te verseker. Van die bere in die Oekraïne is ook onlangs in die Chernobyl-uitsluitingsone opgemerk, wat daarop dui dat die voortslepende konflik die bere noop om ander weivelde te soek.

Nog 'n spesie wat onder druk is, is die Europese bison. Daar is slegs sowat 350 van dié diere in die Oekraïne en daar word gevrees dat stropers op die kwesbare populasie kan toeslaan.

Die Askania-Nova-natuurreservaat, wat net noord van die Russies-beheerde Krim-skiereiland geleë is, is die oudste geproklameerde natuurreservaat ter wêreld. Askania-Nova is 'n belangrike herberg vir skaars en bedreigde spesies soos die Saiga-antiloop en Przewalski se perd, en die oorlog bedreig bewaringspogings in dié reservaat.

ENORME TAKSIDERMIEVERSAMELING IN SPANJE GEKONFISKEER

Amptenare van die Spaanse Guardia Civil het gedurende Mei 2022 op 'n enorme versameling trofeë beslag gelê. Dié versameling, wat uit 1 050 individuele trofeë bestaan en in twee pakhuise met 'n vloeroppervlakte van 538 000 vt² gehuisves is, het 'n geskatte waarde van sowat €29 000 000 op die swartmark.

Benewens trofeë van bedreigde spesies soos renosters, ysbere, meer as 'n dosyn Marco Polo-bergskape, 'n sneeuluiperd en 'n Bengaalse tier, bevat die versameling ook 'n bykans ongelooflike 198 olifanttande. Daar is altesame 405 trofeë in die versameling van spesies wat deur die Internasionale Unie vir Natuurbewaring (IUCN) as bedreig of kwesbaar beskou word.

Dié versameling, wat in Valencia gehuisves is, was vermoedelik die eiendom van 'n bekende Spaanse sakeman wat reeds in 2014 oorlede is. Tot op hede is niemand nog in hegtenis geneem in verband met dié versameling nie.

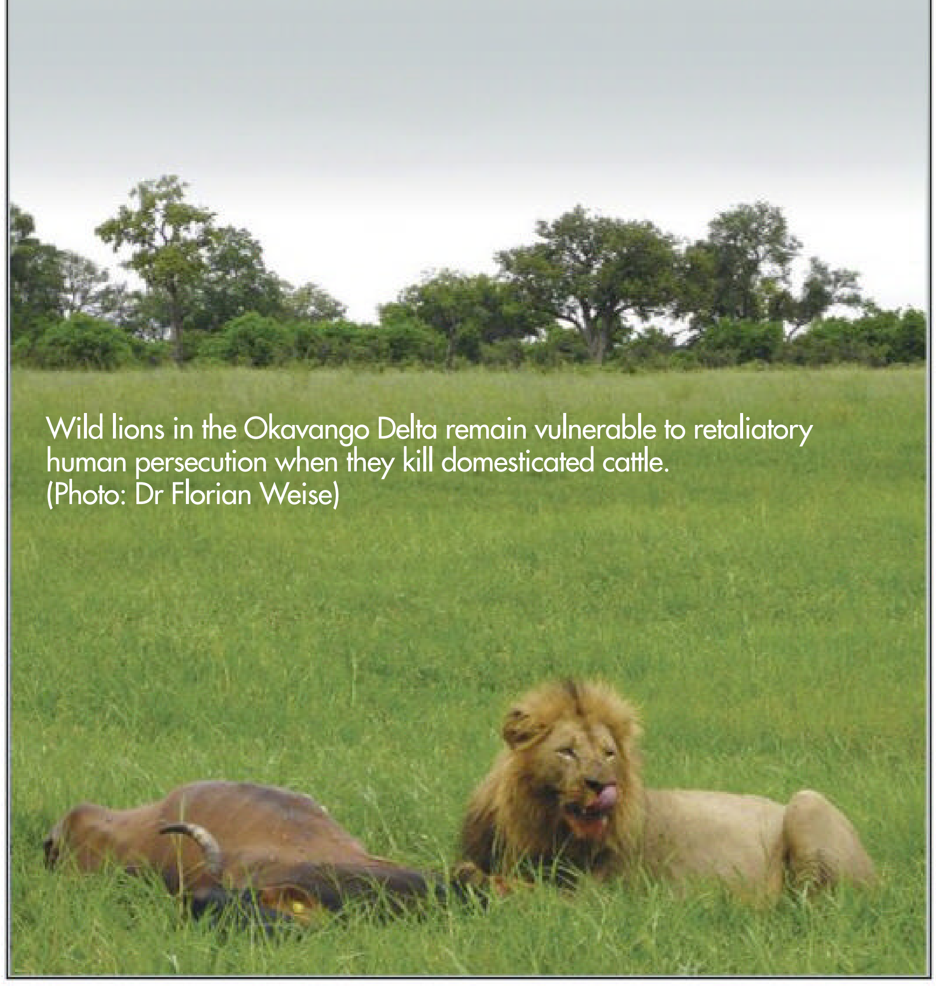
(Bron: Meateater)

UP STUDY FINDS THAT LIONS HUNT PARTICULAR CATTLE TYPES

When wild lions sneak up on a herd of cattle to grab an easy meal, the dice seem to be loaded more heavily against certain herd members, which are more likely to be killed and eaten than the others. This is the finding of a new study conducted by scientists from the University of Pretoria (UP). The research suggests that tiny horns, certain hide colours and patterns, youth and social behaviour all seem to play a part in whether a particular herd member ends up in a lion's belly. While big bulls with long, sharp horns may be better equipped to fight off a lion attack, the more social behaviour of female herd members can offer considerable advantages. "Heifers [younger females] are likely to benefit from safety in numbers, whereas bulls spend more time on their own away from the herds, rendering them more susceptible to predators," says Professor Michael Somers and Dr Florian Weise, co-authors of a new paper entitled "Lions prefer killing certain cattle types".

Overall, the researchers found that lions show specific preferences for particular cattle types. They exploit cattle when available and repeatedly kill them in areas where they are left unguarded or unprotected, also targeting animals that are easiest to catch. The study found that lions were most active at night, with 87% of cattle killings happening between dusk and dawn.

Because the Okavango lion population is one of the last strongholds of the long-term survival of lions, the research investigated several potential strategies to reduce such conflict. Previous research has included a "lion alert" pilot study in which herders got advance warning of potential lion attacks by combining GPS, tracking transponders and cell phone technology. Other research has focused on encouraging herders to reduce predation by using and building better lion-proof kraals, especially during the dry season when cattle travel further in search of water and grazing.



Wild lions in the Okavango Delta remain vulnerable to retaliatory human persecution when they kill domesticated cattle. (Photo: Dr Florian Weise)

WEN MET DIE KLIK VAN 'N KNOPPIE!

Vier gelukkige lesers staan die kans om die onderstaande trots Suid-Afrikaanse produkte te wen.

Besoek ons webtuiste **WWW.SAJAGTERHUNTER.COM** en klik op die **WEN-knoppie** om in te skryf.

Die sluitingsdatum vir hierdie maand se kompetisie is 20 Junie 2022.

HIERDIE MAAND SE PRYSE:

1 DENNIS KAPPETIJN-MES

Wen 'n Dennis Kappetijn-mes ter waarde van R1 500. Vir meer inligting, sien ons webtuiste; besoek ***www.kappetijnknives.com*** of kontak hulle by **082-923-5639** of **082-968-4242**.

2 PROMARK/STEVENSON HAMILTON-PRODUKTE

Stevenson Hamilton-produkte word verskaf deur Promark en is landwyd by GWK-takke beskikbaar. Verskillende pryse/produkte (soos hoede, belde, skoene, kamoefleerklere, ens.) kan elke maand gewen word. Vir verdere inligting oor Promark se produkte, besoek gerus hul webtuiste by ***www.stevensonhamilton.co.za.***

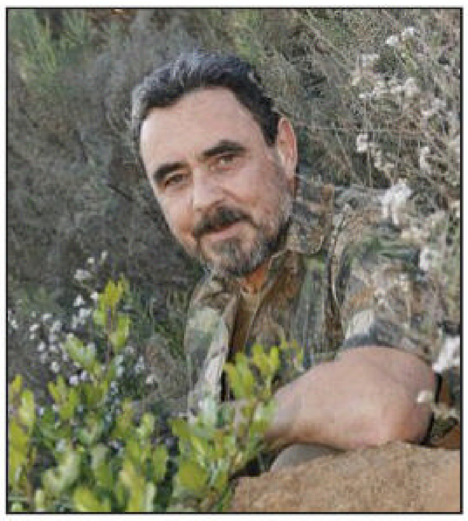
3 DOVETAIL-AMMUNISIEKISSIES

Twee lesers kan elk 'n ammunisiekissie in die kaliber van hul keuse wen. Die Dovetail-ammunisiekissies word gemaak en geborg deur Rudi en Lizelle Louw. Kontak Lizelle by **083-257-4041** vir meer inligting. Elke kissie is ongeveer R525 werd.

Die name van Junie 2022 se pryswenners sal in die volgende uitgawe van SA JAGTER/HUNTER-tydskrif verskyn en sal ook op ons webtuiste bekend gemaak word.

MEI SE WENNERS:

- **DOVETAIL:** PIETER DU PREEZ, BLOEMFONTEIN; HENK GERBER, PRETORIA,
- **KAPPETIJN-MES:** MAARTIN VISAGIE, POTCHEFSTROOM (Kontak Linita by 082-968-4242 vir jou prys.)
- **PROMARK:** IGNATIUS MARAIS, GAUTENG



DIE REGTE ADRES

Waarna kyk 'n mens as jy jagplek soek?

Prys, sal baie ouens natuurlik heel eerste sê, en hulle is nie verkeerd nie. Deesdae moet jy 'n sterk man wees om sommer net êrens te kan gaan jag sonder om eers die syfers op die spyskaart deeglik te bestudeer. En met brandstof wat deesdae duurder is as plofstof, moet 'n mens tog maar na die afstand ook kyk. Die dae toe jy leë bottels kon ingee vir petrolgeld is verby.

Beskikbare spesies, sal party manne antwoord. Want jy weet mos darem wat jy graag wil skiet, selfs al is jy nie 'n trofeejagter nie. Maatbanddraers sal op die uitkyk wees na spesifieke spesies, maar met besonderse horinggehalte. (En dan genoodsaak wees om eers 'n bietjie uit te vra oor dinge soos die kleur van die oorplaatjies en die grootte van die kamp.)

Sommige ouens sal wil weet van geriewe. Wat die standaard van die blyplek is, of daar vleisverwerkingsgeriewe is en darem 'n lekker kuierlapa, en so aan. Ander sal weer uitvra oor die metode waarmee gejag word – veral dié wat bang is hulle sal dalk verder moet loop as tot by 'n jagbakkie wat voor die deur wag.

Só het elkeen sy prioriteite, want jy kry jagters én jy kry jagters. En dan kry jy mos nog jagters ook. Elke ou doen sy ding soos hy daarvan hou. Dis net die groenwangetjies wat dink alle jagters is dieselfde.

Persoonlik kyk ek na ligging wanneer ek 'n jagplek takseer.

Ligging, ligging en nogmaals ligging: Enige eiendomsagent sal vir jou sê dis waaroor dit gaan. En so is dit vir my ook met 'n jagadres. *Waar* die plek geleë is, is allerbelangrik, want dit gee 'n aanduiding van die tipe terrein (deesdae nog meer so met die hulp van Google Earth).

Terrein is wat karakter gee aan 'n jag. Dis die agtergrond waarteen enige jag afspeel. Haal terrein uit die prentjie en jy reduseer 'n jag tot 'n skietprosedure. Dink 'n bietjie: Die aard van die terrein bepaal amper alle aspekte van 'n jag – jou keuse van gereedskap, hoe jy die bok soek en hom benader, die waarskynlike verloop van gebeure en selfs hoe jy die vleis ná die skoot herwin. Daarom, as jy variasie of uitdaging soek, of sommer net jou ervaring wil verbreed, let gerus op terrein.

Kaal, oop terrein is nie lekker jagplek nie. Op 'n pan of 'n kortgeweide vlakte is daar bykans niks om agter te koes nie, so jy moet 'n loodpil ver kan gooi. Vir manne wat van langafstandskiet hou, is dit egter 'n moontlikheid.

Ranteveld, waar jy die hange kam en oor nekke kan loer, is beter. Hier kan jy die topografie gebruik om buite sig te bly en kort-kort met 'n nuwe toneel verras word. Berge het op hul beurt weer 'n ander bekoring. Dis harde jag as jy te voet is, maar van die hoë plekke af word jy met pragtige tonele beloon. Hier raak jou verkyker jou beste jagmaat en jy voel later een met die arende.

Dit is omgewing wat aan 'n jag agtergrond gee, meer so as die storie van die bok en die uiteindelike vlug van die koeël.

Dan is daar natuurlik die wêreld van doekvoet loop met nie net jou oë oop nie, maar ook jou ore. Die bos sal altyd maar die plek wees wat ons die sterkste met jag vereenselwig. Vir baie jagters is dit 'n standaard.

Ruie, plat bos kan produktief wees, maar terselfdertyd raak dit maklik vervelig. Jy voel later soos 'n vlooi op 'n hond se rug as jy heeldag in eindelose vaalbos of mopanies aankarring. Digte oewerbos en woude het 'n ander soort intiemheid. Hier is jy onderdak in die binnekamer van die natuur. Gehoor tel dikwels meer as sig en jag raak maklik 'n skaakspel in die diep skadu.

En dan die rooi sand, natuurlik. Menige jagter se hart se punt, die Kalahari-wêreld. Met of sonder duine, hier jag jy ruim en doeksag lekker (tensy jy rondgegooi word tussen die binddraad en *droppers* agterop 'n oorhaastige bakkie).

So, wat is dan die beste terrein? Wel, elke tipe terrein het sy bekoring en elke jagter het sy voorkeur, maar in die breë soek 'n mens eintlik gemengde terrein. Hoë grond van waar jy kan bespied, heuwels en rante wat verskillende natuurlike arenas skep, wisselende plantegroei om dinge interessant te maak, ooptes wat jou in staat stel om diere te sien, en strukture soos bosse, rotse, slote of rante waaragter jy kan skuil as jy hulle benader.

Dan is daar natuurlik ook nog die skoonheid van 'n area wat bonuspunte tel. 'n Plek hoef nie mooi te wees om lekker daar te kan jag nie, maar 'n skilderagtige omgewing inspireer mens met meer as net sy jagpotensiaal.

Eintlik is daar baie jagters wat kieskeurig is oor terrein, al besef hulle dit nie noodwendig nie. 'n Jagter sal byvoorbeeld sê hy hou van blesbokke jag. Of koedoes. Maar hoe skiet 'n blesbok anders as 'n koedoe? Dis eerder die tipiese omstandighede waarin daardie spesie aangetref word, en hoe dit die aard van die jag beïnvloed, wat die jagter dit laat verkies.

Dit is omgewing wat aan 'n jag agtergrond gee, meer so as die storie van die bok en die uiteindelike vlug van die koeël. Diere se grootte en horings mag verskil, maar 'n rooibok bly 'n rooibok en 'n gemsbok steeds 'n gemsbok.

Waar daardie rooibok of gemsbok loop, is wat saak maak as jy lekker wil jag. Dit is wat gaan bepaal of jy interessante herinneringe gaan huis toe bring, of bloot vleis.

Gaan ons jag?

Sekerlik. Maar sê eers waar...

GREAT QUALITY, GREAT VALUE!

Spices • Casing • Machinery • Packaging

Trust Exim for all your game meat processing needs. Proudly supplying the butchery and hunting industry for over 35 years.
Our extensive range includes fillers, mincers, knives, casings, spices and seasonings, cures, vacuum machines, biltong dryers and packaging.

Visit our factory shops in Joburg, Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth, Nelspruit, Durban and Cape Town. Courier options available.
Email us: hunters@exim.co.za

www.exim.co.za 021 511 4000

exim

THE LOST-AND-FOUND BROWNING B25

A timeless classic resurrected

The Browning B25 shotgun is, by any stretch of the imagination, an icon. Search the Internet for such arcane topics as "Ten Best Shotguns Ever Made" or similar, and the B25 (called the Browning Superposed in the USA) will almost certainly make any such list encountered in cyberspace. Similarly, look at the lists of the major auction houses in the UK and USA, and you will note that B25s in good condition, particularly higher-grade, engraved guns, command excellent prices.

MAIN PHOTO: From a beloved ugly duckling to as good as new! After a great deal of restoration and tender loving care from all the corners of the globe, the old Browning is almost as new as the day it rolled out of the FN factory in 1950.

The action of a B25 Browning shotgun with the barrels, trigger guard and stock removed. Further disassembly from this point onwards is not for the faint of heart…

Although no longer in regular production, the B25 certainly has a lot going for it. It was not only John Moses Browning's last design but was also the first mass-production over/under gun, with the first examples being sold only a few short years before World War II. Although built from machine-made components, it was lovingly assembled and finished by hand by skilled workers in the Fabrique Nationale (FN) factory in Liege, Belgium, with whom Browning contracted to manufacture the B25 up to the early 1970s. Lastly, the B25 has a reputation as a very well-balanced gun that is reliable to a fault and handles extremely well. Thus, it is not difficult to see why the B25 has been such a loved and enduring design over the years.

THE START OF THE JOURNEY WITH THE B25

My memory is a bit hazy, but if I remember correctly, the first shotgun my father ever bought was a Mossberg pump-action riot gun in 12-bore. This was during the Rhodesian Bush War, and it was meant for repelling boarders, by way of speaking, and not necessarily for bird shooting. After moving to South Africa, the Mossberg made way for a long-barrelled Beretta semi-auto, which was used for clays as well as birds. After moving from Johannesburg up to a small town in the then Northern Transvaal, however, my dad met an ex-Rhodesian gunsmith by the name of Alec Wilhelmi.

Long since deceased, Alec plied his trade in Pietersburg (now Polokwane). He was also an expert clay shooter that had been awarded Rhodesian colours for the sport, and his preferred gun was the B25, of which he owned several. The upshot was that in about 1982-83, my father bought one of Alec Wilhelmi's B25s – a game gun with 28" barrels that not only worked well for birds, but also for clays. I clearly remember accompanying my father on afternoon bird shoots for guinea-fowl and Swainson's spurfowl on the Springbok Flats when the wheat and sunflowers were being harvested, and the Browning saw constant use.

A few years later, around 1985, our family spent a weekend on a game farm near Roedtan. The Browning and a box of ammunition loaded with buckshot also came along, just in case a troublesome bushpig showed itself. As it happened, no bushpig turned up, but late on the Saturday afternoon, my dad allowed me to touch off the Browning for the first time. Suffice to say that the relatively light gun and the stiff load of buckshot combined to produce rather stiff recoil for a primary school boy, and my shoulder was suitably bruised from the experience. Another lesson learned.

A year or so later, an American friend of my father's imported a Weatherby Mark V for him in .300 Weatherby Magnum. To be able to afford the Weatherby, something had to walk the financial plank, and my dad sold the Browning. It is to this day a point of contention between the two of us!

NEW LIFE

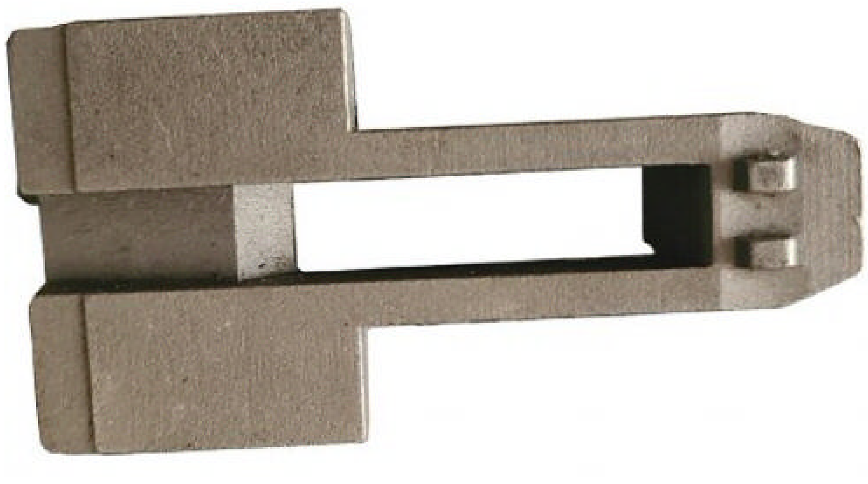
Many years went by since my father so carelessly sold "our" Browning (and yes, he will be reading this!), but the wheel sometimes turn in the right direction. In 2019, just before our world changed, my father mentioned that he still had contact with the gentleman to whom he'd sold the Browning. I initiated contact, and to make a long story short, I became the "latest" owner of the Browning shortly thereafter.

After doing some homework, I was able to confirm that my B25 was an A1-grade gun (the entry-level grade of B25 – this I knew) dating from 1950. It had 28" barrels and the Browning single-selective trigger found on most guns manufactured post-World War II. The ejectors still worked just fine (broken ejector rods are a malady that sometimes plagues vintage Browning over/under guns), and it was choked Improved Cylinder and Modified – a good combination for a field gun.

From earlier times, I remembered the colour of the Browning's wood as very dark, almost black, in fact. When I laid eyes on the gun for the first time again after many years, this was indeed the case. I could see that the wood could do with a bit of a refurbishment. Thus, the Browning was sent off to stockmaker Steve Fourie for the necessary treatment.

After some months, Steve phoned me to check one or two minor details and to confirm that the Browning was ready for collection. To say that I was surprised at the outcome of the refurbishment of the wood would be a vast understatement! In place of the dark, oxidised wood, the Browning now sported exquisite dark red European walnut with beautiful black streaking. A splendid piece of timber had been hidden beneath all the grime all these years!

Something else about the Browning needed fixing as well, though. It was slightly off the face; not by much, but certainly enough to qualify as a source of irritation for me. However, it was at this point that I was »



A view from the top of a "key", or sliding-bolt, of a B25. Manufacturing a new one is a job for the brave!

Johan's B25 Browning 12-bore gun (below) before refurbishment. Note how dark the wood of the stock is from years of use and oxidation.

The system whereby the B25's fore-end is non-detachable (except for want of a punch and a hammer) has been criticised over the years, but it certainly works well. The red arrow points to the bites into which the key slides when the gun's action is closed. The yellow arrow points to the underlug of the action that pivots around the cross-pin.

» unwittingly drawn into the world of "wire", "keys" and a dozen other things, the existence of which I was blissfully unaware of…

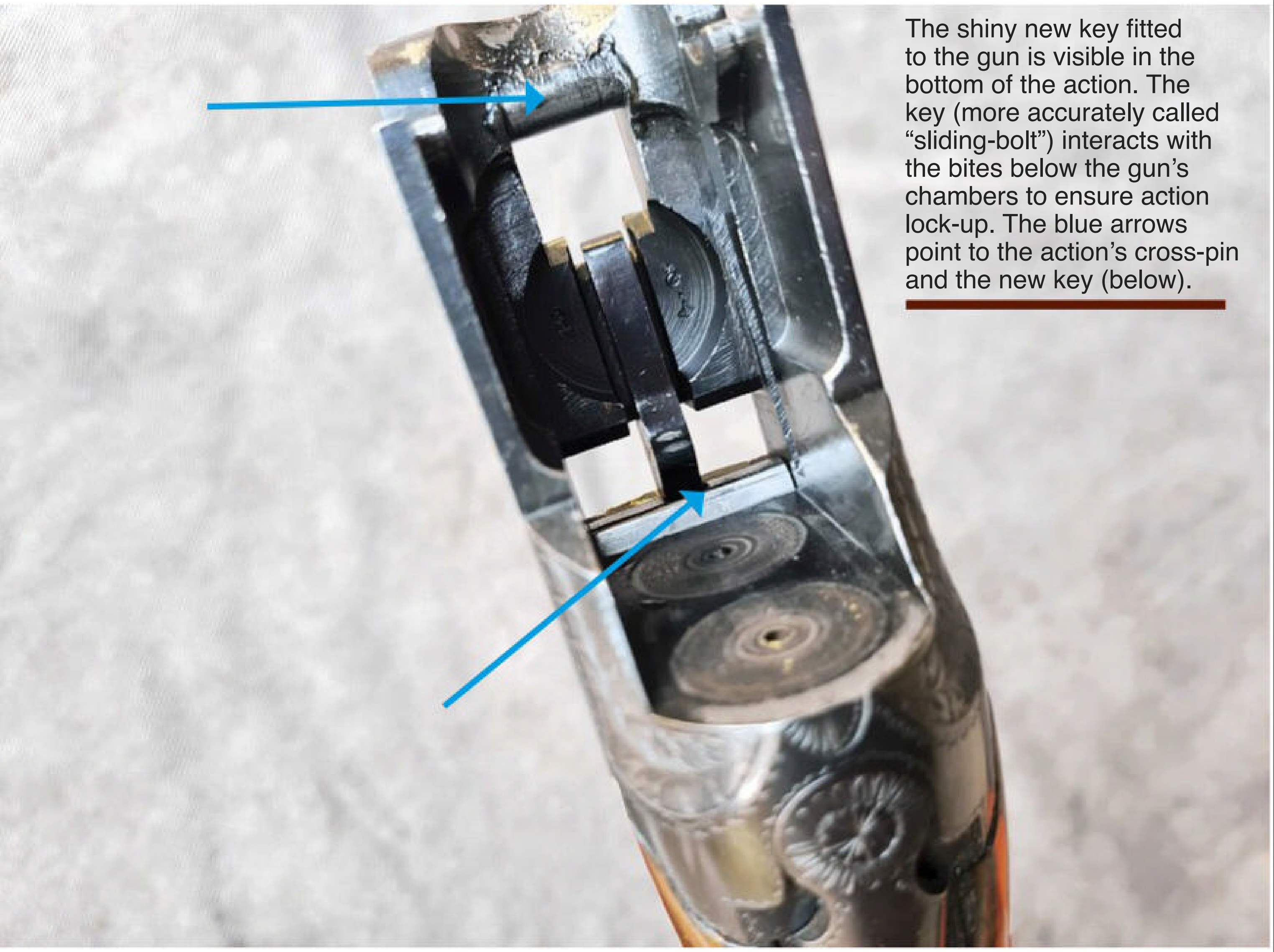
HOW TO BUY A HEADACHE…

At first, I thought that rejointing the Browning would be a fairly easy task. I mean, it was only loose by a few tenths of a millimetre, and the defect was so minor that most people would never have noticed it or even be bothered by it. Traditionally, side-by-side guns with double Purdey-style underlugs are rejointed by welding up the bearing surfaces of the lugs and, if the damage is really severe, by fitting a new hinge-pin as well. As the Browning was designed along similar lines, I thought at first that similar treatment would cure the problem, but alas…

I discussed the problem with a good friend who also happened to be somewhat of a B25 expert. After examining the gun and opening and closing it a few times, he told me it probably needed a new key. "A new what?" I asked. "A new key," he repeated. After some explanation, I understood the key to be the sliding-bolt, buried deep in the action, that was responsible for the lock-up of the action along with the bites in the breechface. However, in typical Browning fashion, the key wasn't merely a flat piece of steel that was sharp at the one end and slid backwards and forwards as the action was opened and closed, but rather an intricate bit of metal full of slots, bumps and angles that had to be painstakingly fitted by hand until it interacted with all the other bits. Enter another problem: The only place in the world where a new key could be obtained was the FN factory in Belgium!

At this stage, those few thousandths of a millimetre of play between the gun's action and barrels were rapidly starting to look like the large chasm of the Fish River Canyon, especially since the Covid-19 lockdown was in full swing, with no international travel and thus virtually no international courier services in operation. After some deliberation, I contacted a friend who happened to be the managing director of one of the big-name London gunmakers. I knew that said managing director had a large contingent of Belgian-trained gunmakers working for him, many of whom had been trained by FN. What if one of them went back home for a weekend visit to the family on the mainland…?

A phone call later, my friend cracked the whip, and I was busy sending an email to a somewhat bemused Belgian gunmaker and his English boss with the gun's serial number and other vital statistics. Just to complicate matters further, the shape of the key differed between



The shiny new key fitted to the gun is visible in the bottom of the action. The key (more accurately called "sliding-bolt") interacts with the bites below the gun's chambers to ensure action lock-up. The blue arrows point to the action's cross-pin and the new key (below).

individual B25 guns, depending on the trigger system employed. Therefore, FN needed the serial number to supply the right key. One hurdle cleared, however.

With all this behind me, my friend the B25 expert landed the next problem in my lap: "Remember, you need a new top-lever spring as well if you fit a new key. The top-lever spring pulls everything together and without it, the key is still a rattle-fit." Back to the drawing board, or so it seemed, until I remembered that an Australian friend did business with Winchester Australia, the Browning agents in that country. B25s are very much in fashion in the Land Down Under as well, so after another phone call, another package with a replacement top-lever spring and two new mainsprings (just in case) was on its way to South Africa via a (very!) circuitous route in a container at sea, thanks to the lack of international travel. In fact, my friend consulted the Australian Postal Service, who told him in so many words that, until the pandemic is past, they could courier a package to almost anywhere in the world but South Africa!

COMING TOGETHER

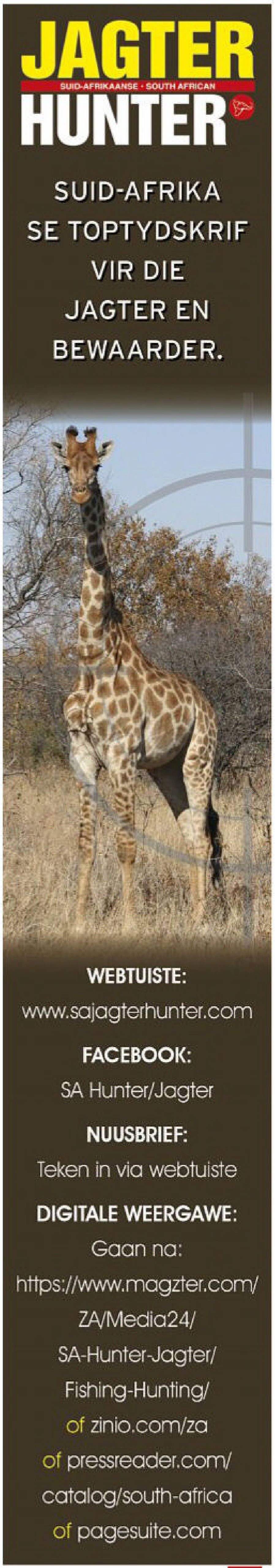
With all the required spare parts in hand, I approached Johannesburg gunsmith Juan Brogiolo. Juan is very good at fixing ailing B25s and told me they were a lot like a certain type of British off-road vehicle: somehow, they can always be put back on the road!

To give credit where it is due, Juan did an outstanding job. A few months after booking in the gun at his establishment, he phoned to say all was well again and I could collect the gun. This time around, there was no play whatsoever between the barrels and the action, and with its new innards, the Browning should be good for another 70 years of service.

Thankfully, proper fitment of a new key, together with a new mainspring, did the trick. There was no need to manufacture a new cross-pin, which was friction-fitted at the factory, to begin with, and required removal from the action by means of a hammer and punch, with re-engraving and blacking following shortly afterwards. Not a road I wished to travel down!

In retrospect, the B25 Browning functions a lot like a jigsaw puzzle. It is a difficult gun to disassemble, requiring the removal of the pins through the action (called "wire" by the British), as well as a myriad other small screws, pins and springs. However, the crux is that everything, especially the top-lever spring and the key, must pull together to ensure that the action locks up tightly. If these two ingredients are somehow out of kilter, the barrels are loose on the face, and if the gun is shot like this for an extended period, a loose top rib is the inevitable result.

Just a few days before writing this article, I was out in the Mpumalanga sunshine with the Browning in hand. After all the sweat and tears to set everything that was wrong with the gun straight, it was a pleasure to shoot it again – something the ducks and pigeons found out to their cost! Financially, I probably overspent on the Browning, but what price can one put on being reunited with the favourite gun from your early youth, having it restored to its former glory, and then using it with great satisfaction? Priceless, I tell you!



18+

WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

AVAXHOME -

the biggest Internet portal, providing you various content: brand new books, trending movies, fresh magazines, hot games, recent software, latest music releases.

Unlimited satisfaction one low price
Cheap constant access to piping hot media
Protect your downloadings from Big brother
Safer, than torrent-trackers

18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

All languages
Brand new content
One site

AVXLIVE.ICU

AvaxHome - Your End Place

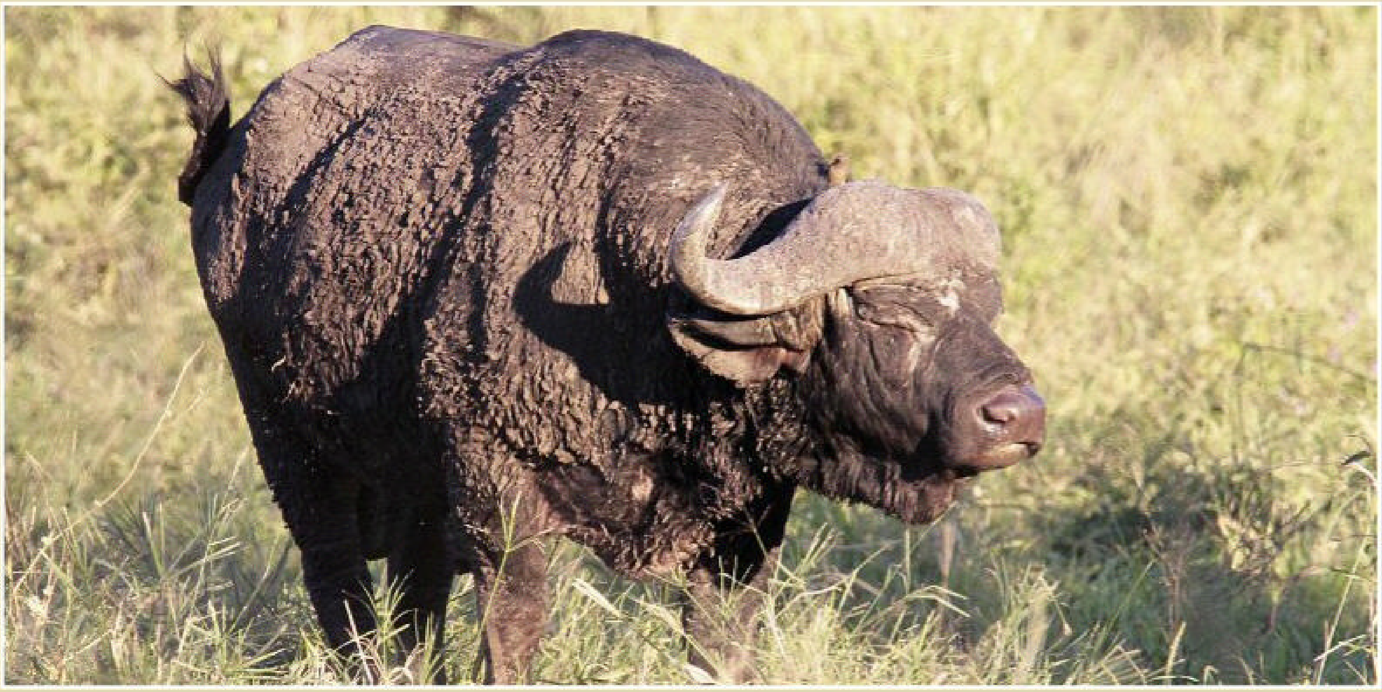
We have everything for all of your needs. Just open https://avxlive.icu

 | By DR KEVIN ROBERTSON

MAIN PHOTO AND INSERT BELOW: This massive, heavy-muscled bull is in his late 11th year. Note his well-defined “chinlap”. Fighting for a socially dominant position or defending it is the logical reason for his broken horn – proof indeed that bulls this age are still sexually active.

THE IMPORTANCE OF AGING SOUTHERN BUFFALO ACCURATELY

Aging Africa’s legendary bovine accurately



The responsible and sustainable utilisation of Africa’s wildlife is vital for its conservation. This statement is easy to defend. Take South Africa, Namibia and Mozambique, for example. In these three Southern African countries, “hunting” in its various forms is both legal and encouraged. Because of this, vast wilderness areas are protected, and wildlife numbers are booming.

In contrast to this, all forms of hunting were banned in Kenya in May 1977. Since that time, as much as 70% (some authorities say this figure could be as high as 80%) of this East African country’s once-abundant wildlife has disappeared. Why? Simply because Kenya’s wildlife has lost its value to the local population. Whenever wildlife, regardless of species, has no economic value, it is replaced with species

that do have value. In Africa, this means cattle, goats, sheep, donkeys, and in some instances, even camels.

Despite a massive amount of negative social media *and*, more recently, political pressure, hunting, or the politically correct term, "sustainable utilisation", remains the financial engine that preserves wilderness areas and drives wildlife conservation – period! The "sustainable" concept must, however, stand on four pillars. To be successful, it must be ecologically, financially, socially and genetically sustainable. This begs the question of whether "trophy hunting", as practised today, is genetically sustainable. Of course it is not! It *could* be genetically sustainable with a change of mindset, but definitely not when the biggest, best and most impressive specimens are removed from the gene pool while still of breeding age or, worse still, before having had the opportunity to breed and pass on their "superior, trophy-quality" genes.

Buffalo cows calve during the second half of Southern Africa's summertime rainy season when the grass is abundant and their body condition is at its best. This ensures the best chances for calf survival. These facts also help us age sexually mature bulls accurately.

THE MOST POPULAR DANGEROUS GAME

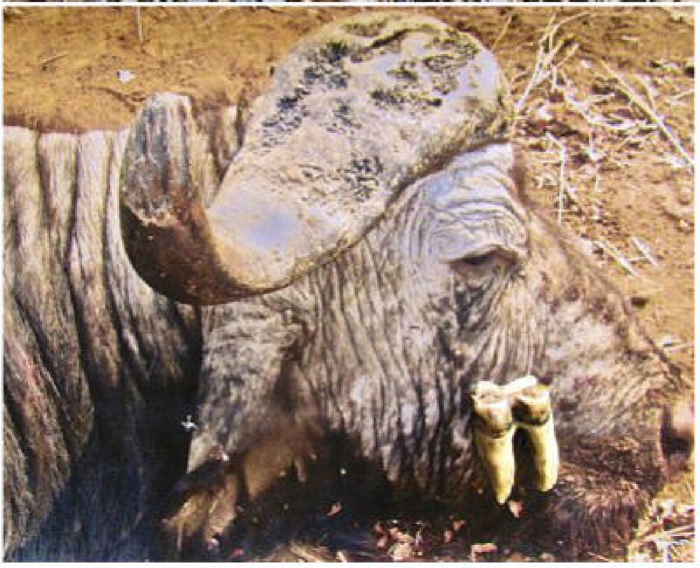
From an African perspective, the various types of buffalo are by far the Dark Continent's most popular dangerous-game animal species. Of the six buffalo species (Cape, Nile, East African savannah, Central African, West African and dwarf forest), it is the Cape buffalo or, more correctly termed, southern buffalo, that is the most widespread, abundant and popular from a sustainable utilisation viewpoint. And with good reason, for these formidable black bovines have a well-deserved reputation for being the ultimate dangerous-game quarry species. Theirs is a reputation that commands respect, and for the greater part of my professional life, they have been my fascination.

The Taylor first molar teeth aging method enables us to accurately age sexually mature buffalo bulls. This process involves measuring the crown height of each quadrant of the two first molar teeth in a bull's lower jaw. The eight measurements are then averaged and plotted on a graph to give the bull's age in years. Known age can then be correlated to the bull's physical characteristics, like horn tip sharpness and position, boss development and hardness, muscling in the neck and shoulder region, coat colour, facial markings and the condition of the ears.

Measure many hundreds of such teeth, connect all the dots, and over time it is possible to become really good at estimating the age of live, sexually mature bulls. All this is made easier because Southern Africa has a distinct, five-month, mid-November through to mid-April rainy season. The buffalo gestation period lasts 11 months, and in Southern Africa, they usually breed during the latter half of the rainy season when the grass is green and abundant and their body condition is at its best.

ACCURATE AGE MEASUREMENTS POSSIBLE

Combine all this information, and I believe it is possible to age any sexually mature buffalo bull to within a couple of months. This, in turn, enables us to observe which age group of bulls do the breeding and which do not. »



TOP: This was the first molar tooth from this bull. He was aged to be in his early 9th year and of prime breeding age.

LEFT: Note how worn down this first molar tooth from this bull's lower jaw is. The Taylor method aged him to be well into his 14th year and thus close to the end of his natural lifespan.

TOP LEFT: A sexually mature, pre-breeding-age, 7-year-old bull tries to mate with a heifer in oestrus. Note his grey body colour and lack of heavy muscling in the neck and shoulder region.

LEFT: A dominant herd bull quickly replaced the pre-breeder to show him how it is done. Note the difference in body colour – a testosterone-induced, secondary sexual characteristic.

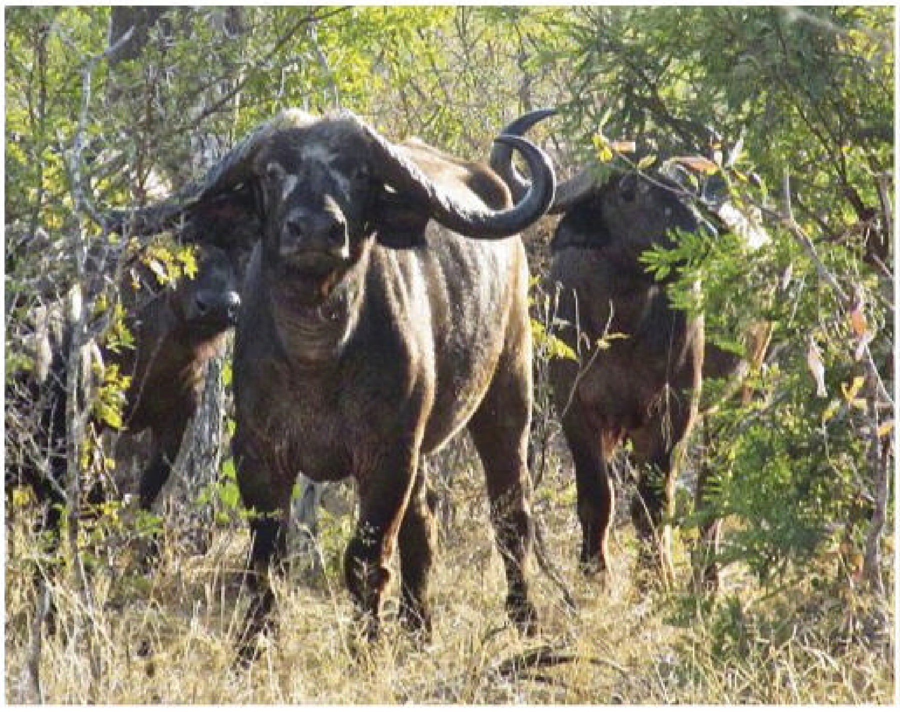
TOP AND BOTTOM: This dominant herd bull that just turned 9 years old is the same one from the previous photo. He displays all the secondary sexual characteristics of a bull in this most privileged position. Note his dark black body colour, heavy shoulder and neck muscling, a solid, bark-encrusted boss with horn tips below this level, and a developing "chinlap". All these physical features contribute to him being able to fight for the privilege to mate.

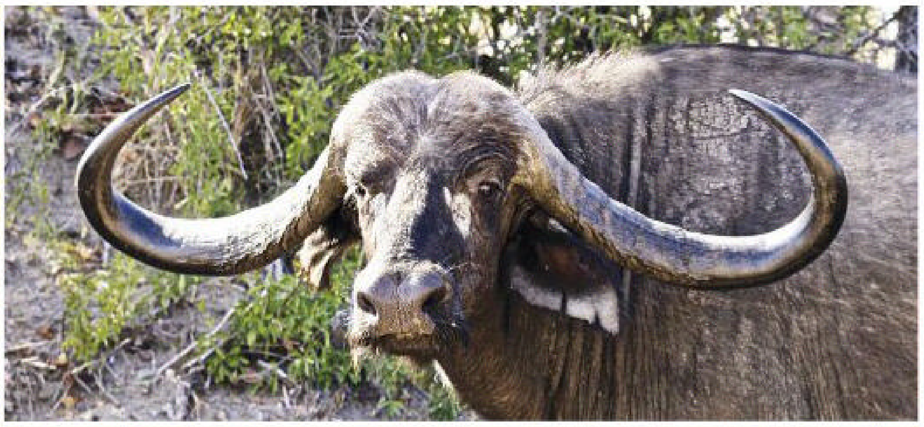
» **This information allows us to group sexually mature bulls into three groups:**

- Pre-breeding bulls: those in the age bracket of 5-7 years old that are too young to have developed the physical features to successfully fight for social dominance and thus breeding favours.
- Breeding-age bulls: those judged to be 8-11 years old and are sexually active.
- Post-breeding bulls: the "dagha boys" of 12 years or older – the battle-scarred old gentlemen who just look their age.

Buffalo look the way they do for three reasons. The first is their genetic make-up or genotype, with half their genes being inherited from the sire and the other half from the dam. These bovines are classified as bulk grazing animals. To survive, they need only grass, water, mud and shade. The environment into which buffalo are born, grow, mature and live provides their nutrition, which is responsible for what is known as the phenotypic effect. Sufficient nutrition enables their genes to express themselves. Insufficient nutrition stunts growth and suppresses genetic potential.

Sexual maturity occurs when males attain two thirds of their genetically determined body weight. It is important to realise that this significant, hormone-induced event is determined by weight and not age, where annual rainfall has the greatest influence on nutrition and, consequently, the growth rate. The hormones associated with sexual maturity are the third reason

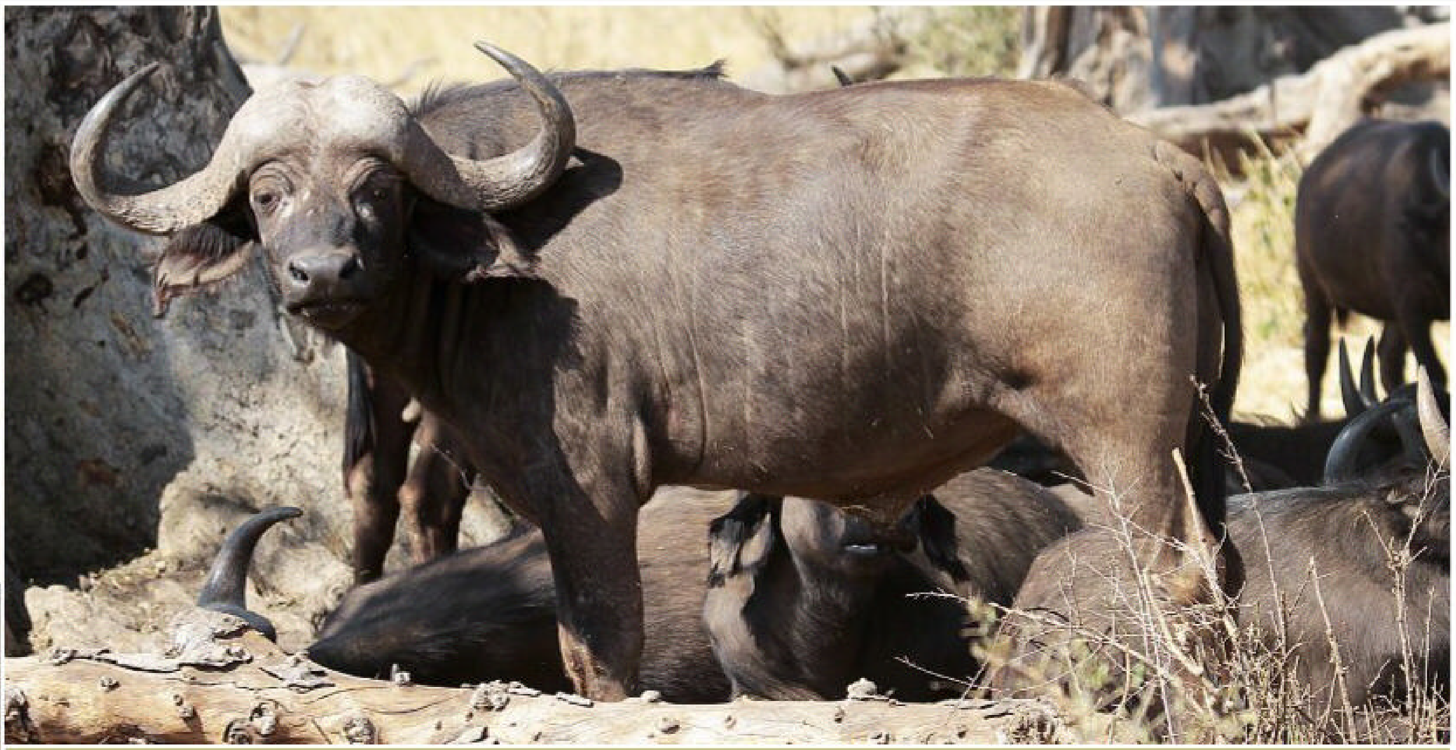




TOP: Despite her impressive horns, this cow looks feminine thanks to the female hormone oestrogen.

LEFT: This is a classic example of how hormones (or the lack thereof) influence the appearance of a buffalo. When I initially saw this buffalo, I thought it was a hormonally disturbed cow because there was no evidence of a boss despite the face appearing masculine.

TOP AND BOTTOM: I was videoing this buffalo when it turned to reveal a thin, slender neck and a penis sheath but no testicles. It was a castrated male (an ox) and never developed a boss, heavy muscling or a dark black colour because there was no testosterone to produce these secondary sexual characteristics.



This 5-year-old bull has reached two thirds of his mature body weight and will soon start to become sexually mature. This is evident from his soft "green" boss and sharp, rearwards-pointing horn tips. His body colour is also more brown than black.

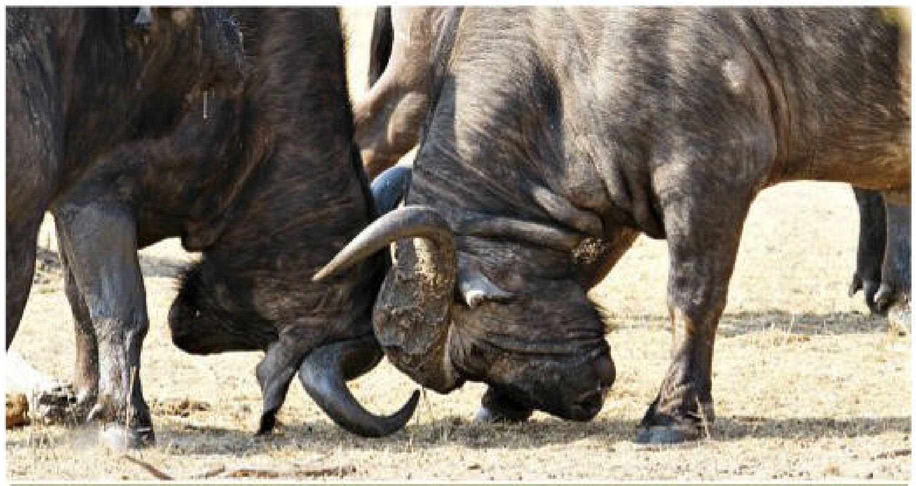
for physical appearance. The male hormone testosterone is responsible for the development of a buffalo bull's boss and the heavy muscling in the neck and shoulder region, giving him a "masculine" look. In cows, the female hormone oestrogen produces the look associated with "femininity".

AGE MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

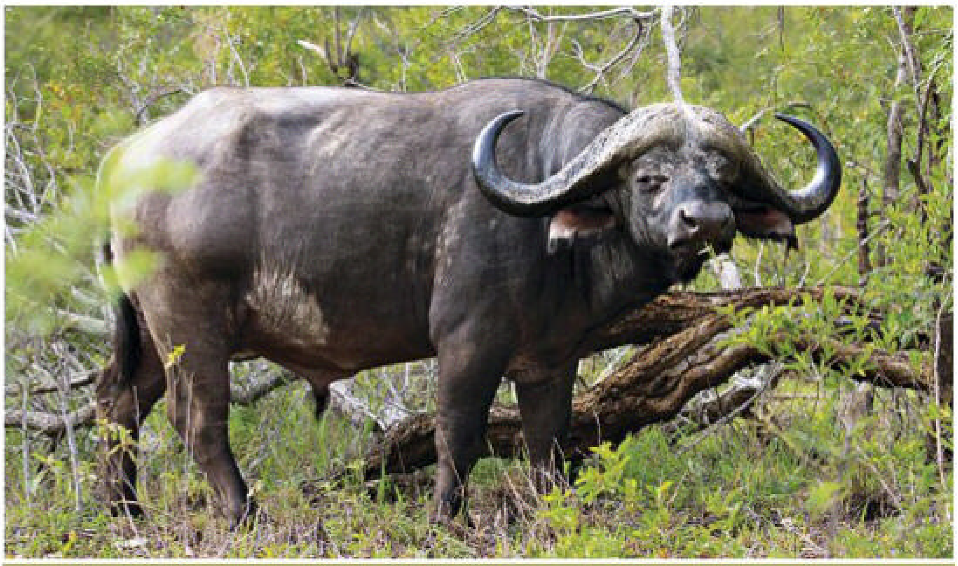
South of the Zambezi River, in areas receiving 450-700 mm of annual rainfall, male buffalo become sexually mature sometime during their 5th year. However, there is a huge difference between being sexually mature and having the strength, muscle mass, boss hardness and fighting experience so essential for physical contests for social dominance and, consequently, breeding favours.

A buffalo bull's boss is his battering ram. Until the top of the boss is bone-hard, a bull cannot use it for the sometimes violent, push-and-shove "test-of-strength" contests required for social dominance. Also, in many pre-breeding-age bulls, the horn tips are sharp, rearwards angled and above the boss level. This is a disadvantage when it comes to serious fights for social dominance. Sexually mature, pre-breeding-age bulls need to be patient for a few years while their horn tips gradually drop and the boss slowly hardens.

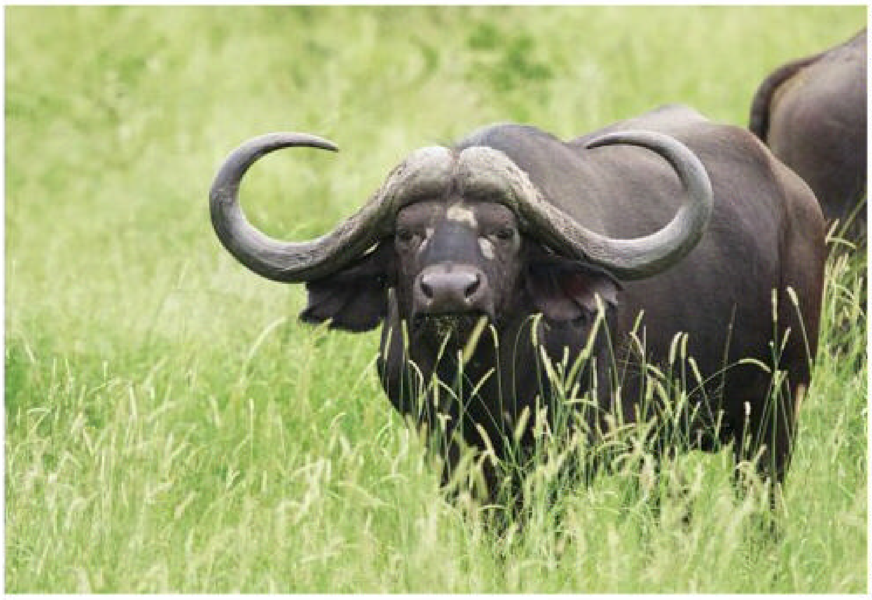
The 7th year in a buffalo bull's life is an important one. By then, the bull's boss will be just about hard enough for fighting. In preparation for these contests, this age group of bulls begin to engage in vigorous horn-rubbing. They fight with small trees and bushes to develop and strengthen their neck and shoulder muscles, just like a professional boxer or MMA fighter energetically works out in the gym to prepare for a title fight. From a trophy size, scoring, and record book ranking perspective, such activities have a detrimental effect as the horn tips now start wearing down. With the SCI scoring system, this means that such bulls score increasingly less the more they rub their horns. For this simple reason, most of the highest-ranking bulls in the SCI record book were shot while still of »



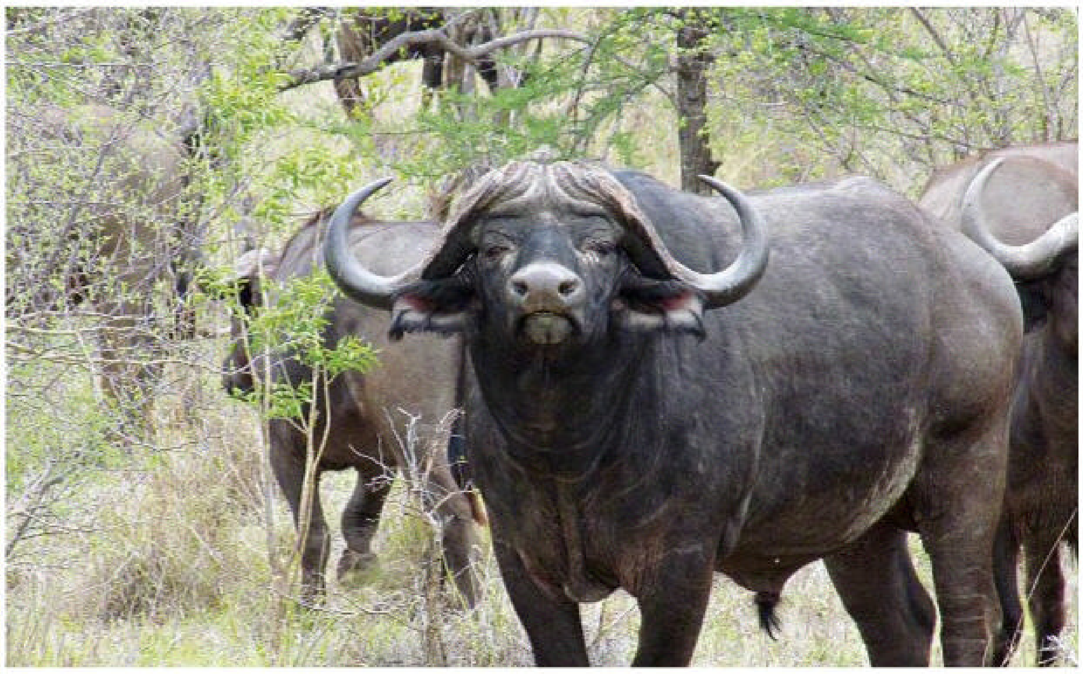
Fights for social dominance and, consequently, breeding favours, are head-butting, test-of-strength contests that require a solid boss, well-developed neck and shoulder muscles, and horn tips that have dropped to boss level. The bark on this bull's horns indicates he has been "tree-fighting" in preparation for such occasions.



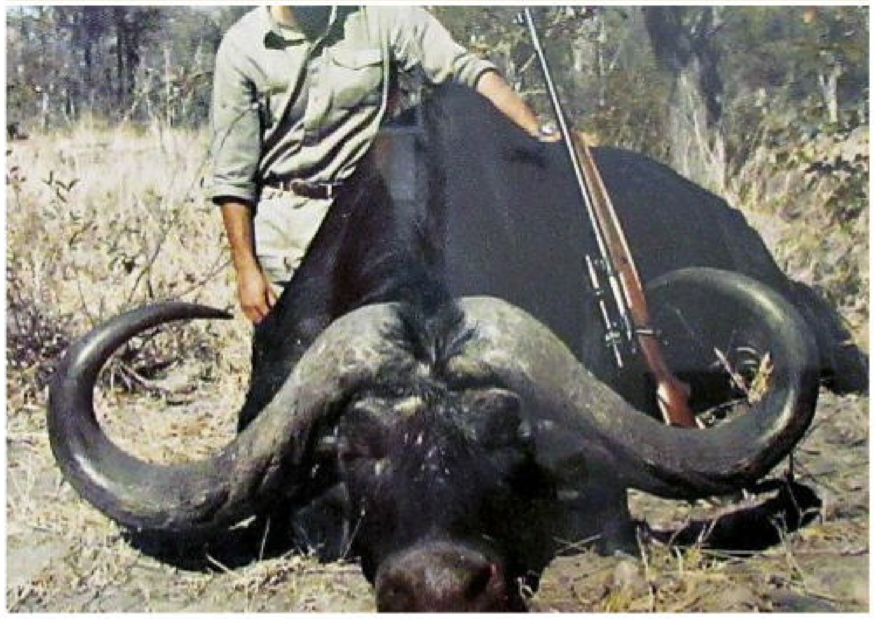
This bull is in his 7th year – an important stage in a bull's life because he is approaching breeding age. His boss is hardening, his shoulder and neck muscles are developing, and there is evidence that his "chinlap" is also starting to develop. In preparation for the test-of-strength contests that will shortly ensue, this bull has begun to horn-rub, which explains the bark on his horns. Horn-rubbing also wears down the horn tips. Therefore, from a trophy scoring perspective, this bull will henceforth score increasingly less on the SCI scoring system. The sad part about this is that he is still a pre-breeder.



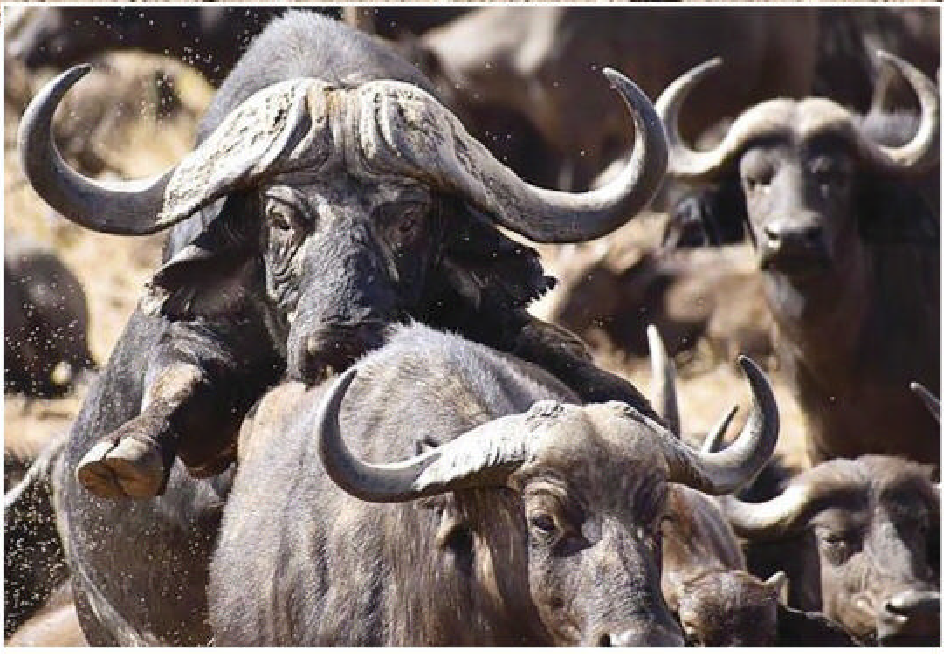
This impressive young bull is in his 6^{th} year. While still soft and "green", the top of his boss is slowly starting to harden while his body colour darkens. These are the secondary sexual influences of the testosterone hormone. Despite this, his face still has a youthful look about it. This age group of bulls are still considered pre-breeders.



This dominant herd bull is in his early 8^{th} year. His boss is hard enough for him to have fought for this most privileged social position, and yet it remains somewhat puffy along the lower front edge. This puffiness will disappear in another year. Another important feature is the level of the horn tips. Being at boss level or lower makes fighting for dominance easier, as does his muscular neck and shoulders.



This is a classic example of what I'm talking about. This Botswana bull is currently ranked 6^{th} in the SCI record book. I age him to be in his 6^{th} year, and as such he was of pre-breeding age. What a pity that his impressive genes were lost before being passed on. Such situations are simply not sustainable!



TOP AND BOTTOM: This bull is in his 11^{th} year, as is evident from his well-developed boss and worn-down horn tips. Many PHs would consider such a bull a good old dagha boy and a fine trophy – and yet here is the evidence that bulls this age are still breeders.

» pre-breeding age. From a genetic, trophy-quality perspective, this is simply not sustainable!

By the time bulls are in their 8^{th} year, their bosses with be sufficiently hard across the top for fighting, even though there is still some "puffiness" along the lower front edge of the boss. The horn tips will also have lost some of their sharpness and rearwards angling, and in many instances, will have dropped to boss level. At this age, a bull's testosterone level peaks, which can be seen by a change in coat colour from dusty grey-brown to pitch-black.

Along with the heavy muscling in the neck and shoulder region, another interesting, secondary sexual characteristic of bulls this age is the development of a "chinlap" – a loose flap of skin under the lower jaw, which starts to develop in the 7^{th} year and continues to grow for the remainder of the bull's life.

It is natural for all sexually mature bulls to want to breed. For this to happen, bulls need to develop the characteristics that will enable them to successfully fight for this privilege. As explained, this usually occurs in the 8^{th} year of life. However, once such a socially dominant position has been obtained, bulls soon discover that maintaining this privileged position »

SAVUTI ARMS

Dealers in Arms and Ammunition

Handelaars in Wapens en Ammunisie

Tel: 011 915 0138 / **Tel:** 011 915 0145
Carnival Centre, East Rand
Cnr Rangeview and Lawrence Rd, Brakpan
GPS: S26º15,061 E028º18,815
info@savutiarms.co.za
www.savutiarms.co.za
Savuti Arms is on Facebook.

BESTELLINGS EN AFLEWERINGS LANDWYD - POSTNET, RAM & COURIER GUY. *T's & C's Apply*

DIE PUNTE-, LANGAFSTAND- EN *BIG BORE*-WINKEL

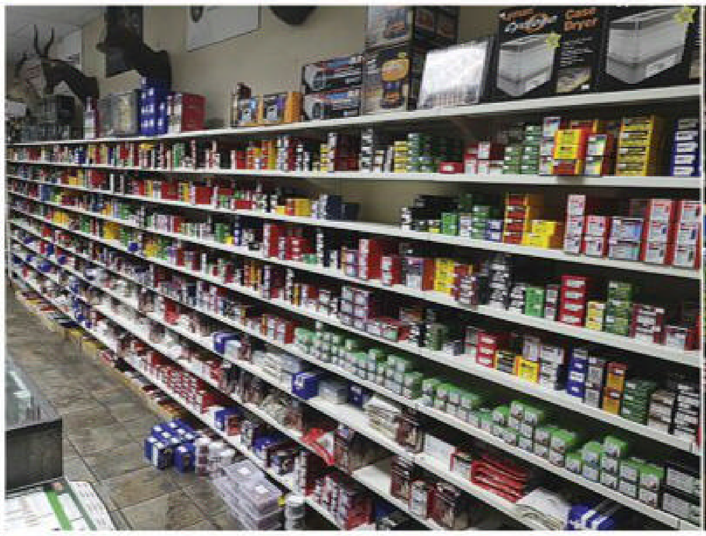
Hierdie winkel is vir die herlaaier. **This shop is for the reloader.**

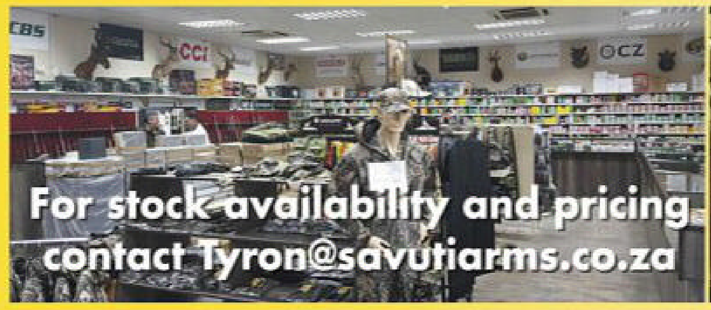
BERGER BULLETS
Nosler Bullets for Sportsmen
WINCHESTER RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS
norma DEDICATED SINCE 1902
SIERRA The Bulletsmiths
Hornady Accurate. Deadly. Dependable.
Swift BULLET COMPANY
RCBS
BARNES OPTIMIZED FOR YOUR TARGET™
LAPUA

SIGHTRON
NIGHTFORCE
BURRIS
LEUPOLD
NikkoStirling OPTICS FOR SPORT, SINCE 1958
LYNX
HAWKE
VORTEX OPTICS
SWAROVSKI OPTIK
SIG SAUER NEVER SETTLE

Dillon Precision Products, Inc.
REDDING RELOADING EQUIPMENT
LEE PRECISION, INC.
RCBS

BOYDS HARDWOOD GUNSTOCKS
AT-ONE THE ADJUSTABLE GUNSTOCK





SAVUTI ARMS

Special imports available on request.

Visit our page https://www.savutiarms.co.za/
or Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/savutiimports

This bull has just turned ten and is of prime breeding age. Note his dark colour and the bark on his horns. He has been tree-fighting, the buffalo equivalent of going to the gym in preparation for fights for social dominance.

» is an even harder task.

Having to be constantly on guard against predators and challengers, feeding at the back of the herd on already trampled grazing and, most importantly, not having enough time to ruminate while otherwise occupied quickly leads to a dominant herd bull losing body condition. When too much weight and, consequently, strength has been lost, such bulls get challenged. If they lose the fight, they are displaced. Displaced bulls then leave the breeding herds to wander on their own or join up with a few other bulls to form a bachelor herd.

BACHELOR OR DAGHA BOY?

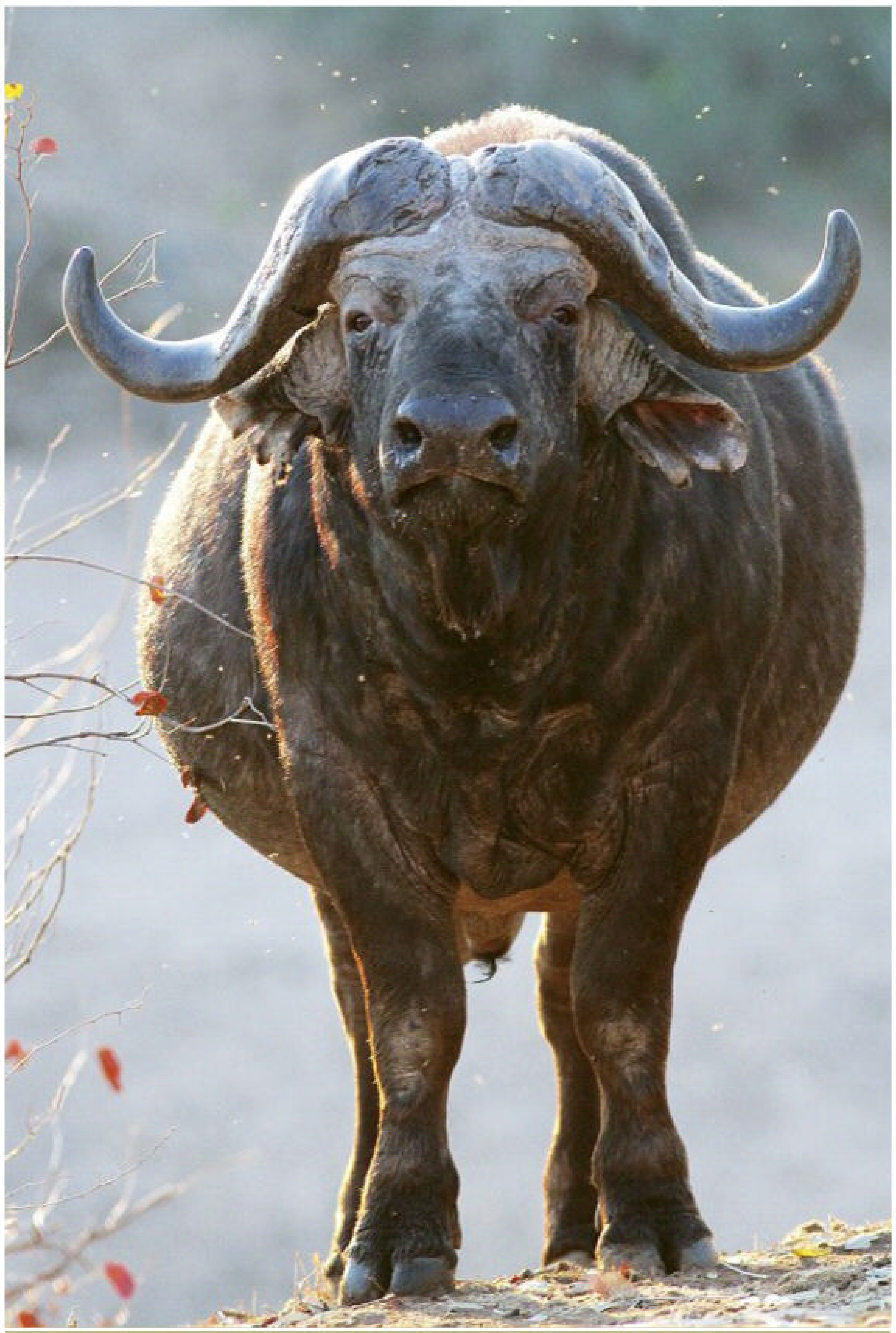
Away from the stresses of herd life, bachelor bulls use this time to rest and regain their weight and strength. When they have done so, they will rechallenge herd bulls for social dominance. Over their breeding age tenure period of about four years (from age 8-11), this age group of bulls will join and leave the breeding herds several times. For this reason, bachelor herd bulls can vary in age from as young as 7 to as old as 12 years.

Many experienced professional hunters believe that because a buffalo bull is in a bachelor herd, it can be assumed that he is a post-breeding-age dagha boy. However, this is not the case. Many breeding-age bulls occur in bachelor herds for reasons already explained.

To keep in shape, breeding-age bulls continue to vigorously horn-rub throughout their four-year breeding tenure period. This continually wears away the horn tips while the boss slowly develops a smooth, polished appearance. Bulls continue to breed well into their 11th year, and there is photographic evidence of this.

In their 12th year, however, such bulls are usually past their breeding time. Many bulls this age choose to lead solitary lives away from the breeding herd in secluded areas close to permanent water. Old age takes its toll on this age category of bulls. They develop cataracts and arthritis, and due to recurrent tick infestation in their ears, fibrosis causes narrowing of the auditory canals, affecting their hearing. As a result, old bulls become slow, and they do not see or hear as well as they used to. This makes them vulnerable to predation from lions. They compensate for their vulnerability with aggression. Old buffalo bulls are well-known for being bad-tempered, bloody-minded, and at times even vindictive, just like grumpy old men! Of course, this is what makes them so special, unique, and Africa's ultimate dangerous-game species!

The reader's attention is drawn to the fact that the SAHGCA keeps its own trophy record book and uses its own measuring system. Please contact them for more information in this regard. – Editor



It takes many years of tree-rubbing for horn tips to become this blunt and worn down and for the boss to develop a smooth, polished look. This bull was aged to be well into his 14th year. As is the case so often, he was a loner when photographed. In Southern African wilderness areas where lions occur, no bulls reach 16 years of age, so bulls this old are close to the end of their natural lives. This makes them very special trophies indeed, regardless of what the record books might say!

ENQUIRE WITH YOUR TRUSTED JOHN DEERE DEALER ABOUT ALL AVAILABLE ATTACHMENTS FOR YOUR GATOR™

Believe in greater

JOHN DEERE

*Terms and conditions apply
(available at www.deere.com/sub-saharan).

Locate your nearest dealer:
www.deere.com/sub-saharan/en/our-company/contact-us/

deere.com/sub-saharan | africa@johndeere.com | Customer Care: 080 098 3821

JohnDeereAfrica

In die vorige uitgawe het ons gekyk na 'n paar insidente wat met my in die verlede gebeur het en die lesse wat daaruit te leer was. Vandeesmaand kyk ons na nog 'n paar situasies wat tot trane kan lei.

Bakkiejag is 'n gewilde manier van jag in Suidelike Afrika. Ek gaan my nie uitlaat oor die etiese aspekte nie, want dit val buite die konteks van hierdie artikel. Ek dink egter almal sal saamstem dat hoe meer manne en dames met gewere op een voertuig bymekaar is, hoe groter die risiko…

In baie gevalle word daar telkemale op 'n bok aangelê, maar daar word nie noodwendig geskiet nie. In só 'n geval is dit van die uiterste belang dat die skut elke keer sy geweer veilig maak met die patroon wat uit die kamer is. 'n Dubbelkajuitbakkie wat gebruik word as jagbakkie is altyd 'n groot risiko – die jagters staan vêr agter die bestuurder en die moontlikheid dat 'n geweer reg na hom toe wys, is groot. My swaer, 'n advokaat, was so 'n paar jaar gelede in sy professionele hoedanigheid juis by so 'n saak betrokke. Die eienaar van 'n jagplaas is doodgeskiet deur 'n jagter agterop die plaas se dubbelkajuitbakkie...

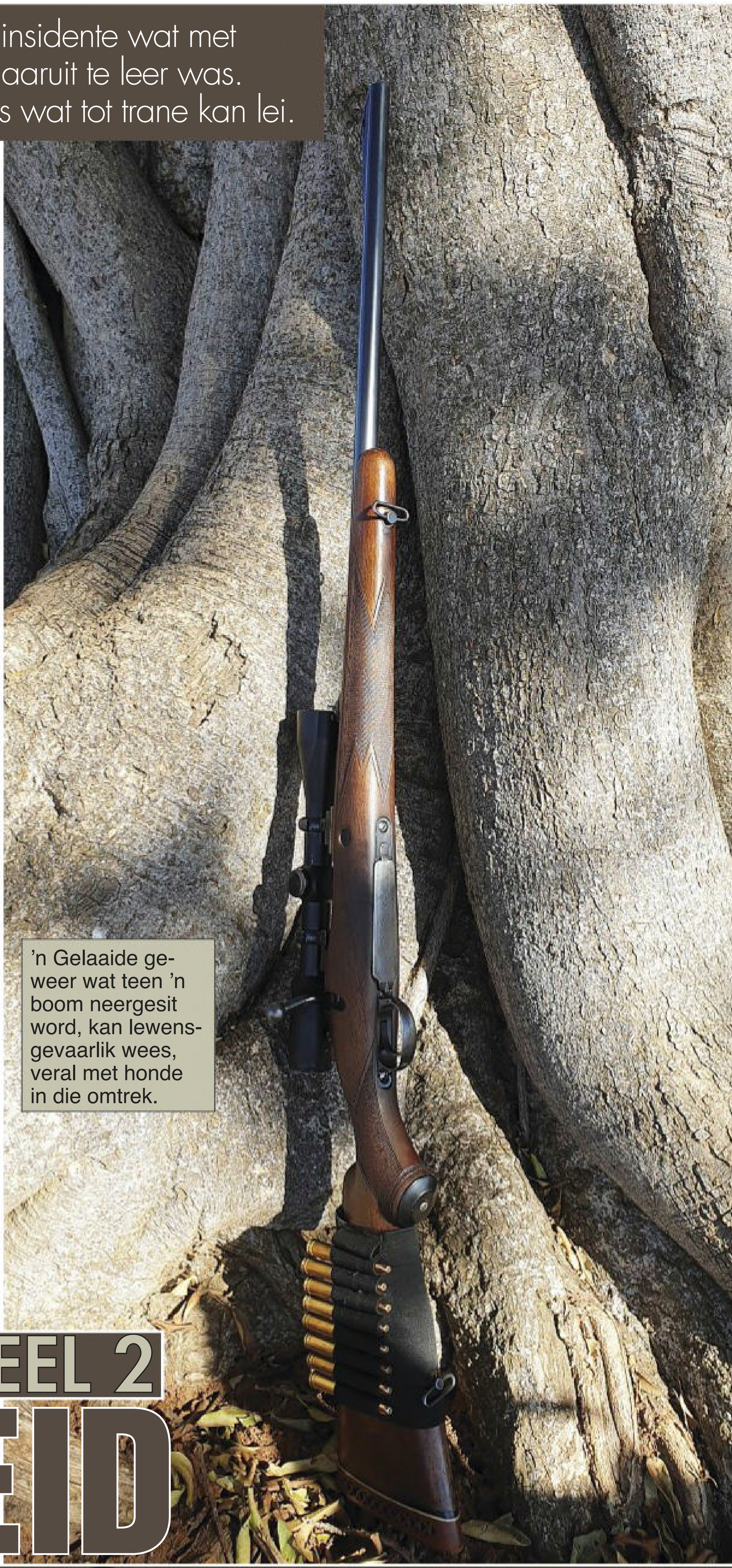
SIT JOU GEWEER NEER!

Gevalle waar jagters hulself raak (en dood!) geskiet het, is legio. Die groot gevaar is waar 'n jagter 'n gelaaide geweer teen 'n boom, draad of struik neersit en die wapen val en die skoot gaan af... in enige rigting. 'n Gelaaide haelgeweer of geweer wat op *enige manier of plek* neergesit word in die teenwoordigheid van 'n jaghond, is veral 'n groot risiko – honde kan nie wapenveiligheidsreëls lees nie… Menige voëljagter is al deur sy hond doodgeskiet as die hond op die sneller trap of daarteen stamp, of bloot die gelaaide geweer omstamp daar waar hy staangemaak was.

Selfs 'n geweer agterop of binne-in 'n bakkie kan gevaarlik wees. Jou hond sal dalk nie opspring sonder jou bevel nie, maar wat van jou jagmaat se hond of die eienaar se lawwe Jack Russel-spoorsnyhond? 'n Ander groot risiko is deur 'n draad klim, oor 'n stroompie of sloot spring of deur digte bosse stap of gebukkend loop of kruip. In hierdie gevalle kan byna enigiets gebeur. Die ou reël van "jy klim nie met 'n gelaaide geweer deur 'n draad nie" is veral van toepassing. Die sneller kan aan 'n stuk los draad of doringdraad se dorinkies vashaak, of jy kan val en beheer oor die geweer verloor.

Ontlaai eerder jou geweer, gee dit vir 'n medejagter en klim dan oor of deur die draad. Neem jou geweer en sy skoon geweer by hom deur dit bo-oor die draad te tel en laat hom toe om deur te klim. As jy alleen is, sit jou ongelaaide geweer op die grond neer onder die draad en klim 'n entjie weg van die geweer oor sodat as jy val (en wie het nog nié van 'n draad afgeval nie?), jy nie op jou geweer val nie.

Baie jagters sal seker sidder om 'n duur geweer op die klippe neer te sit. Gebruik jou jagbaadjie of hoed om skade te voorkom.



'n Gelaaide geweer wat teen 'n boom neergesit word, kan lewensgevaarlik wees, veral met honde in die omtrek.

DEEL 2

VEILIGHEID IN DIE JAGVELD

BO: Die regte manier om deur 'n draad te kom – gee die skoon geweer vir jou maat aan wat reeds deurgeklim het. **REGS BO:** Op vlakteplase soos dié een is dit uiters belangrik om te weet waar jou maats sit tydens 'n tipiese voorsitjag. **REGS ONDER:** 'n Mooi "blou lug"-skoot deur vriend Robert wat poseer het met 'n veilige geweer – dis veral belangrik in sonneblom- en mielielande, waar sig maar beperk is.

BLOU LUG!

In 'n uiters ironiese voorval, aangesien ek beplan het om meer oor voëljagrisiko's in hierdie artikel uit te brei, is ek self deur 'n ander jagter met hael raakgeskiet slegs vier dae voor die skryf van hierdie artikel. Dit het oor net een rede gebeur: Hy het nie die "blou lug"-reël gevolg nie en op 'n kolgans geskiet wat pas van die water opgestyg het. Hy het deurgeswaai en geskiet en die voël getref (genadiglik!), maar van die hael het my 50 meter verder getref; 'n nommer-4-korrel op my hand en een op my bolip. Dit het kompleet gevoel asof iemand my hard op die mond geklap het en my lip en tandvleis was behoorlik aan flarde. Ek kan getuig dat dit 'n minder aangename ervaring was, om dit sagkens te stel. Dis ook 'n genade dat die hael my nie in die oog getref het nie. Ek het daardie spesifieke dag my skietbril in die bakkie vergeet en was te lui om dit te loop haal – 'n fout wat ek nie weer sal maak nie.

Die lesse? Skiet net as jy *blou lug* sien, konsentreer op wat jy doen, besluit op veilige skietvakke en *dra jou skietbril*. Dit verstom my soms hoe blasé sekere jagters oor haelgeweerveiligheid is, so asof die klein korreltjies minder skade as 'n .308-koeël kan doen. Op 'n afstand van 'n meter of drie sal 'n haelgeweer se gekonsentreerde hael 'n tonnel deur 'n mens se maag skiet; iets wat ek kwalik kan glo iemand sal oorleef.

Dit is ook ooglopend dat haelgeweerskiet sinoniem is met die swaai van die geweer en die gepaardgaande tonnelvisie soos jy op die voël konsentreer. Jy sien dus nie altyd alles nie en dit is baie moontlik om iets raak te skiet wat jy nie as teiken bedoel het nie.

Die "blou lug"-reël met haelgeweerskiet het 'n belangrike parallel met koeëlgeweerjag in terme van skietvakke en jagareas. Afhangend van die kaliber, bly 'n koeël dodelik vir kilometers. As ek die kere tel waar misverstande ontstaan het oor presies waar elke jagter was tydens sekere jagte, sal ek by ten minste tien uitkom. Dit het gewoonlik gebeur by nuwe bestemmings of waar nuwe jagters by ou be-»

Voertuigherwinning kan baie gevaarlik wees. Gelukkig het ons die trekker met sy ketting, vasgemaak aan die regte plek op die plaasvoertuig, net so effe gebruik om deur die laaste bietjie gladde modder te kom. Die korrekte herwinningstou sou 'n beter opsie gewees het.

» stemmings gaan jag het.

Daar was nooit enige insident nie, maar beslis 'n sekere mate van risiko omdat die jagter nie besef het hy het uit sy afgesproke area geloop nie. Of hy het bloot net verdwaal of nie opgelet nie, en in sekere gevalle bloot nie geluister nie. Dit is ontnugterend om iemand anders in jou kamp te kry! Die goue reël hier is natuurlik om seker te maak van jou teiken en wat agter jou teiken is, te hou by 'n veilige skietrigting en ten alle tye te weet waar jou jagmaats hulle bevind.

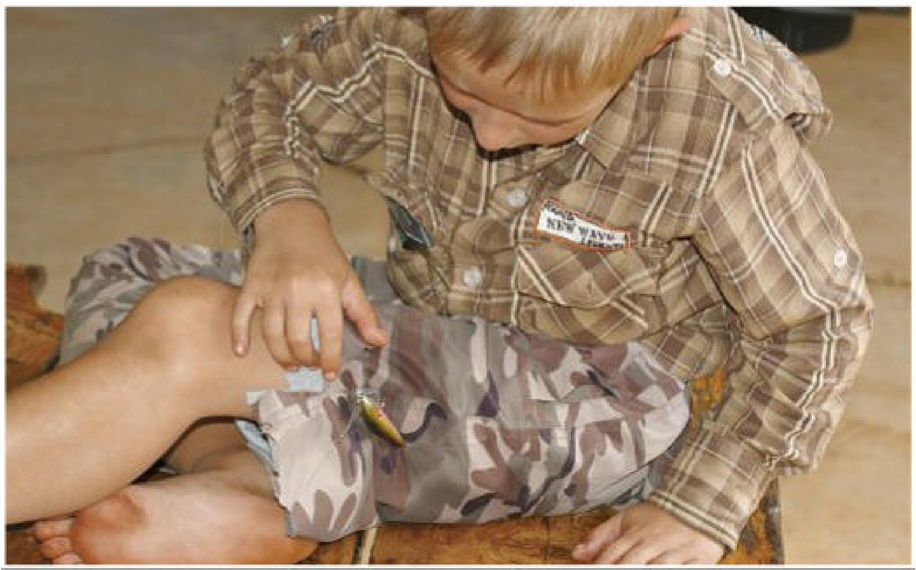
GEEN VUURWATER NIE

Drank, dwelms en gewere meng nie, maar dit stop nie daar nie. Sekere medikasie is bekend vir hul uitwerking op menslike koördinasie en reaksietyd, asook besluitnemingsvermoë. Onthou dit dus as jy of vriende dalk medikasie gebruik. Dit sal oneerlik van my wees om te ontken dat baie jagters 'n vol koelboks laai vir die veld, maar vra jou die vraag af: Wil jy daardie ou wees wat jou vriend se vrou moet vertel dat jy haar man doodgeskiet het omdat jy onder die invloed was? Ek gaan dit daarby los…

Die ou tameletjie van 'n vraag oor hoe om met 'n geweer in die veld te stap, sal vir dekades nog herkou word. Daar is soveel verskillende scenario's dat spasie nie almal se beskrywing toelaat nie, maar die potensieel gevaarlikste is sekerlik 'n dubbelloopgeweer. As jy agter 'n buffel aan is met olifante en leeus in die omgewing, is dit uiteraard waansin om met 'n ongelaaide geweer te stap, bloot vir jou eie veiligheid. Dit is baie maklik om 'n grendelaksiegeweer vinnig in aksie te kry: Ruk die slot oop en stamp hom vorentoe. Die laai van 'n dubbelgeweer verg egter baie meer aksies en is baie stadiger. In die tweede plek is dit dalk moontlik om 'n dubbel saggies oop te maak, maar haas onmoontlik om dit saggies toe te maak, wat natuurlik jou prooi kan wegjaag of op jou laat afstorm.

Voeg nou hierby die spoorsnyer en professionele jagter wat voor jou as kliënt loop, en dit word 'n probleem met jou gelaaide geweer wat op jou skouer ry met sy loop vorentoe en na hul rûe wys. Die beste oplossing in so 'n situasie is om met die gelaaide geweer te stap met die loop wat na die veilige kant toe weg van enigiemand wys, met die veiligheidsknip aan. Daar is weinig ander opsies.

Ons is geneig om na skietongelukke te kyk as daar aan veiligheid gedink word, maar ander aspekte verdien ook oorweging. In ons hedendaagse samelewing met sy gepaardgaande sosio-ekonomiese probleme moet die risiko dat jy die prooi van kriminele kan word altyd aandag kry. Ek het 'n paar jaar gelede gehoor van 'n groep jagters wat beroof is om hul kampvuur êrens in die noorde van die land. Al hulle gewere, beursies en selfone is geroof terwyl hulle by die kamp sit en braai het een aand. Sluit dus maar die geweer in die kluis toe eerder as om dit in die hoek van die kamer staan te maak terwyl jy slaap (en dalk bietjie "dieper" slaap as by die huis?).



'n Noodhulpkissie in die jagkamp is 'n móét. Klein Juan het homself met 'n Rapala-kunsaas gehaak en vir ure botweg geweier dat enigiemand aan hom vat om te help. Uiteindelik het hy die hoek self uitgeruk en kon ons die wond ontsmet en verbind.

VOERTUIGVEILIGHEID

'n Ander oorweging, wat eintlik niks met gewere as sulks te doen het nie, is voertuigveiligheid. Ek is al self amper bo-oor 'n bakkie se dak gegooi toe die bestuurder onwetend deur 'n baie diep erdvarkgat gery het, weggesteek in lang gras. Bakkieherwinning het ook al menige jagter seergemaak. 'n Hooglig-domkrag *(hi-lift jack)* in die verkeerde (onopgeleide) hande is lewensgevaarlik indien dit nie reg hanteer word nie.

Wat net so gevaarlik is, is om die verkeerde herwinningspunte of toue op 'n voertuig te gebruik om dit met 'n wenas uit 'n gat, modder of sagte sand te kry. Ek het onlangs gelees van 'n 4x4-eienaar wat amper doodgeslaan is toe die balhaak van sy vriend se voertuig afgebreek en deur die voorruit gevlieg het tydens herwinning. Die beste advies in hierdie verband is om 'n professionele kursus oor herwinning by te woon. Dit is 'n belegging in jou eie veiligheid en beslis die moeite werd.

NOODHULP

Veiligheid in die jagkamp ten opsigte van persoonlike beserings draai gewoonlik om twee prominente aspekte: brand- en snywonde. Dit is die twee mees algemene insidente in en om die kamp en beide kan ernstig wees onder sekere omstandighede. Soos met herwinningstoerusting, maak dit sin om te weet wat jy doen en ook om die regte toerusting byderhand te hê. 'n Noodhulpkursus is 'n baie goeie begin en 'n aanvullende en meer gevorderde kursus om ernstige bloedverlies te voorkom, is 'n puik idee. 'n Noodhulptas met die regte medikasie en toerusting, wat die jeltipe brandwondverbande insluit, is 'n móét in enige jagkamp. Veilig jag!

Die verskil tussen iets van alles en alles van alles weet
JOU WEEKLIKSE DIGITALE LANDBOUWEEKBLAD,
50 UITGAWES PER JAAR
Slegs R149 per maand
+ 'n Nuwe toonaangewende weerplatform + Luisterfunksie by artikels spaar jou tyd + Toegang tot ons omvangryke artikelargief.
Skandeer die QR-kode met jou selfoon om die Landbou.com-app af te laai of soek vir Landbou.com in die app-winkel.
Landbou.com
Boer vooruit.

Moet nooit 'n vlakvark onderskat nie – hierdie koddige kalant is vinniger, gevaarliker en taaier as wat jy dink!

Vlakvarke is gewis nie die mooiste diere in die veld nie. Tog het dié diersoort 'n bekoring van sy eie en is dit ook gesog onder die meeste jagters. Ek ken 'n hele paar jagters wat 'n mooi koedoebul sal laat staan indien hulle 'n vlakvark kan skiet.

Twee manne wat ek goed ken en wat gewis vlakvarkmal is, is

'n Vlakvark is eintlik mooi van lelikheid!

VLAKVARKJAG MET *'n pyl en boog*

Nicky Niehaus met 'n pragtige vlakvark wat hy platgetrek het.

Adrian de Villiers met 'n rekord-grootte vlakvark wat hy gejag het.

die bekende dr. Adrian de Villiers en my vriend Nicky Niehaus, wat onlangs 'n boek aan boogjag op dié diersoort gewy het. Albei die manne kan jou lank besig hou met hulle vlakvarkjagstories.

Elke boogjagter weet ook vlakvarke is berugte snaarspringers. "Snaarspring" is nie 'n bekende term onder geweerjagters nie omdat 'n koeël uit 'n geweer baie vinniger beweeg as 'n pyl uit 'n boog. 'n Boogjagter met 'n bietjie ervaring weet egter presies wat dié woord beteken. Dit is wanneer die dier hoor wanneer die boog klap as die pyl losgelaat word, of die pyl in vlug nader hoor kom, en dan begin beweeg om sodoende die pyl heeltemal te ontwyk, of erger, net genoeg beweeg dat die pyl nie die regte plek tref nie. Die dier is dan gewond en kom weg, of neem lank om dood te gaan.

VINNIGE VARKE

Ek het al 'n hele klompie vlakvarke met 'n kragboog geskiet, maar altyd van so naby as moontlik af, want ek het gou geleer hoe blitsig dié diere se reaksie is. Selfs met 'n kragboog skiet ek nie graag oor 'n afstand van meer as 22 meter op vlakvarke nie.

Die langste afstand waaroor ek 'n vlakvark geskiet het, is 37 tree. Dit was op die plaas Winburg naby Ellisras, deesdae bekend as Lephalale. Dit was een van York Safaris se jagplase. Christopher York het ons destyds genooi om blouwildebeeste daar te jag net nadat die plaas vir boogjag ingerig is. Ons was van die eerste jagters wat met die pyl en boog daar sou jag. Die putskuilings op die plaas was baie doeltreffend, maar aangesien dit net 'n dag of twee voor ons aankoms opgerig is, het ons geweet dit is onwaarskynlik dat dié diere by die skuilings sou opdaag.

Ons het ons nie te veel daaroor bekommer nie, want dit het ons tyd gegee om ons loop-en-bekruip-tegniek te oefen. Ek was ook gretig om my selfgemaakte blaarpak *(leafy suit)* te toets. Dit het nogal goed gewerk. Ek kon die blouwildebeeste flous en oortuig ek is 'n bosveldbos. Ek het keer op keer naby genoeg aan die trop gekom om te skiet. Ongelukkig het een van die diere in die trop my elke keer gewaar sodra ek begin het om my boog te span. Ek was net nie sterk genoeg om die 70 lb-boog só stadig te span dat my beweging nie opgemerk word nie. Die "bos" wat skielik begin beweeg het, het hulle nie aangestaan nie en hulle het dan weggehardloop.

Omstreeks 13:00 op die laaste dag van die jagtog het ek besluit om in een van die putskuilings te klim. Teen ongeveer 15:00 het 'n groot vlakvark nadergekom en in die water begin rondspeel. Ek het gehoop hy sou naderbeweeg – tot so 20 meter of selfs nader. Hy het 'n paar keer in die modder gerol en toe skielik opgestaan en weggedraf. Net toe gewaar ek twee ander vlakvarke by die watergat. Hulle het regs van my gestaan. 'n Groot beer het in die modder gaan lê, maar die hele tyd in my rigting gekyk. Dit is nie wys om na 'n vinnige dier soos 'n vlakvark te skiet terwyl »

Hierdie vark het ook mooi tande. Ek het hom sowat vyf jaar gelede op 'n plaas naby Thabazimbi gejag.

BO: Vlakvarke kan gevaarlik wees. Só het Adrian de Villiers se been gelyk nadat 'n vlakvark hom met sy tande bygekom het.

REGS: 'n Vlakvark met mooi tande by 'n watergat.

» dit vir jou kyk nie omdat dit dan die pyl kan sien aankom en dit sal probeer ontwyk. Die ander vlakvark, 'n sog, het op die rand van die watergat gestaan, ongelukkig met haar skouer effens na vore *(quartering on)*. 'n Goeie skoot op diere met 'n boog is wanneer die dier plankdwars of met die skouer effens weg staan *(quartering away)*.

Hulle het ontspanne gelyk, maar ek was nie te seker nie. Ek het dit oorweeg om 'n skoot op die sog te neem indien sy reg sou draai, maar ek sou eerder die beer wou skiet. Nadat ek 'n rukkie gewag het, het die sog agter 'n boom gaan staan. My hart het die hele tyd verwoed geklop en ek het verwag dat die vlakvarke enige oomblik sou wegstorm.

Die beer het onverwags opgestaan en na die ander kant van die watergat geloop, waar die eerste vlakvark in die modder gerol het. Hy het ook 'n modderbad begin neem. Die afstand het 37 tree op my afstandmeter *(rangefinder)* gemeet. Hierdie skoot was 'n bietjie te ver na my sin. Ek het ook geweet dat indien ek nie die vark skiet nie, ek waarskynlik met leë hande sou terugkeer. Ek sou 'n plan moes bedink…

Ek het besluit om vir die regte oomblik te wag en die skoot te neem. Die vlakvark het rustig in die modder gelê en ontspan. Ek het gereken dat die modder hom effens sou vertraag, sou hy besluit om inderhaas op te spring. Daarna het ek gewag totdat hy op sy sy gerol en vir my 'n deel van sy maag gewys het. Om 'n pyl uit hierdie posisie te ontwyk sou nie maklik wees nie. As hy wou weghardloop, sou hy eers op sy bene moes kom. Dit sou 'n breukdeel van 'n sekonde neem, maar die pyl genoeg tyd gee om 'n groot deel van die afstand af te lê voor die dier kon laat spaander. Ek het na 'n plek net bokant sy borsbeen gemik en 'n trajek voor my geestesoog gesien waar die pyl deur albei longe na die teenoorgestelde skouer sou vlieg. Toe het ek die sneller gedruk. Indien die vark glad nie sou reageer nie, sou die pyl hom nog noodlottig tref. Sou hy egter opspring, soos ek verwag het, sou hy in 'n posisie inbeweeg waar die pyl hom nóg beter sou tref.

Die pyl het sekuur gevlieg. Die vark het baie haastig opgespring, maar die pyl het die kol getref. Ek het hom sowat 70 meter van die watergat gevind waar hy op sy sy gelê het. My pyl het die kant van sy borsbeen getref, albei longe binnegedring en in die ribbes net onder die ruggraat aan die teenoorgestelde kant vasgesit. Ek het die beer geskiet met 'n PSE Firestorm wat op 70 lb gestel was, met 'n 380 grein-pyl en 'n Rocket Steelhead meganiese jagpunt.

'n Vlakvarkgat.

'N KNEWEL VAN 'N VARK

Die grootste vlakvark wat ek tot dusver geskiet het, was in 2007 op Moselesele. Daardie dag was ek nie van plan om 'n vlakvark te skiet nie, maar het gehoop vir 'n blouwildebees of koedoe. Elke nou en dan het 'n groot vlakvark ingekom om die mielies te eet wat Pieter McCord, die eienaar van die wildplaas, uitgesit het. Ek het eers die dier geïgnoreer, maar hoe verder die tyd aangestap het sonder dat enige koedoes of wildebeeste die watergat besoek het, hoe aanlokliker het die beer geword. Hy het ook besonder groot tande gehad, wat my oortuig het om hom te skiet.

Die vark se optrede was egter vir my baie vreemd. Elke keer as ek my boog opgetel het en 'n pyl ingehaak het, het hy weggedraf – so asof hy 'n voorgevoel gehad het dat hy in gevaar verkeer. Dit het so vier tot vyf keer gedurende die dag gebeur en ek het begin glo dié vark het bonatuurlike kragte. Toe die dier egter teen sononder weer inkom, het dit my genoeg tyd gegee om met my PSE Firestorm Lite te mik.

BO: 'n Vlakvark wat ek met 'n tradisionele boog geskiet het. **REGS BO:** Ek het dié vlakvark op Moselesele geskiet. Die tande het 13 5/8" gemeet. **REGS ONDER:** 'n Mooi vlakvark wat ek in die veld raakgeloop het.

Die pyl, met 'n Rocker Steelhead vooraan, het deur die beer gevlieg en hy het binne 50 meter van die skuiling neergeslaan. By latere ondersoek het ons gevind dat die pyl die hart getref het. Die beer se tande was Rowland Ward-grootte.

JAG VERSIGTIG MET 'N TRADISIONELE BOOG

Jy moet beslis meer versigtig wees wanneer jy 'n vlakvark met 'n tradisionele boog wil jag. 'n Paar jaar gelede het ek weer by Moselesele gejag. Skittie, my 50 lb-Scythian *recurve* (gekurfde boog), was my jagwapen. Ek is voor dagbreek by 'n skuiling afgelaai. Dit was bitter koud en ek het probeer om die koue af te weer deur myself met 'n dik kombers toe te wikkel. Teen sonop het 'n paar elande ingestap, gevolg deur waterbokke en sebras. Ek het my nie veel aan hulle gesteur nie, want ek wou 'n vlakvark skiet.

Omstreeks 09:00 het 'n jong vark ingeloop en sowat 12 tree van my af gaan staan. My videokamera was by een van die ander skietopeninge opgestel. Toe die dier ontspanne lyk, het ek die videokamera aangeskakel en 'n pyl in die snaar gehaak. Ek het 'n kolletjie op die dier se enjinkamer gekies om op te fokus – so ongeveer 3" bokant die voorste elmboog. Daarna het ek die pyl met 'n 165 grein Simmons Tree Shark vooraan losgelaat. Die pyl het die vark 'n bietjie verder terug getref as wat ek verwag het. Die vark het natuurlik soos blits die bosse in verdwyn.

Nagenoeg 45 minute later het Pieter McCord en sy spoorsnyers opgedaag. Ons het baie bloed gekry en was sommer positief. Die 165 grein Tree Shark-breëlemjagpunt, met 'n snyvlak van twee duim, het vir 'n goeie bloedspoor gesorg. Ons het die dier egter eers 800 m verder gekry waar dit geval het. Vlakvarke is uiters vinnig en ons het later op die video gesien hoe die dier die pyl op 'n skamele 12 tree gespring het. Dit het veroorsaak dat die skootplasing effens na agter was, vandaar die langer opsporingstyd. Die pyl het net die een long en die lewer deurboor.

INTERESSANTE SKOOT

Een van die interessantste skote met 'n pyl en boog wat ek nog gesien het, is 'n vlakvark wat Nicky Niehaus platgetrek het. Hy het op hul plaas vir 'n vlakvark by 'n beeskrip gesit en wag. Toe die vark naderstaan om water te drink, het Nicky die pyl laat los. Dit het die vark getref en hy het net daar soos 'n plank neergeslaan en nie weer beweeg nie. Dit gebeur dikwels wanneer 'n koeël 'n dier tref, maar bitter min as 'n pyl en boog gebruik word.

Adrian de Villiers jag baie graag vlakvarke te voet en het sekerlik al honderde varke oor verskillende afstande platgetrek. Terwyl ek een naweek op sy plaas gejag het, het hy my 'n interessante jagtegniek op vlakvarke gewys. Hy staan voor sononder op en sorg dan dat hy naby 'n vlakvarkgat gaan staan waar hy 'n groot vark sien inglip het. Dan haak hy 'n pyl in sy boog en staan gereed terwyl hy geduldig wag. Adrian sorg natuurlik dat hy só staan dat die vark hom nie dadelik kan sien wanneer hy by die gat uitkom nie. Wanneer 'n vark by sy gat uitdraf, staan hy gewoonlik vir 'n oomblik net buite die gat stil om die omgewing vir gevaar te bespied. Dit is dan wanneer Adrian sy boog span en die vark net daar voor die gat plattrek.

Vlakvarke is geharde diere en kan soms ver hardloop, al is hulle swaar gewond. Dit het al gebeur dat ons 'n vlakvark se bloedspoor vir meer as 200 tree volg nadat hy deur die hart geskiet is. Effense swak skote kan veroorsaak dat die dier nog genoeg krag het om so ver en vinnig weg te hardloop dat dit nie gevind kan word nie. 'n Goeie spoorhond is van groot hulp in sulke gevalle.

Stofpaaie met die .30-06 SPRINGFIELD

Dié ou soldaat het nou meer lewe as ooit tevore.

Groot of klein, die .30-06 kan dit gewoonlik doen. Hierdie rooibokram het die knie voor 'n Ruger Mk 77 in .30-06 gebuig.

Ek moes lank en hard dink oor die eerste bok wat ek met 'n .30-06 geskiet het. Inteendeel, dit het terugblaai in 'n gehawende ou notaboek van my gekos om vas te stel dat dit 'n rooibok naby Marken was, al die jare terug in 1997 – amper 'n halwe leeftyd gelede, soos die tyd loop. Die jare tussenin was ek bykans nooit sonder 'n .30-06 in die veld nie en my en dié kaliber se saamloop-paadjie was tot dusver 'n groot sukses.

OORSPRONG

Net soos baie ander kaliber-suksesverhale, het die .30-06 se storie in uniform begin. Die Amerikaners het teen die laat 1800's besef dat hulle Krag-Jorgensen-gewere in .30-40 Krag nie meer die pyp gaan rook teen die nuutste verwikkelinge in Europa nie, veral nie die kombinasie van die M98 Mauser-aksie en die 8x57 J nie. Die welbekende Springfield Armory het dus opdrag ontvang om die probleem op te los, en in 1903 is nie net die Model 1903 Springfield-geweer bekendgestel nie, maar ook die .30-03.

Die Model 1903 Springfield-aksie was op die M98 Mauser gegrond. In later jare moes Springfield selfs vergoeding aan Mauser betaal omdat inbreuk gemaak is op 'n aantal Mauser-patente in die Springfield se ontwerp. Die

Hierdie .30-06 is in sy element: leunende teen 'n kremetartboom in die bosveld.

Hierdie njala het slegs 'n klein teikentjie in die ruie Zoeloeland-bos gebied, maar die .30-06 se koeël het die teiken sonder probleme gevind.

.30-03 het 'n 220 grein-rondeneuskoeël teen 2 300 vps geskiet, maar dit was weereens verwikkelinge in Europa wat 'n herontwerp aangespoor het, en in 1906 is die .30-06 deur die Amerikaanse owerhede aanvaar. Die .30-06 se dopnek was fraksioneel korter as dié van die .30-03. In stede van die swaar 220 grein-koeël, is daar nou gebruik gemaak van 'n 150 grein-liggewigkoeël teen 2 700 vps. Dit was dié lading wat die Amerikaners in beide die Eerste en Tweede Wêreldoorloë, sowel as die konflik in Korea gebruik het.

IN "*CIVVY*"-STRAAT

Dit het geweerbouers en -vervaardigers nie lank geneem om die potensiaal van die .30-06 as 'n jagkaliber raak te sien nie. Winchester het reeds so vroeg as 1908 die .30-06 in kommersiële gewere op die rakke beskikbaar gehad en ander vervaardigers soos Remington en Savage het spoedig gevolg. Van die bekende Amerikaanse pasmaak-geweerbouers soos Griffin & Howe, Sedgley en andere het in die 1920's en later pragtige gewere in .30-06 vervaardig wat deur jagters wêreldwyd gebruik is. Die gevolg is dat die meer snobistiese Britse vervaardigers vinnig gevolg het. Dit kos egter moeite om gewere deur Holland & Holland, Jeffery, Westley Richards en so meer in .30-06 raak te loop.

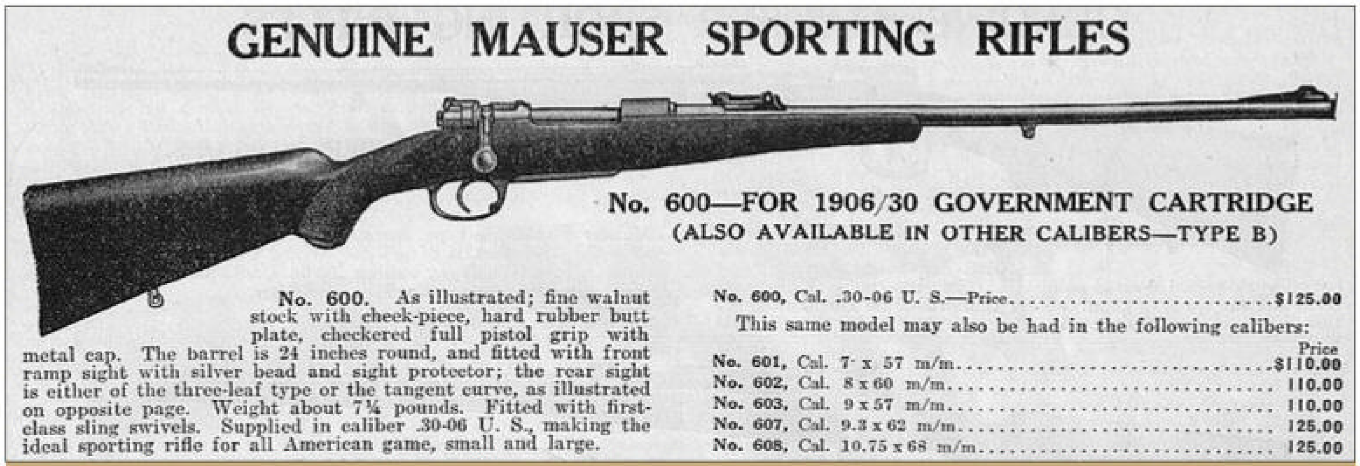
Selfs die Duitsers het 'n gesonde mate van respek vir die .30-06 gehad. Hoewel hulle nooit in groot hoeveelhede gemaak is nie, het die Mauserfabriek in Oberndorf gedurende hul produksietyd deurentyd gewere in .30-06 vervaardig. Hulle het egter verkies om dié kaliber aan te dui as die "U.S. Govt 1906", en Mauser-gewere in .30-06 wat van voor die Tweede Wêreldoorlog dateer, is dienooreenkomstig vervaardig.

Vandag is daar haas nie 'n vervaardiger wat ek van weet wat nié 'n geweer gekamer vir die .30-06 vervaardig nie. 'n Vinnige Internet-soektog het aangedui dat die .30-06 'n standaarditem is vir bykans elke vervaardiger, met uitsondering van 'n paar in die VSA wat fokus op kalibers vir gebruik in sogenaamde "kort" aksies. Maar meer hieroor later.

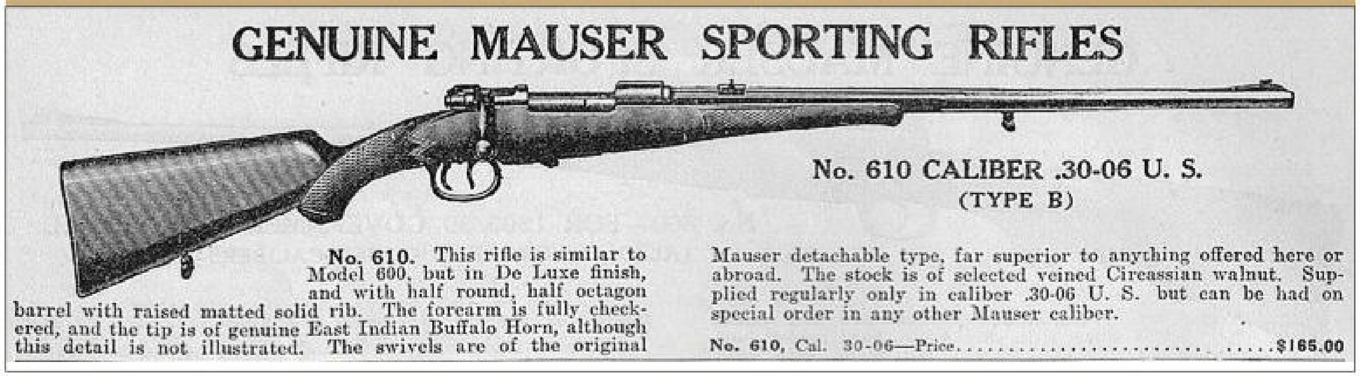
IN DIE JAGVELD

Sedert daardie eerste rooibok, het my en die .30-06 se saamloop-paadjie baie langer geraak. Ná my eerste .30-06 ('n Steyr) het ek 'n effens gebruikte FN Mauser in hierdie kaliber raakgeloop wat vir baie jare nie net my enigste jaggeweer was nie, maar ook 'n groot vertroueling. Saam het ons etlike rooibokke, koedoes, blouwildebeeste, springbokke, swartwildebeeste, blesbokke en nog 'n klomp ander wild vrieskas toe gebring. Dit het gou vir my duidelik geword dat diegene wat die .30-06 bestempel het as 'n ".30-nul-kwes", ".30-sukkel-ses" of enige van die ander byname wat dié kaliber deur die jare verwerf het, dit waarskynlik nooit self gebruik het nie. Inteendeel, my respek vir die .30-06 het deur die jare net gegroei.

Soos ek deur die gehawende notaboek geblaai het, het ek baie aangename herinneringe in die jagveld saam met die .30-06 opgediep. Ek het ewe skielik weer onthou van die ou alleenloper-springbokram wat vroegoggend amper reg langs my lêplek agter die miershoop »



BO EN ONDER: Hierdie Stoeger-advertensies dateer van voor 1939 en is vir oorspronklike Mauser-gewere in .30-06 te koop in die VSA.



» verbygeloop het en toe vir 'n sekonde geaarsel het. Dan was daar die ander springbokram wat bo-op 'n kontoerwal vir my staan en kyk het, waar ek my bes gedoen het om die Leupold se kruisdraad tot ruste te kry. Of wat van die gemsbok wat op die grasvelde langs die Gariepdam uiteindelik gaan stilstaan het en my skietkans gegee het. Daar was natuurlik ook die njalabul in Zoeloeland se ruie bosse wat ook net nie wou stilstaan nie. Toe hy uiteindelik gaan staan, was al wat ek kon sien, 'n stukkie van sy blad deur die mik van 'n doringboom. Ek onthou ook daardie onvergeetlike middag naby Pongola toe ek en vriend Ren onverwags probleemdierbeheer in 'n boer se mielieland moes toepas. Twee skote het binne sekondes van mekaar geklap, en twee vlakvarke sou nooit weer in die mielielande pla nie. 'n .30-sukkel-ses? Probeer weer!

Net soos met enige ander kaliber, moet die jagter gewapen met 'n .30-06 ook maar sy deel doen om sukses in die jagveld te verseker. Selfs 'n .460 Weatherby Magnum sal 'n bok kwes met swak skootplasing. Daar is geen kaliber wat van hierdie basiese vereiste vrygestel is nie. Ek het twee keer 'n bloutjie met 'n .30-06 in die jagveld geloop – soos die noodlot dit wou hê, in beide gevalle met blouwildebeeste. In die eerste geval was dit doodgewoon swak skootplasing wat te blameer was. Die tweede keer was dit 'n geweer wat weens 'n gekraakte kolf elke dan en wan 'n koeël laat beland het waar dit nie moes nie. Gelukkig het albei jagte suksesvol afgeloop, maar ek het die nodige lesse uit al twee geleer.

Waar die .30-06 se ster vir my helder skyn, is dat die groot verskeidenheid koeëls wat in .308" beskikbaar is, tesame met die werkverrigting wat uit die .30-06 verkry kan word met moderne, ingevoerde dryfmiddels, hierdie kaliber se moontlike aanwendings selfs wyer maak as voorheen. Vir die vlaktes was goeie, aërodinamiese 165 grein-koeëls in die verlede die aanbevole kombinasie. Ek het self dié resep meermale met groot sukses aangewend.

Met 'n dryfmiddel soos Hodgdon se H4350 kan die versigtige herlaaier egter 'n 180 grein-koeël teen ietwat vinniger as 2 700 vps (die standaard vir fabrieksammunisie in die .30-06, gelaai met dié koeëlgewig,) lanseer uit 'n geweer met 'n 24"-loop; dit gee die .30-06 so ietwat meer van 'n perdekrag-inspuiting. Uiteraard kan dieselfde argument aangevoer word vir ligter koeëls in die .30-06 asook ander kalibers. Die nuwe komponente maak egter nuwe dinge vir die .30-06 moontlik.

Trajekgewys is 'n 180 greinkoeël met 'n goeie ballistiese koëffisiënt, wat die loop teen 2 700 vps verlaat en ingestel is om op 200 meter in die kol te tref, se trefpunt op 300 meter maar slegs sowat 8" laer. Vergelyk dit met die trajek van 'n soortgelyke koeël teen 300 vps vinniger uit 'n .300 Winchester Magnum, wat ook die kol op 200 meter tref en minder as 2" platter skiet op 300 meter. Is die ekstra terugskop, geraas en dryfmiddel regtig die moeite werd?

In die bosveld is die .30-06, gelaai met 180 grein-koeëls, insgelyks 'n gewilde keuse, maar dis in hierdie terrein dat die swaarder 200 en 220 greinkoeëls goed tot hulle reg kom. Veral die 220 grein-lading in die .30-06 is al met sukses op selfs olifante gebruik, hoewel dit bepaald nie die aanwending was wat die .30-06 se ontwerpers vir dié kaliber in gedagte gehad het nie.

Ek het die laaste paar jaar die middeweg gevolg en slegs ammunisie gelaai met 180 greinkoeëls geskiet. Met behulp van 'n chronograaf en tyd op die skietbaan, het ek die trajek van my gekose jagammunisie (gelaai met Swift Scirocco II-koeëls met 'n uitstekende ballistiese koëffisiënt) mooi vasgestel en nie weer heen en weer verander tussen ammunisie gelaai met verskillende koeëlgewigte nie. Ek is seker daar is jagters wat ander resepte met groot sukses volg, maar dis die stelsel wat ek die laaste paar jaar gebruik het. Die ietwat swaarder koeëls bied ook goeie penetrasie in groter diere soos gemsbokke en koedoes.

'n .30-06-patroon in die middel, omring deur 'n verskeidenheid premiumkoeëls wat herwin is. Die koeëls sluit Swift, Hornady en Nosler in.

Wyle Barry Style van Zimbabwe (links) met 'n blouwildebeesbul wat hy met 'n Heym SR-21 in .30-06 in die Noord-Kaap gejag het.

Vir diegene wat nie herlaai nie, bied sekere vervaardigers ook nou ammunisie met hoër trompsnelhede. Hornady se Superformance-reeks is 'n goeie voorbeeld hiervan. Dit word bewerkstellig deur die gebruik van spesiale dryfmiddels wat nie die publiek beskore is nie, maar die drukvlakke van dié ammunisie is steeds aanvaarbaar. Hierdie ammunisie is nie altyd in Suid-Afrika op die rakke beskikbaar nie. Indien dit egter wel verkrygbaar is, is dit 'n goeie keuse vir jagters wat nie herlaai nie.

Hierdie jagter sit langs sy koedoe, platgetrek met 'n .30-06. Dié kaliber is 'n goeie keuse vir wild in die koedoe se gewigsklas.

HERLAAI VIR DIE .30-06

Ek het reeds vlugtig na sekere aspekte van herlaai vir die .30-06 verwys. Stadiger brandende dryfmiddels soos Norma URP, Reloder 17, S-365 (vir diegene gelukkig genoeg om daarvan te besit), H4350, IMR-4350 en ander soortgelyke dryfmiddels werk goed in die .30-06 met koeëls van 165 grein en swaarder. Ek het in die verlede uitstaande resultate verkry met IMR-4350 sowel as Hodgdon H4350 met 180 grein-koeëls. Hulle is definitief my voorkeurdryfmiddels in die .30-06 van dié wat ek al probeer het. Met die swaar koeëls werk die twee 4350's en hulle eweknieë ook goed, maar stadig brandende dryfmiddels soos H4831 en Norma MRP is hier ook goeie keuses.

Loodkernkoeëls ligter as 165 grein het in my beskeie opinie 'n beperkte aanwending in Afrika, alhoewel hulle goed werk op wild in die klas van springbokke, blesbokke en dalk tot en met swartwildebeeste en hartbeeste. Die ietwat swaarder koeëls doen op die ou end alles wat die ligter koeëls kan vermag, plus nog 'n bietjie meer. Monometaal-koeëls se werkverrigting is ietwat anders en hier kan 'n ietwat ligter koeël soms met gemak instaan vir 'n swaarder eweknie weens die gebrek aan gewigsverlies ná impak van die monometaal-koeëls.

Die voordeel van bykans enige geweer in 'n .308"-kaliber is dat daar 'n magdom komponente van verskillende vervaardigers op die mark is. Vir die plaaslike herlaaier is .308"-koeëls beskikbaar van Peregrine, Rhino, Titan, Sus-Tac, Kriek en nog 'n paar ander vervaardigers. Die keuse is dus definitief nie tot duur, ingevoerde koeëls beperk nie.

Wat ingevoerde koeëls betref, is Hornady, Swift, Nosler, Barnes en andere bekend vir hul premiumkoeëls wat uitstekende werkverrigting in die jagveld bied. Vir diegene wat dalk meer tyd op die baan wil deurbring, vervaardig Speer, Hornady, Sierra, en ander effens goedkoper koeëlreekse wat dalk ietwat meer beperkte jagaanwendings het, maar die gat in die beursie is terselfdertyd ook nie so groot nie. In Suid-Afrika is beskikbaarheid egter tans 'n kopseer en spesifieke aanbevelings is dus nie noodwendig moontlik nie.

Dopkapasiteit met van die ingevoerde dryfmiddels kan soms 'n kwessie wees, veral in kombinasie met lang monometaal-koeëls. Ek verkies dus doppe met dun wande. Ek het goeie resultate met Norma, Winchester, Remington en Federal se doppe gehad, terwyl PMP-doppe by verre die kleinste dopkapasiteit gehad het van dié waarmee ek al geskiet het.

Op die ou end is 'n goeie herlaaihandleiding sowel as goeie oordeel die twee belangrikste komponente van suksesvolle, veilige herlaaiwerk. Hou dus asseblief by bestaande veiligheidsmaatreëls en praktyke – dit is daar vir 'n rede.

LANG VS KORT AKSIE

Ek het voorheen verwys na die soms byna magiese voordele wat toegeken word aan korter grendelaksies wat kalibers soos die .243 en .308 Winchester kan hanteer. Net om my kant te stel: Ek is glad nie gekant teen sulke aksies of die kalibers wat hulle hanteer nie. Ek dink egter daar word meer tyd in geweerwinkels deurgebring om sulke onderwerpe te debatteer as wat daar praktiese ondervinding in die jagveld opgedoen word.

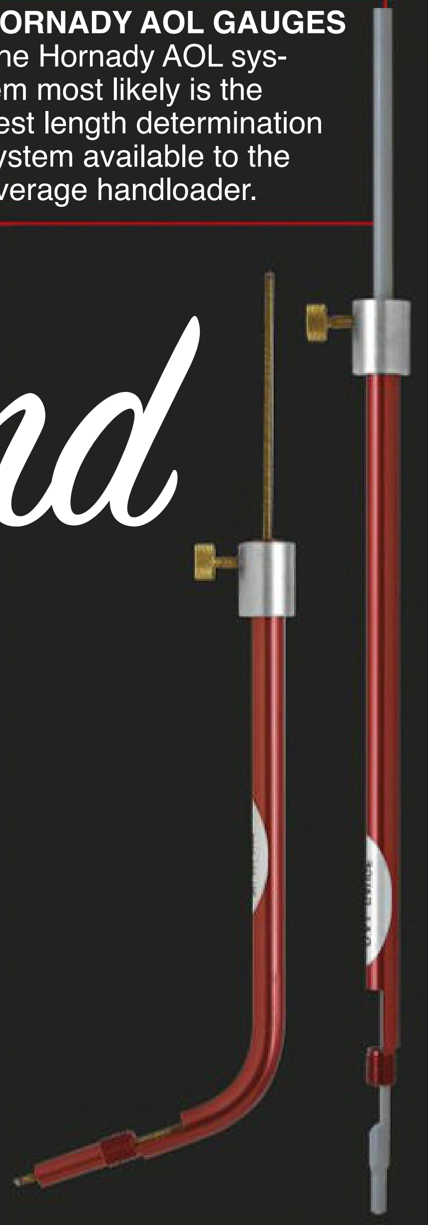
Die feit van die saak is dat die .308 Winchester, met reg een van die gewildste kalibers ter wêreld, eenvoudig nie die dopkapasiteit van die .30-06 het nie en dus nie dieselfde trompsnelhede met vergelykbare koeëls kan lewer nie. Ja, die korter aksies is "stywer" en dus in teorie potensieel meer akkuraat. Hoe 'n groot verskil gaan dit egter maak op 'n koedoebul wat op 60 tree voor jou in die mopanies probeer wegkruip, of selfs die blesbok wat skuins duskant 300 tree op die vlakte staan?

Wat my eintlik ietwat irriteer omtrent die kortaksie-aanhangers is dat sommige die .30-06 se langer patroonlengte as 'n fatale gebrek afmaak en dan allerhande afgewaterde argumente wil gebruik om te bewys dat ander kalibers vanweë hul korter lengte en ander redes "beter" is. Beter as wat? As die sowat kwartduim wat een geweer se aksie korter is as 'n ander s'n vir jou belangrik is, is ek vreeslik bly. Dit veroorsaak egter helaas nie dat iets anders om dieselfde rede ná al die jare ewe skielik swakker is of nou minder doodmaak nie.

Ek het baie goeie tye in die veld deurgebring met 'n .30-06 in my hande en dié kaliber is vir seker een van my gunstelinge. Dit is veelsydig, is maklik om voor te herlaai met 'n magdom komponente wat feitlik orals beskikbaar is, en die terugskop is matig. Nadat hy 'n .30-06 tydens 'n jagtog in Afrika suksesvol op 'n groot verskeidenheid diere gebruik het, het 'n Australiese vriend van my die laaste aand om die kampvuur die volgende oor die .30-06 te sê gehad: "It just works!" Ek dink dit som die '06 mooi op.

RELOADING – *Above and beyond*

Reloading with precision for the best results can be expensive but is a hugely rewarding exercise.



HORNADY AOL GAUGES
The Hornady AOL system most likely is the best length determination system available to the average handloader.

Last month, we looked at basic equipment to start reloading on a tight budget. Those who only intend to load factory-equivalent cartridges for popular common cartridges should, with one or two additions, forever get by with what was recommended.

However, many reloaders want to advance beyond basic reloading and move on to intermediate or even precision-level reloading. This will require some equipment upgrades and additions. Let's have a look at these upgrades and additions, starting with case inspection. Failure to inspect cases properly can lead to problems such as head separation and a lack of precision.

CASE INSPECTION

The prudent handloader will inspect his cases after shooting to look for pressure signs, flaw development and related problems. At this stage, the case will still be dirty, and as your eyes deteriorate with age, you will increasingly require optical assistance in the form of magnification and light. The carbon pattern on the case exterior is easy to see and interpret, but the firing pin indent on the primer and gas signs around its edges are easy to miss. Therefore, the intermediate-level reloader will require a hand-held magnifying glass with integral light, such as a Kraft 90 mm, and/or a table-mounted (clamp- or base-type) Kraft 125 mm magnifying glass with light.

After depriming and case cleaning, the rest of the case can be inspected. Cases will at least have to be measured for lengthening. The more intense reloader will also check base expansion and neck wall thickness. I have lost faith in the cheap vernier callipers and tools of some reloading equipment manufacturers. Having used many commercial brands of measuring tools, I have settled on the Insize. The tools are not cheap, but they are great, and so are the distributors and their service. They have digital options that will readily toggle between imperial and metric readings and are durable.

I use the following:

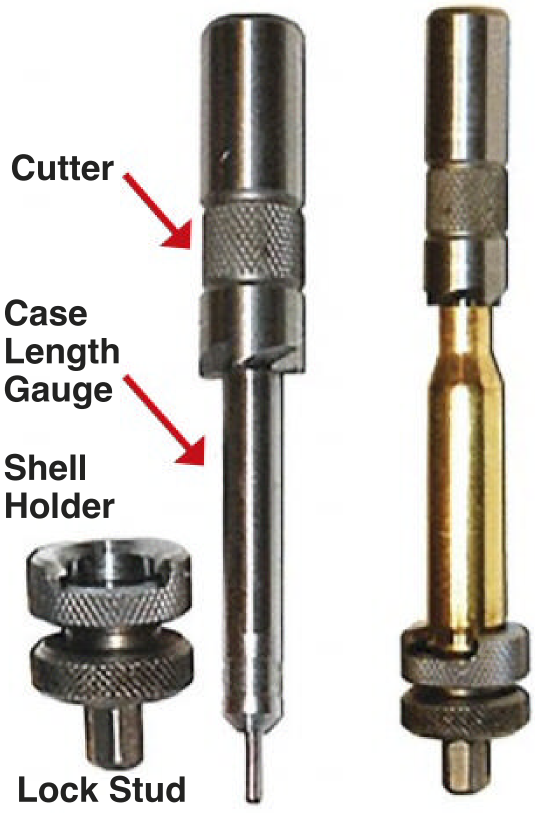
- Insize digital vernier (200 mm/ 9") to measure case length, headspace, COAL, etc.
- Insize snap gauge. It is handy and has a tube micrometre function for neck wall measuring.
- Insize micrometre. This is used for all diameter readings such as base expansion, bullet diameter and the like.

The case interior must be checked for two potential problems: doughnuts and case head separation. These require mechanical evaluation. To check for a doughnut at the base of the case neck, simply drop a flat-base bullet into the neck of a fired case. If it does not fall into the case but stops at the base of the neck, there is a doughnut.

Many reloaders use a paperclip, bent into an L-shape, to "feel" for the indent above the

THE HORNADY CAM-LOCK CASE TRIMMER offers a dead stop that headspaces off the face of the case rim. Although the head face-to-rim dimensions are not 100% consistent, the variation is minute and the tolerances in trim length are exceedingly small.

RCBS CASE MASTER GAUGE TOOL
There are concentricity tools and concentricity tools. The best ones are highly specialised, but nothing beats the RCBS Case Master gauging tool for versatility. It is also the only tool on the market that can determine case web thinning.



case web, indicating incipient head separation. However, it is an inexact method and vital signs are often missed. I use a little 5 mm endoscope with a light that links to my mobile phone. The probe is inserted into the case and a visual inspection of the interior can be performed. I can actually see the condition of the case on my mobile phone display. These endoscopes cost about R300 on the web and are really convenient.

The best mechanical inspector for case web inspection is the RCBS Case Master gauging tool. It is the only tool I know of that can actually measure case body thickness across the entire case length.

CASE TRIMMING

Whereas first-level reloaders will most likely use a Lee case length gauge and Lee trimmer and lock stud system to trim cases, intermediate-level reloaders will want flexibility. The Lee system is affordable, simple and highly effective but trims to its preset dimensions and offers no flexibility.

There are two alternatives for the second- or intermediate-level reloader: Lathe-style trimmers, or what I call bell-type trimmers. Lathe-style trimmers have their challenges, especially those using stepped collars to hold the case rim. They pull the case backwards, and the pinch strength and pull depth depend very much on the rim diameter, which is a variable and affects trim length consistency. I would recommend Lathe trimmers with a dead stop for the case head. I have had great satisfaction in using the Hornady Cam-Lock and Lyman Universal case trimmers. I haven't used many others, except very specialised and costly lathe-types such as the Wilson-Sinclair.

The bell-type trimmer employs a kind of headspace collar inserted into a bell-style housing that fits into a drill. These trimmers achieve a very precise length, measured from the datum point on the case shoulder to the case mouth. That is also the critical distance in the firearm chamber. I have settled on this system because it "responds" to each cartridge case as it comes from my rifle. We are fortunate that these excellent trimmers are also manufactured locally.

I recommend the following:

- Sudami case trimmer (proudly South African)
- WFT (USA-made)

PRESSES

The entry-level presses recommended in the previous article are unlikely to satisfy the intermediate-level reloader, but I also provided options for second-level presses. The intermediate-level presses I suggested will satisfy most reloaders for their entire reloading life. For cartridges with a COAL up to about 92 mm (±3,6"), **I recommended the following:**

- RCBS Rock Chucker Supreme (ambidextrous)
- Lyman Victory (ambidextrous)
- Redding Big Boss II
- Hornady Lock-n-Load Classic

For longer cartridges, **I suggest the following:**

- Redding Ultramag press
- RCBS Summit press
- Hornady Iron press

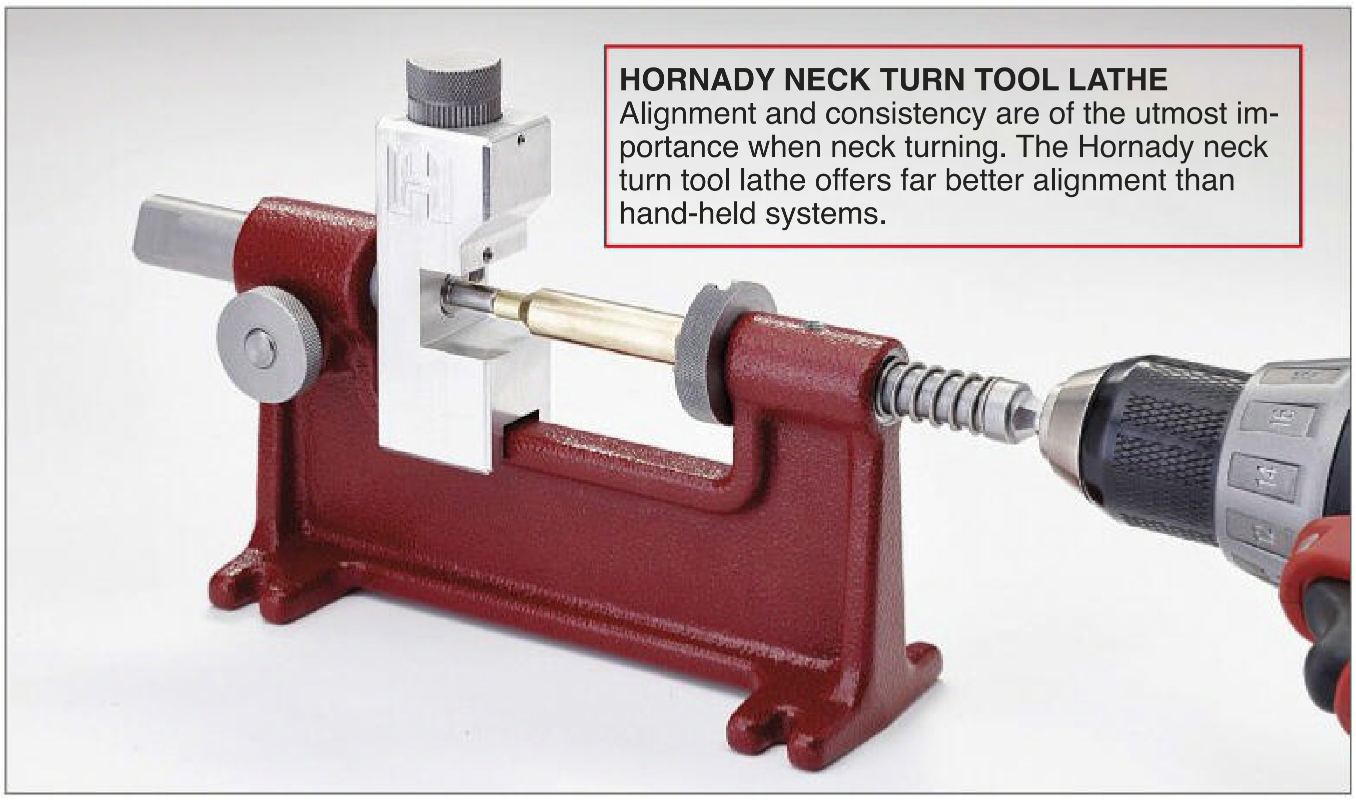
There are more precision-orientated presses out there, some of which are prohibitively expensive. These include the Präzipress and the Zero press, but they are excessive for only reloading on the intermediate level. Personally, **I recommend the following presses for intermediate-level reloading:**

- Sudami Precision Magnum press
- Forster Co-Ax »

LYMAN VICTORY PRESS
Lyman revamped its entire press line-up in recent times. The Lyman Victory press now competes with the best and offers a really convenient priming system for basic and intermediate-level handloaders.

THE HORNADY IRON PRESS
is a lever-assisted, heavy-duty press with convenient features.

ABOVE AND BOTTOM: LEE 3-JAW CHUCK AND LEE CASE TRIMMER
The simple Lee case trim system is not flexible, but this underrated system is fast, convenient and precise.



HORNADY NECK TURN TOOL LATHE
Alignment and consistency are of the utmost importance when neck turning. The Hornady neck turn tool lathe offers far better alignment than hand-held systems.

» DIES

Normal reloading dies are actually sufficient for more than 90% of all reloading, including intermediate-level and even most precision-level reloading. For first- and second-level reloading, the die brand is not particularly important as they all perform adequately. I have previously mentioned that a universal decapping die is a recommended item. However, intermediate-level reloaders may want to convince themselves that they need specialised dies such as neck dies, body dies, shoulder bump dies, and what not. If that is the case, it is what it is; the itch must be scratched. The only "special" die I would recommend for intermediate-level reloading is a sleeve seater die: a die with a floating bullet guide to keep the bullet axially aligned with the case and case neck axis.

Provided the bullet base is not harmed through poor chamfering and the cases are reasonably consistent in neck wall thickness, volume and concentricity, good bullet seating will be potentially beneficial from a precision perspective. Virtually all reloading equipment manufacturers offer these so-called precision seating dies. **The popular ones are:**

- Redding
- Forster
- Hornady

NECK TURNING

Case neck wall uniforming, or case neck turning, can be beneficial if cases are classed and prepped correctly. Neck wall turning is performed to remove doughnuts (another discussion) and improve circumferential bullet holding tension and neck expansion consistency.

Most reloaders use hand tools to uniform case necks. Essentially, this entails inserting a mandrel into the case neck and skimming or peeling overly thick parts of the neck exterior surface for uniform, circumferential neck wall thickness. **The best and locally most available tools for this job on the intermediate or intermediary reloading level are:**

- Sudami outside neck turner
- Forster hand-held outside neck turner

There are truly magnificent lathe-style neck turning tools on the market. I prefer them to hand-held ones, but they are expensive and do not achieve a singularly sufficient improvement over hand-held tools to warrant the expense at secondary reloading levels. An affordable, lathe-style, intermediate-level option is the Hornady Cam-Lock neck turning tool.

CHAMFERING AND DEBURRING

Traditionally, reloaders grab the case in one hand, their chamfering and deburring tool in the other, and perform the action. I have two problems with this approach. Firstly, the tool normally has a 45° taper that leaves a rather sharp transition edge or ridge between the case neck interior and the deburred surface. This is easily resolved by opting for so-called VLD chamfering and deburring tools with a smaller cutting-edge taper – usually below 30°.

Secondly, the axial alignment between the case and the tool constantly changes as the reloader performs the required rotating actions. This leaves an unevenly worked surface. **There are two solutions to the latter problem:**

- Forster deburring tool base
- Hornady Cam-Lock lathe

The Forster option is simple. The tool is inserted into the Forster base with its crank handle, and the base is screwed to the work bench. This means that the toll rotates while it is axially stable. The only variables are the consistency with which the reloader aligns the case mouth with the tool, and the depth to which it chamfers.

The Hornady system is more expensive but better. The tool is split into separate chamfering and deburring tools. The required unit is then inserted into one chuck of a Hornady case trim lathe, and the case head into the opposite chuck. Alignment is nigh perfect and chamfer depth is eminently controllable.

ANNEALING

Very few, if any, basic-level reloaders anneal the cases they reload. This means that after a handful of reloads, the case necks start cracking and need to be discarded. The cases can be annealed to last longer, but it is a trade-off between the cost of replacing (often cheap brand) cases or investing in an annealing system to prolong case life. That is a financial calculation each reloader must perform, based on his own criteria.

Intermediate-level reloaders generally anneal cases to increase case life, improve neck tension consistency and gain some precision. The cheapest way to anneal is to use an annealing cup in an electric drill and a butane burner. The case neck and shoulder are then heated to the appropriate annealing temperature to realign the grain structure and remove the stresses induced by firing and resizing. I have seen all sorts of recommendations on how the "appropriate annealing temperature" can be determined. These vary from holding the case until it burns the fingers to "glow-in-the-dark" options.

THE HORNADY CAM-LOCK BULLET PULLER offers the advantage of accepting cases up to .416 Rigby in base diameter and the speed of the cam lever, which is way faster than other designs. The handle is susceptible to breaking if the camming movement is not linear when the force is applied.

Intermediate-level reloaders are advised to use a temperature fluid such as Tempilaq to determine case temperature. It is as scientific and precise as can be achieved affordably. Obviously, the ultimate annealing solution is induction annealing, but we are talking five-figure expenses. A more affordable option is butane gas annealing machines. **We have two excellent brands manufactured right here in South Africa:**

- Balistix Pro Annealer (≤R4 000)
- JPW Auto Anneal Gen 3 (≤R5 000)

HORNADY IMPACT BULLET PULLERS have an operational lifespan but offer great versatility.

CARTRIDGE DIMENSIONS

The intermediate-level reloader is more concerned about precision affecting dimensions than the budget-driven, basic reloader. The intermediate-level reloader's primary measurements of concern are overall cartridge length and headspace (case-to-chamber interface). For this, the reloader needs a COAL tool as well as bullet and case comparators. These are available in kit and unit form from Hornady. Sudami offers these as individual items/units.

BULLET PULLER

The more one reloads, the better the chances are that you will have to pull bullets at some stage. The simplest bullet pullers are the plier types. They are not all equal and some bullet pinching damage often occurs. The more they are used, the better the operator becomes at preventing damage. They are affordable and also quick to use. Balistix makes quite a nice plier-type bullet puller.

The most popular type of bullet puller is the kinetic hammer. Hammering requires some calory burning, and bullet tips are often damaged when flying out of the case.

It is a messy system but very universal. The shafts tend to bend, and these hammers really gain a worse-for-wear appearance after some use, but late models have been redesigned. The Frankford Arsenal version actually has a lifetime warranty – whatever that may mean!

Another approach is the die-type bullet puller offered by most big reloading equipment manufacturers. They use calibre-dedicated inserts with fingers that tighten around the bullet and remove them without damage. They are more expensive and slower, but very efficient. My favourite is the Hornady Cam-Lock bullet puller.

Reloading with precision for the best results can be expensive but it is a hugely rewarding exercise that often yields excellent results in the field and on the range.

The team that made an unforgettable buffalo hunt a reality.

Reflecting on buffalo hunting…

TWO NIASSA DAGHA BOYS

Something primal yet deeply respectful happens when a true hunter ends the earthly magnificence of a wild animal.

AN AFRICAN BACKDROP

The setting was boundless Africa in a wide expanse in Northern Mozambique near the Tanzanian border. On the third day of tracking buffalo, guided by masters of the bush, two hunters from Africa were finally presented with two hardened and battle-scarred old buffalo bulls.

With the face-off between the open-sighted vintage Rigby rifle and the intimidating beast – considered by many as the most dangerous to hunt – at a mere 40 yards, there was no margin for error, no time to hesitate.

In the twilight of their years, two Niassa dagha boys rose and glared. Two true shots, fired consecutively from handcrafted rifles, sent loud cracks over the

A close-up of the classic 1927-vintage Rigby .416 rifle.

LEFT: The end of another beautiful day in Africa. **TOP:** The hunters' home away from home deep in the African wilderness.

African plains. Both bulls sank to the ground in their tracks. As they keeled over, adrenaline, respect, pride, gratitude and a measure of sadness gushed through the hunters. This is the hunter's grail.

Their end, as companions, was swift and dignified, unlike the scars of poachers' wire snares around the neck and two legs as well as shredded ears, likely from failed hunting attempts by lion.

Both bulls had battered, bulky and worn bosses, parts of their horns lost in rivalry or battle. Their faces showed calluses, their charcoal black skins had bare patches, and splayed front hooves revealed that they were veterans. They were spending the winter of their lives away from the buzz of the herd with breeding, dominance and defending duties.

To celebrate and pay homage, a wee dram of single-malt whisky passed over parched palates and cigar smoke mingled with the scent of the bush. Time stood still. Having executed the safety protocol of two additional shots, my pre-World War II Rigby .416 bolt-action rifle and Hannes Pickard's Holland & Holland .500/465 NE double rifle rested against the still-warm bodies of two southern or Cape buffalo *(Syncerus caffer caffer)*.

In their prime, African buffalo can reach the age of 15 years or more and carry up to 900 kg of solid muscle. They have a well-earned reputation for fatal revenge attacks on hunters who wound them. These tenacious beasts command immense respect, especially in death.

THE BRIEF

The objective was always to hunt old, solitary dagha boys as opposed to herd buffalo. That was the brief to the professional hunter (PH), Stuart Taylor from Zimbabwe, and our tracker Bushiri.

The brief was as concise and clear as the contradicting vastness in which the dagha boys roamed. The hunting concession was the community (CAMPFIRE) area called Chipanje Chetu, covering 6 550 km² adjacent to the western boundary of the Niassa Reserve. The northern boundary is the Rovuma River, forming the Tanzanian border, with over 120 km of the river on the northern border. The eastern boundary is Block R1 of the Niassa Reserve, and the western boundary is the Missenge River, which is the main tributary at the source of the Rovuma River. The southern boundary follows the Lucuisse and Lucheringo rivers.

THE HUNT

The buffalo were steadily moving up the side of a plateau covered in hardwood trees, fresh in bloom during the early spring season of Northern Mozambique. Bushiri followed the tracks unerringly at a slow but steady pace, with the hunters' eyes fixed on the ground in front and above. The tracks were from the night before, and the small party expected to find the buffalo bedded down, chewing the cud at the top of the hill. A breeze hinted that the rainy season was approaching.

The tracks led up, over and down the other side of the flat-topped hill, but the buffalo were nowhere to be seen. Through dry dongas, over the next, higher hills, through grassland and sometimes dense bush, the tracks led ever further. The buffalo changed direction regularly, but fortunately, the wind remained in the hunters' favour.

After two hours of tracking at a good pace, it was clear the buffalo were moving towards a specific area, guided by instinct and experience. They were walking at full pace, as was evident from the extent to which their hind feet overlapped the front ones.

After six hours and more than 20 km, Bushiri and Stuart agreed that the buffalo were outpacing the humans. It was time to turn back. Only constant waving of leafy branches kept the incessant mopane and tsetse flies at bay.

Over a well-deserved cold beer around the campfire, we agreed to pack the basics for a two- to three-day fly camp, sleeping in the area where we expected to find buffalo, and start hunting them at first light.

The next morning, our party set out well before sunrise,»

TOP: The hunters shake hands after the hunt. **LEFT:** Glassing for the two buffalo bulls on the edge of the open area where the final battle took place.

A happy Pierre Pretorius after the adrenaline had subsided somewhat!

» moving through thick miombo forest and dry swampy areas covered by the first green grass of the new season. On day three of the hunt, we spotted the buffalo about an hour after the sun had first peeked over the distant horizon, signalling another hot day in Africa.

The two buffalo bulls were lying down chewing the cud, fully alert with their heads up. The big, black bodies contrasted sharply with the green grass. The stalk was about to start. Fortunately, the forested area around the open grassland provided sufficient cover.

The bulls were aware of the human movement, but not sufficiently alarmed to move away. As the hunters approached, one bull stood up and gave the humans that typical intimidating buffalo look. His companion also rose. The last bit of cover ended 40 paces from the two dagha boys.

The pre-war Rigby .416 came up smoothly to my shoulder and the ivory bead settled in the wide, open V of the express sight, centred on the pitch-black chest of the large bull facing me straight on. There was no conscious awareness of the shot going off or the recoil of the large-calibre rifle, just a clearly audible thud as the bullet struck. The buffalo went straight down. Seconds later, the shot from Hannes's Holland & Holland Royal .500/465 NE dropped the second bull, despite it quartering at an awkward angle. Central neck shots resulted in their immediate collapse.

Hannes and I reflected on this rare and profound moment where two hunting friends experienced two buffalo bulls dropping in their tracks from two consecutive shots, fired mere seconds apart. The reality of what had transpired, replaced our initial calm with conflicting emotions spinning in our heads. The dagha boys had lived a long, dangerous and eventful life, punctuated by a respectful and humane death. The hunt had been hard and long, and they had a good opportunity to escape. But even a good death brought sadness and reflection, deepened by the final bellow of

Pierre's buffalo bull with the Rigby .416 rifle used during the hunt.

a dying buffalo bull.

We both agreed that shooting with the finest of pre-WWII classic African rifles – chambered for traditional calibres developed exactly for this purpose and proven over more than 100 years – added a deep and meaningful dimension to the rites of the hunt. These rifles are a tribute to British rifle making as an art form. It also provides practical purpose to the collection and preservation of the fine rifles from the quintessential rifle makers at the beginning of the 20th century. They elevate the total hunting experience beyond the performance of the weapon.

THE PHILOSOPHY BEHIND THE BUFFALO HUNT

Hunting philosopher, José Ortega y Gasset, believes human nature is inseparable from the hunting and killing of animals:

*"*In our rather stupid time, hunting is belittled and misunderstood, many refusing to see it for the vital vacation from the human condition that it is, or to acknowledge that the hunter does not hunt in order to kill; on the contrary, he kills in order to have hunted.*

"Life is a terrible conflict, a grandiose and atrocious confluence. Hunting submerges man deliberately in that formidable mystery and therefore contains something of religious rite and emotion in which homage is paid to what is divine, transcendent, and in the laws of Nature."

Ultimately, this hunt was not "mission accomplished". The delivery on the hunting brief for dagha boys, the true shots, the meat enjoyed and shared with the communities – even all this was not it.

It was about the solitude of the African bush and plains, the sounds only nature can provide, a star-spangled canopy at night, and the meditation on self, life and nature.

It was about the journey of a dagha boy, the almost religious rites of heritage rifles, human skills, and a full-blown African flood of emotions as you touch the magnificent beast, once in its prime.

It was about the overwhelming sense of gratitude for one's small yet meaningful place in Creation.

DETAILS OF JOHN RIGBY RIFLE NO. 5161 AND THE AMMUNITION USED DURING THE HUNT

A Magnum-Mauser-actioned sporting rifle in calibre .416, finished on 8 February 1927 for Lawn & Alder. Weight: 9¼ lbs; barrel length: 25½", LOP: 141/8. Sighting: Ivory bead. Standard + 2 Leaves No. 2 V. 1, 2, 300 yards. It is in immaculate, original condition with a bore that has been shot very little.

I reloaded the ammunition, using the excellent 400-grain Woodleigh Hydro bullet, propelled at 2 370 fps by H4350 powder, ignited by a Federal 215 Match primer.

(**Excerpts from* Meditations on Hunting *by José Ortega y Gasset, translated by Howard B. Wescott. Published by Wilderness Adventures Press. Bozeman. MT 59771. 1995.)*

 | Deur KARLA JANSE VAN VUUREN

HOOFFOTO: Die geheim van enige burger is 'n sappige frikkadel en springbokmaalvleis is van die heel beste vleis om te gebruik.

FOTO'S: Gerrie Janse van Vuuren

SPRINGBOK-EN-SPEK-HAMBURGERS MET 'N BIER-EN-CHEDDAR-SOUS

Wie hou nou nie van 'n lekker hamburger nie?

Die twee pilare waarop 'n goeie burger rus, is 'n sappige, geurige frikkadel gemaak van vleis van uitstekende gehalte en 'n lekker vars broodjie. Dié klassieke kombinasie kan dan opgetof word met 'n legio ander vulsels en geurmiddels. Ek is seker daar is 'n hamburger wat in elkeen van ons se smaak val – of jy nou 'n hoenderburger, 'n groenteburger of 'n wildsvleisburger verkies.

Laasgenoemde kan natuurlik met enige wildsmaalvleis gemaak word, maar ek het springbokmaalvleis as basis vir my burgers gekies. Ons almal weet wildsvleis neig om 'n bietjie droog te wees, so die spek wat ek hier byvoeg, help om die storie lekker sappig te hou. Ek stem nogal saam met wat Jan Braai in sy boek *Vuurwerke* skryf oor tuisgemaakte hamburgers: "Die frikkadel is die middelpunt van 'n burger en die gehalte daarvan hang direk af van die gehalte van die vleis." Hy is ook nie 'n voorstander van allerlei byvoegings soos eier of broodkrummels by die frikkadel nie.

Goeie vleis, eenvoudig gegeur met sout en peper of dalk 'n speserymengsel van jou keuse, is genoeg om die fondasie van 'n smullekker burger te wees.

Die lekkerste burger is natuurlik een wat 'n braaivleisvuur as deel van die proses het. Frikkadelle gebraai oor die kole kan spog met 'n heerlik rokerige geur. 'n Mens kan sommer jou broodjies ook dik smeer met botter en oor die kole skrikmaak vir ekstra lekkerte.

Wanneer dit kom by die burger se afronding, is daar vir my twee vulsels wat ononderhandelbaar is: gekaramelliseerde uie en 'n interessante sous. Daar is vir my niks erger as 'n droë burger met net 'n lekkie mayonnaise, 'n paar verlepte blare en 'n hartseer skyfie tamatie nie. As jy tuisgemaakte burgers gaan maak, gaan groot of los dit eerder! Nog vulsels wat my hart gelukkig maak, is vars roket omdat die peperige smaak altyd 'n wenner is, en agurkieskywe omdat die surigheid gewoonlik 'n heerlike teenvoeter is vir die sout van die res van die vulsels.

Wat sous betref, kan jy gerus jou verbeelding vlerke gee. Daar is soveel meer opsies as net tamatie- of BBQ-sous! Ek verkies 'n romerige sous, soos sampioen of knoffel. My absolute gunsteling is egter 'n sous propvol kaas – ek verkies inderdaad eerder kaassous as 'n stuk kaas op my burger. Die burgerresep wat ek vandag deel, word vergesel van 'n romerige sous wat uit sy nate bars met die geure van beleë cheddar en knoffel – en so 'n sweempie bier as bonus. Maak net seker jy prut die sous 'n hele rukkie sodat die alkohol kan verdamp. »

» SPRINGBOK-EN-SPEK-HAMBURGERS MET 'N BIER-EN-CHEDDAR-SOUS

Die bier-en-cheddar-sous, tesame met die ander bestanddele soos vars roket, gekaramelliseerde uie en vars tamatie, maak van enige hamburger 'n wenner.

JY BENODIG:
(maak sowat 4 burgers):
- 500 g springbokmaalvleis
- 100 g spek met lekker baie vet
- Geurmiddels van jou keuse
- 2 groot uie, in skywe gesny
- 1 groot tamatie, in skywe gesny
- Roket of ander blare van jou keuse
- Agurkies, in dun skywe gesny
- 4 groot, vars broodrolletjies
- Botter vir smeer op die broodjies
- Tamatiesous, indien verkies

VIR DIE BIER-EN-KAAS-SOUS:
- 4 e botter
- 1 klein ui, fyngekap
- 2 k ligte bier, soos 'n lager
- 4 e meel
- 1½ k room
- 1 knoffelhuisie, gerasper
- Sout en witpeper, na smaak
- Sowat 170 g sterk beleë cheddar
- Om voor te sit: aartappelskyfies of -wiggies

SO MAAK 'N MENS:

1. Begin met die gekaramelliseerde uie omdat 'n mens dit nie kan afjaag nie. Verhit 'n pan oor matige hitte en smelt 'n bietjie botter daarin. Voeg die uieskywe by en roer om die uieringe van mekaar los te wikkel. Voeg nou 'n bietjie water by die pan en sit die deksel vinnig op. Laat dit so 'n paar minute stoom om die uie sag te maak. Haal dan die deksel af, geur met 'n bietjie sout en laat stadig kook tot gekaramelliseer. Die geheim vir heerlike uie is 'n lang gaarmaakproses oor lae hitte. Jy kan hier teen die einde 'n skeut balsemasyn byvoeg, indien verkies. Sodra die uie gekaramelliseer is, verwyder van die hitte en hou eenkant.
2. Terwyl die uie hulle ding doen, kan jy die frikkadelle maak. Plaas die springbokmaalvleis en die spek saam in 'n groot mengbak. Geur met sout en peper of 'n speserymengsel van jou keuse. Meng deeglik. Maak jou hande nat (dis makliker om met maalvleis te werk as jou hande koud en nat is) en verdeel dan die maalvleis eweredig in balle van 170 g elk (gebruik 'n elektriese kombuisskaal om die proses te vergemaklik). Vorm elke bal in 'n netjiese frikkadel. Plaas in die yskas tot jy reg is om te braai.
3. Ek hou daarvan om 'n toeknyprooster te gebruik om frikkadelle oor die kole te braai. Dit kan 'n uitdaging wees om te verseker die frikkadelle bly in een stuk en sit nie aan die rooster vas nie. Die toeknyprooster maak hierdie proses makliker. Bestryk elke frikkadel aan albei kante met 'n bietjie sonneblomolie. Pak op die rooster en braai dan oor hoë hitte om hulle te seël. Braai ongeveer 10 minute in totaal – dis genoeg om die frikkadelle een keer op elke kant te laat lê; twee keer is die maksimum. Moenie aan die frikkadelle karring om te sien of hulle vassit nie. Verwyder van die hitte en maak gereed om jou burgers te bou. Jy kan ook nou jou broodrolletjies rooster nadat jy hulle gebotter het.
4. Jy kan die sous vooraf maak (of vra iemand om dit te maak terwyl jy besig is om die frikkadelle te braai). Smelt die botter in 'n swaarbodempan oor matige hitte. Voeg die uie by en braai tot sag, sowat 2-3 minute. Roer die meel by en roer tot die mengsel strooikleurig is, sowat 2 minute. Klits die bier by en hou aan klits tot glad.
5. Verlaag die hitte en prut tot die bier begin reduseer en die alkohol weggekook het – dit behoort 4-5 minute te neem. Roer die room en knoffel by en hou aan kook terwyl jy aanhoudend roer totdat die sous verdik – ongeveer 10 minute. Verwyder van die hitte, proe en geur met sout en peper na smaak. Klits die kaas by en roer tot heeltemal gesmelt. Die sous kan effens bitter proe (veral as jy nie die alkohol goed weggekook het nie), maar dit het 'n lekker bier-nasmaak. Die geure in die burger sal mekaar komplementeer – daar is soet van die gekaramelliseerde uie, sout van die frikkadel, suur van die agurkies en die bietjie bitter van die biersous. Dié resep maak sowat vier koppies sous. Bêre enige oorskiet vir tot drie dae in die yskas.
6. Bou jou burger: Smeer 'n bietjie tamatiesous op die onderste deel van die rolletjie. Plaas dan die frikkadel bo-op, gevolg deur 'n groot skep van die tuisgemaakte sous op die vleis. Dan kom die res van die vulsels in enige volgorde wat jy verkies. Geniet saam met aartappelskyfies of -wiggies en 'n lekker koue bier!

(Sousresep aangepas van food-network.com. *Maak en braai van die frikkadelle uit* Vuurwerke *deur Jan Braai.)*

No. 1 Catering Equipment Supplier by Soft-Ice Catering Equipment.
Call us on (+27) 12 548 2745 or (+27) 71 564 4285 , Email: sales@cateringequipment.co.za
Visit our Showroom/Warehouse: 21 Escallonia Str, Montana, Pretoria, Gauteng
soft-ice
catering equipment
ChromeCater®
SOFT.ICE.CATERING.EQUIPMENT
Visit our Online Store: www.cateringequipment.co.za to view our full catalogue
Patty Press
From R1 695
Meat Mixers
From R2 995
Meat Slicers
From R5 895
Stainless Steel Table
From R2 599
Sausage Fillers
From R2 349
Meat Mincers
From R3 995
Bone/Band Saws
From R9 995
4pc-Stainless Steel Funnel Set
R395
Towel Dispensers
From R419
Vacuum Packers
From R13 495
Wrapping Machine
From R1 395
Vacuum Sealers
From R1 895
Vacuum Bags
From R59
Soap Dispensers
From R249
All Prices are Inclusive of 15% VAT
We also supply a wide range of Bakery, Deli, Fun Food and Catering Equipment

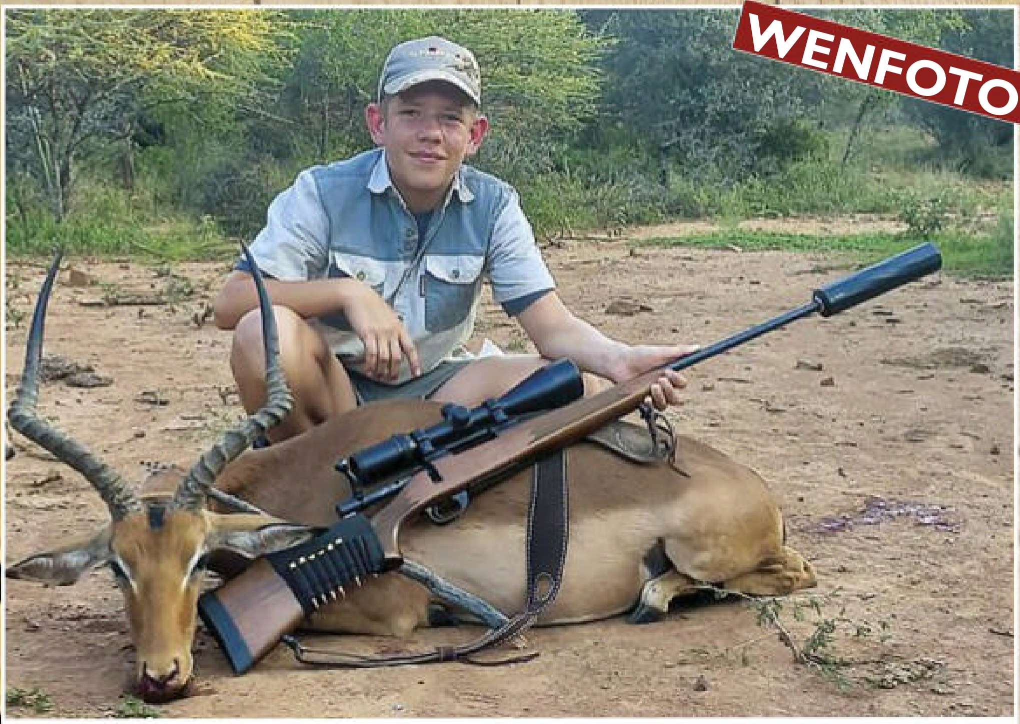
LAAIGRAWE
WL922 Vlakvark - 0.5m³
R 265 000
ML18 Buffel - 0.9m³
R 385 000
LG918 Low Cab - 0.9m³
R350 000
WL933 Eland - 1.4m³
R 570 000
WL925 Buffel - 1.0m³
R460 000
CL935 Renoster - 1.7m³
R 750 000
CL958 Olifant - 3.0m³
R 1 230 000
BTW uitg.
VURKHYSERS
ATF920 Meerkat 4x4
4m Mas 2.5ton
R 375 000
BTW uitg.
MULCHERS
Wuhlf 930 Mulcher met waterverkoelde
129kw-enjin R1 650 000.00 (BTW uitg.)
Wuhlf 960 Mulcher met waterverkoelde
276kw-enjin R 3 490 000.00 (BTW uitg.)
WUHLF EQUIPMENT (PTY) LTD
Besoek ons Facebook blad
Hoofkantoor:
76 Haakdoornlaagte
Wallmannsthal, Pretoria
N1-Noord-hoofweg
Wallmannsthal-afrit
Koördinate:
25 34'36.0"S 28 27'16.0"E
Kantoor:
+27 (0)12 004 2000
+27 (0)12 004 2001
+27 (0)12 548 0321
Webtuiste:
www.wuhlf.co.za
Verkope:
Coert Steenberg
+27 (0) 84 247 0804
coert@wuhlf.co.za
Nota: Alle pryse is BTW en AFLEWERING UITGESLUIT en is onderhewig aan verandering

SPOGBLAD

BOKSPOG

Stuur jou jagfoto's na: bokspog@sahunter.org

WENFOTO



DIAN DU TOIT, GROOT-MARICO, NOORDWES. Rooibokram, Howa 6,5 Creedmoor, 140 grein Sierra GameKing, 80 meter.

WENPRYS

GEBORG DEUR:

Stevenson Hamilton

Die wenner van hierdie maand se *Bokspog*, Dian Du Toit, wen 'n produk beskikbaar op Stevenson Hamilton se webtuiste, *www.stevensonhamilton.co.za* ter waarde van R800.

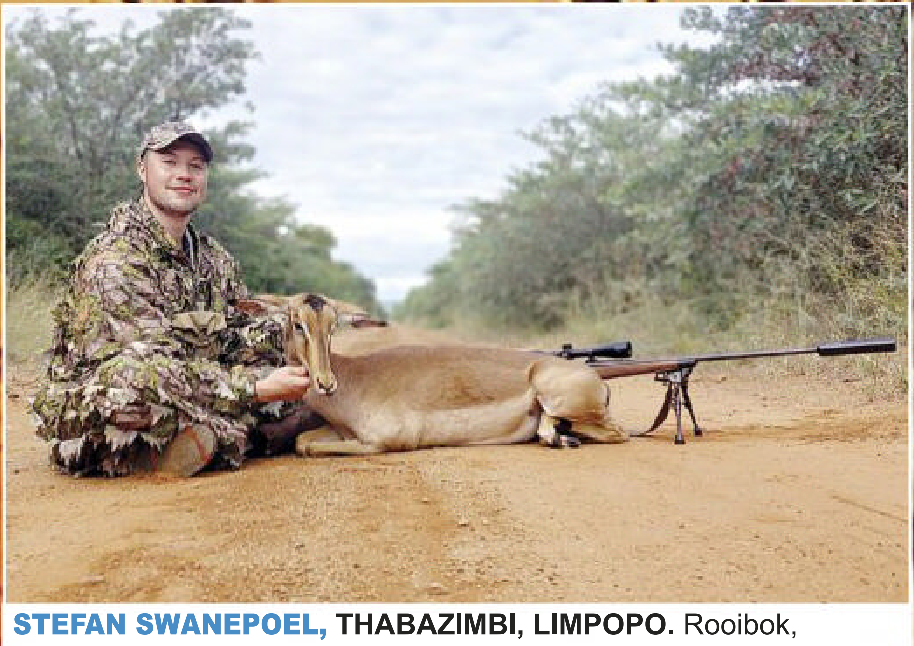
Baie geluk, Dian! Om jou prys te eis, stuur 'n e-pos aan: *admin@promark.co.za*

Stevenson Hamilton

CAILIN SCHOONBEE, BETHULIE, VRYSTAAT. Blesbokram, Howa .223, 53 grein V-Max.

CHRIS JURGENS, RICHMOND, NOORD-KAAP. Bergsebra, Musgrave .308 Winchester, 165 grein Hornady SST, 120 meter.

WILLEM VICTOR, ALIWAL-NOORD, OOS-KAAP. Blouwildebees, Sako .30-06, 180 grein Norma, 194 meter.



STEFAN SWANEPOEL, THABAZIMBI, LIMPOPO. Rooibok, Musgrave .270, 130 grein Nosler Ballistic Tip, 140 meter.

DEON VAN HEERDEN, THABAZIMBI, LIMPOPO. Blouwildebees, Lee-Enfield .303, 30 meter.

JACQUES DU PLESSIS, VAN ZYLSRUS, NOORD-KAAP. Rooihartbees, Sako .260 Rem, 120 grein Federal Fusion, 190 meter.

THEO COETZEE, LOGAGENG, NOORDWES. Rooibok, Sako 6x45, 100 grein Sierra ProHunter, 150 meter.

HEIN STRESO, ALEXANDRIA, OOS-KAAP. Bosbok, CZ .308, 165 grein.

LEON MENTZ, LEPHALALE, LIMPOPO. Bouwildebees, Howa 6,5 Creedmoor, 130 grein Sierra.

JJ VAN DER MERWE (OORLEDE), MODIMOLLE, LIMPOPO. Swartwitpens, .300 Winchester Magnum, 100 meter.

NEW KID(S) ON THE BLOCK: VAROTEC PRODUCTS

Affordable optics for the field

Varotec's HL 4-16x56 SF offers good value for money for the first-time riflescope buyer or those on a budget.

I would have thought that the market for riflescopes and other hunting optics was pretty much saturated. I must admit that the number of offerings in all price ranges continues to grow, which I would have thought to be at odds with basic economics. I mean, how big is the market for riflescopes? This got me thinking, and all I can conclude is that the well-established, reputable manufacturers continue to hike prices, leaving a constant gap at the bottom end for new products that appeal on price alone.

I was recently sent two Varotec riflescopes – a 4-16x56 and a 5-25x50 – as well as a rangefinder to test. These products are comparatively new to the South African market. An online search showed only their standard marketing flyer popping up on all the popular hunting and shooting websites. The marketing makes the usual claims – "selected by hunters for hunters", and that the scopes have Kepler optical systems. Unfortunately, one has to look past these claims when evaluating these products. All riflescopes have refractive, dioptric Keplerian systems.

Made in China, the pricing is extremely attractive, with the 4-16 at a little under R4 000 and the 5-25 a touch under R6 000.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Let's first look at the larger of the two scopes. It comes from a sturdy box with rubber protectors, a sunshade, a honeycomb anti-reflector, a large adjuster wheel and an Allen key to suit.

The Varotec NK-1000 rangefinder is a handy unit that will suit the budget-conscious hunter. It is supplied with a carry bag as well as lanyard straps. Note the .30-06 cartridge for comparison.

The HL 4-16x56 SF comes standard with a honeycomb glare protector as well as other accessories such as lens covers and rings.

The Varotec FFP 5-25x50 with its sunshade and lens covers. As the designation suggests, it is a scope with the reticle in the first focal plane.

All the accoutrements are solid aluminium, not plastic, and fit easily, logically and without fuss. A solid-looking set of rings is also provided.

The scope is on the hefty side at 950 g with a 30 mm tube and is 370 mm long. A bulge in the centre houses the large adjusters, with the top adjusting the height and the right-hand knob the windage. On the left and slightly ahead of the windage, one finds the parallax adjustment knob with settings from 0 to infinity in yards inboard. It has a centre adjustor for reticle illumination settings 1-5 in either red or green, as well as the housing for the 2032 battery outboard, which was not provided. There is also a nitrogen gas port on the left underside.

Adjustors for bullet impact are the pull-out-and-turn type, with 1 click being equal to 1/10th MIL radian. An Allen screw allows the adjustor to be reset to zero. Adjustors are easy to operate and the click adjustment is crisp. The parallax and illumination, on the other hand, were stiff. Focus is adjusted at the rear lens and is quick and positive. Located just ahead of the eyepiece, the zoom adjustment is easy to use and has a lock screw. The reticle is in the first focal plane, which takes some getting used to if you are not accustomed to it. Essentially, the reticle zooms with the zoom adjuster, which allows the reticle indicators for drop and drift to be valid for any zoom setting. These are gaining in popularity, which probably makes sense as most scopes are used at maximum magnification most of the time.

The 4-16x56 is also a hefty beast, with a 30 mm tube and a 56 mm objective. It is 340 mm long and weighs 1 030 g. All accessories are the same except for the Allen key and the large wheel for the parallax adjustor. Adjustors are also of the lift-and-pull type, but locking is via a top plug with a coin slot for loosening and tightening. The zoom setting was very stiff and the parallax setting really tight – both to such an extent that ease of operation was compromised, with the latter downright difficult if lying prone on the shooting range.

On the range, both scopes showed fairly remarkable light gathering – not as bright as some European offerings, but nevertheless very good at the price. This is partly due to the large tube and objective lenses. I range-tested the larger of the two scopes. I removed the Weaver V24 from my .223 and mounted the 5-25 in 30 mm rings. I first had to purchase a set of rings, only to later discover two sets in my reloading room and another two sets in the scope boxes!

ON THE RANGE

After a quick bore sighting and a few shots with odds and sods reloads at 25 m, the rifle/scope combination was quickly zeroed at 100 m. Adjusting 10 clicks right, 10 clicks down, 10 left and 10 up, brought it back to zero, and the “box” measured quite precisely.

I did not range-test the 4-16x56 other than squinting downrange over a dead rest. All in all, considering the price, these scopes may require closer inspection from the entry-level shooter, particularly those of us less well-heeled in the finance department. They compare well with anything in their immediate and slightly higher price bracket.

RANGEFINDER

I received the NK-1000, also by Varotec, which weighs in at 150 g and fits comfortably in the palm of the hand. The unit uses a rechargeable battery, which I think may be a problem for hunters. It is likely to have a flat battery in the middle of nowhere, with limited access to recharging facilities. Therefore, you would have to consider one of the many power backup devices available as an addition to your kit.

The unit can be held in one hand and pointed in the direction of the object of choice. The “on” and “menu” buttons are situated directly under the index and second finger of the hand, ensuring easy operation. The rear lens has a twist focus function, and the unit can be set for metres or yards. A quick perusal of the instruction booklet shows a myriad of functions out to staggering distances. One press of the button displays the distance in metres, the angle up or down, as well as the horizontal and vertical distance.

Overall, a handy little package and certainly competitive at just over R2 000. The unit comes with a charger and a handy belt pouch.

Varotec products are imported into South Africa by Toolfair in Pretoria. They can be contacted via email at wilhelm@toolfair.co.za, *telephonically at 082-566-2332, or on the web at* www.toolfair.co.za.

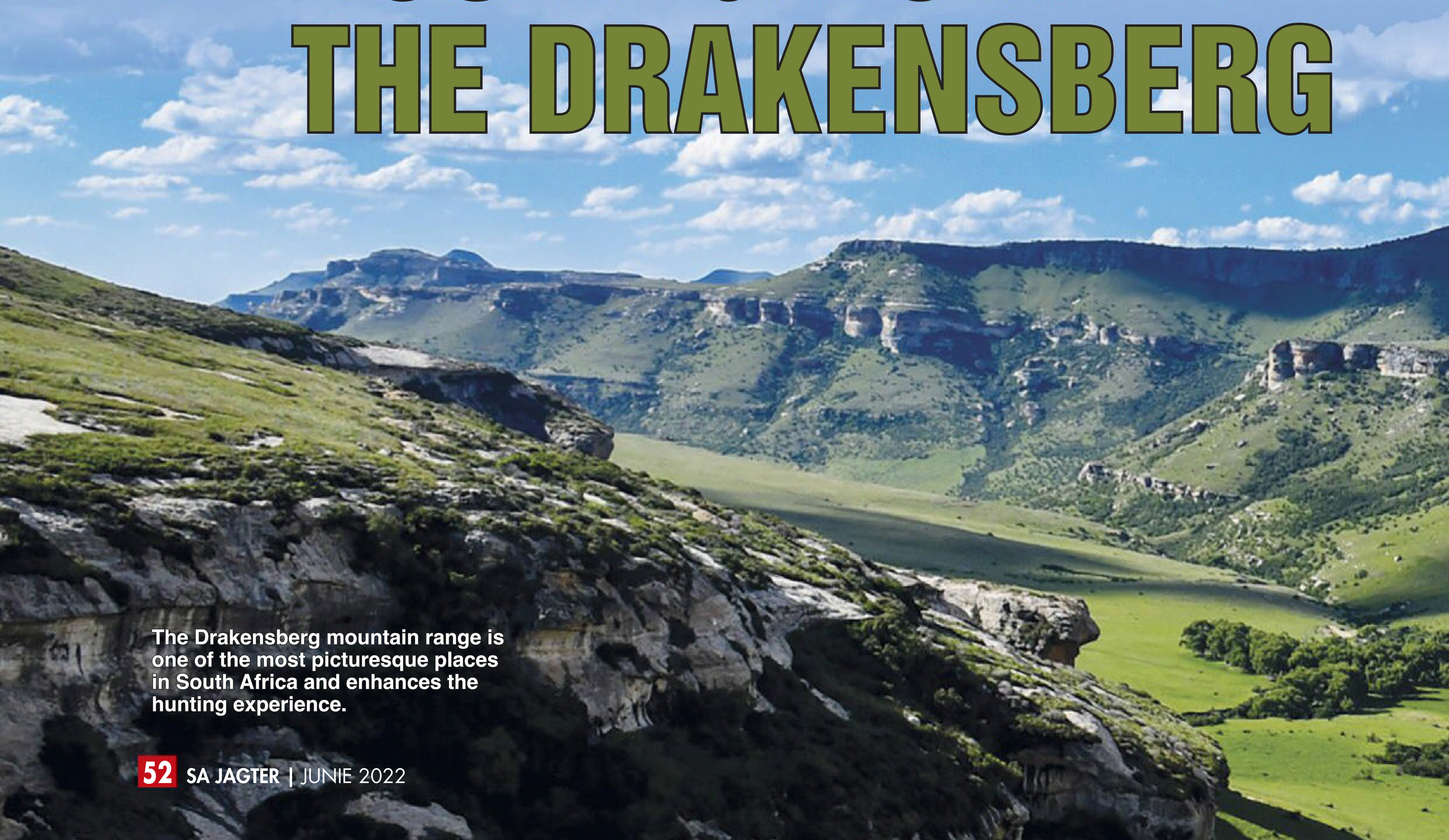
Nico with the big bushpig sow that fell to his .30-06 after an epic stalk through the thick stuff.

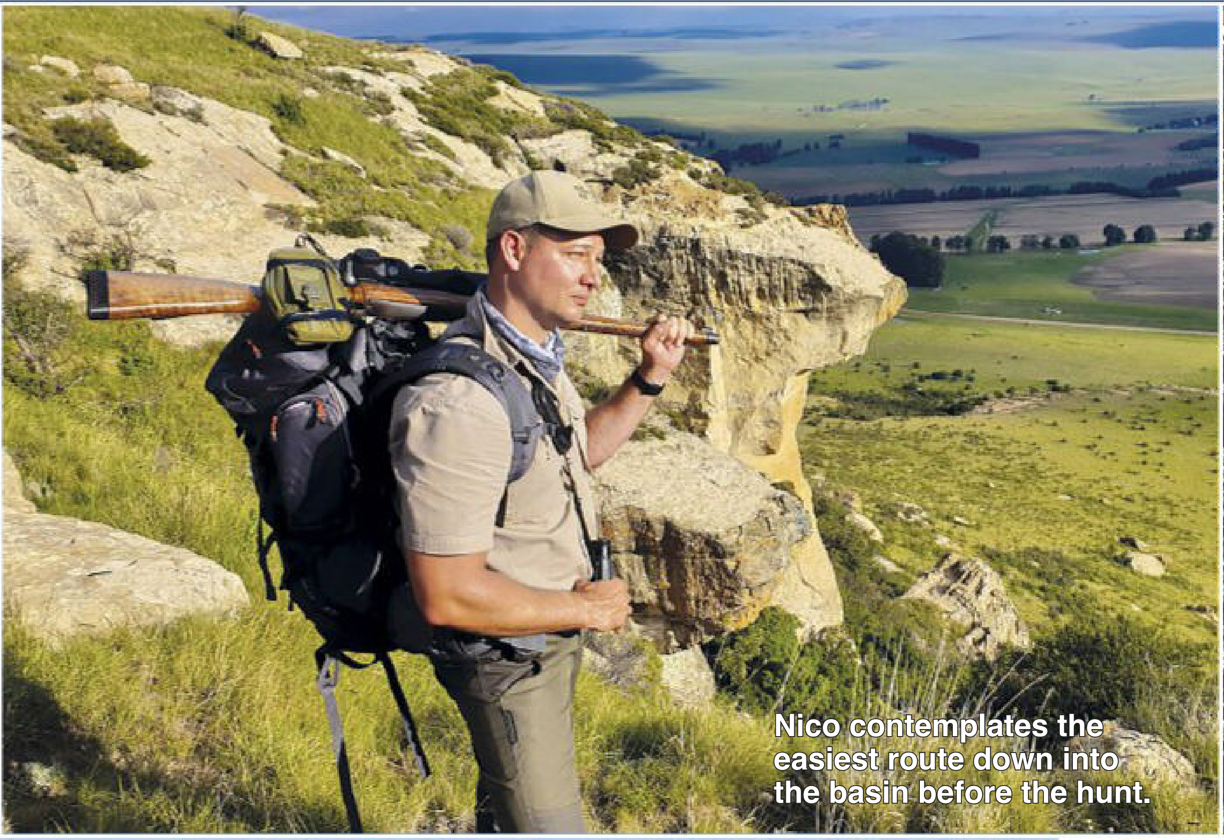
Adrenaline-packed BUSHPIG HUNT IN THE DRAKENSBERG

A bushpig hunt of a different kind

A cramp slowly crawled up my hamstring as I knelt and struggled to control my breathing. Then I heard a grunt... Could it be? Was it my imagination or had I really found them in the *ouhout* forest? My mind was racing, but I was completely focused while cautiously inching forward…

I was back in one of my favourite hunting areas – the Verkykerskop area of the Drakensberg. This time, I was hunting mountain reedbuck and vaal rhebuck on Jan van Niekerk's picturesque farm. He asked me to also shoot some bushpigs as they were wreaking havoc on


The Drakensberg mountain range is one of the most picturesque places in South Africa and enhances the hunting experience.



Nico contemplates the easiest route down into the basin before the hunt.

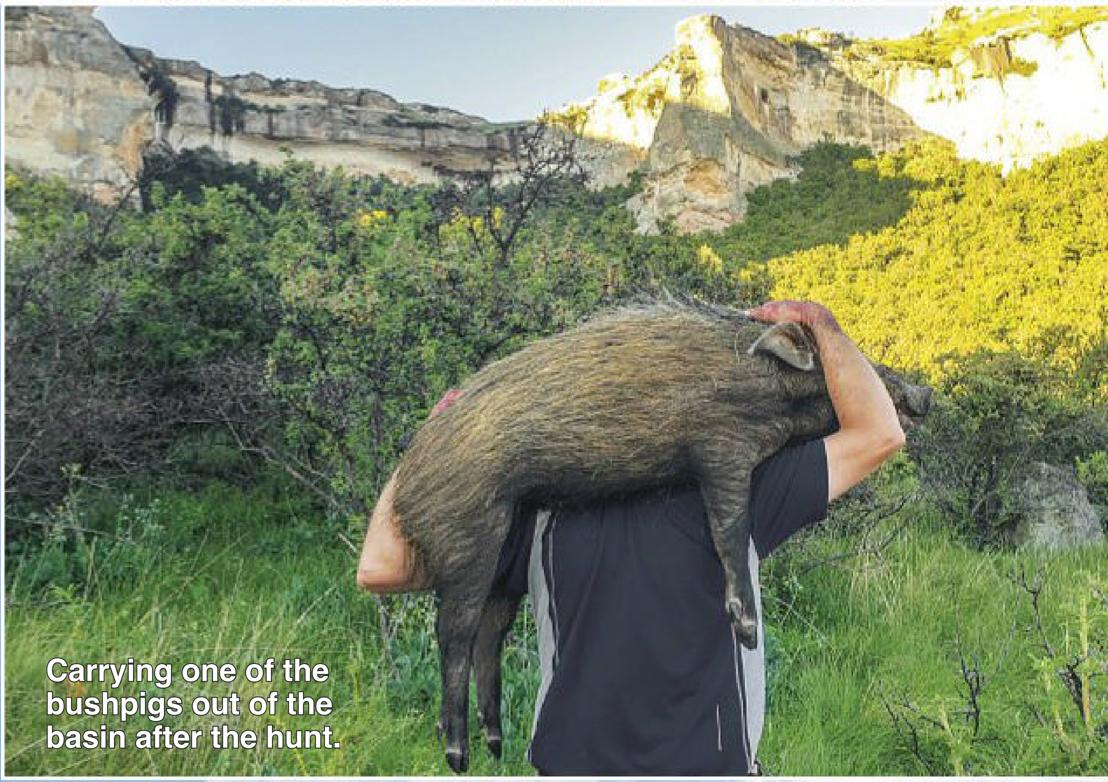
The extremely thick bush made stalking the bushpigs an even greater challenge than usual.

the newly planted crops. I had set my sights on an elusive sounder but did not realise how much effort it would take just to catch a glimpse of them. Bushpigs are cunning and mostly nocturnal. They quickly adapt to human movement and feed accordingly. Because of this, they often earn the reputation of "problem" animals.

The first day, I spent a lot of time in and around the crops searching for fresh bushpig activity to determine their whereabouts, but without success. On one side of the crops lay mountains with basins, and a small stream bordered by trees wound its way through the crops. This was the only cover close by. I wondered where the pigs bedded down during the day – apart from the mountains some distance away and the stream, there wasn't much cover for them.

THEY FAVOUR THE THICKETS

As their name suggests, bushpigs require dense cover, especially when resting. Unlike warthogs, they don't sleep in burrows but make their nests in dense undergrowth. They avoid open areas and savannas, only entering these parts when lured»



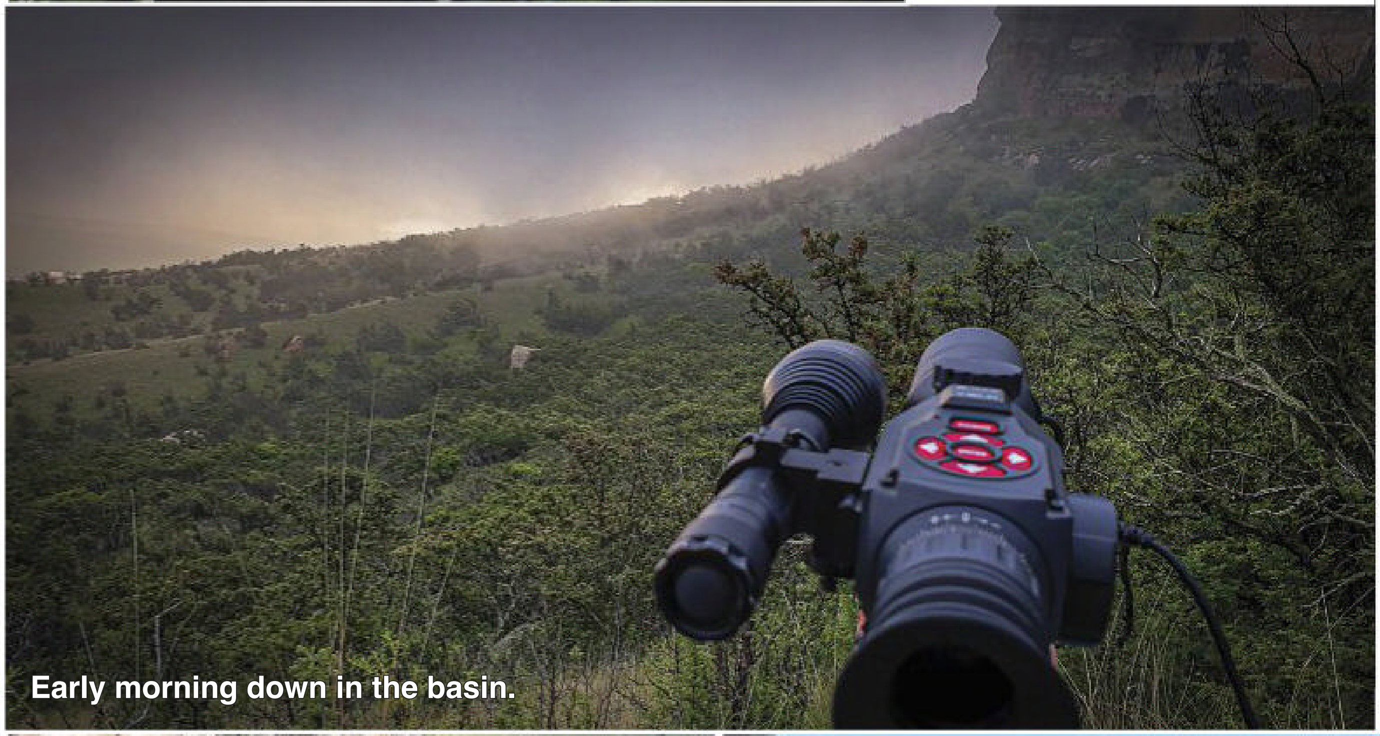
Carrying one of the bushpigs out of the basin after the hunt.

» there by something like freshly planted crops, usually under cover of darkness. When disturbed by human activity or domestic animals, they completely change their feeding pattern and often move to another area.

Until then, the pigs hadn't been spotted in the crops before midnight, and only once during the past week at six o'clock in the morning in dense fog. I decided to slowly walk through the crops at two o'clock the next morning. Instead of using light, I scanned the crops with night-vision equipment. The air was crisp and clean with no breeze or fog – perfect conditions. Moving slowly, I stopped every now and then to listen and glass the surroundings. But despite the perfect conditions, I realised it might take several nights before finding the pigs because of their irregular feeding habits. I thus needed to hunt them in the daytime on foot, just like I used to in other areas. After finding the tracks, I would remove my shoes and stalk them, hopefully locating them at first light before they bedded down.

All the fresh tracks leading out of the crops followed the stream and then turned into the thick grass where I lost them every time. The nearest alternative cover was a basin in the nearby mountains, about one kilometre away. I was convinced that was where they were sleeping.

The first glimpse of the bushpigs in the thick bush.

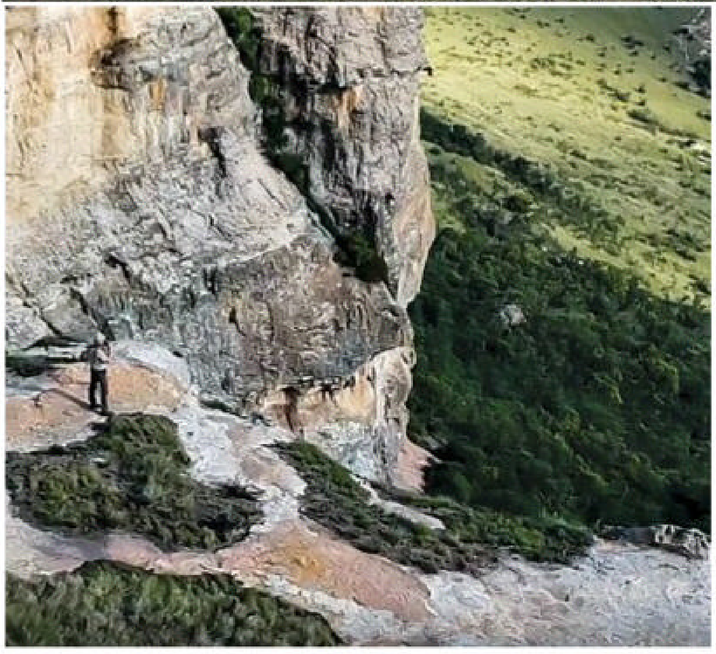

Early morning down in the basin.

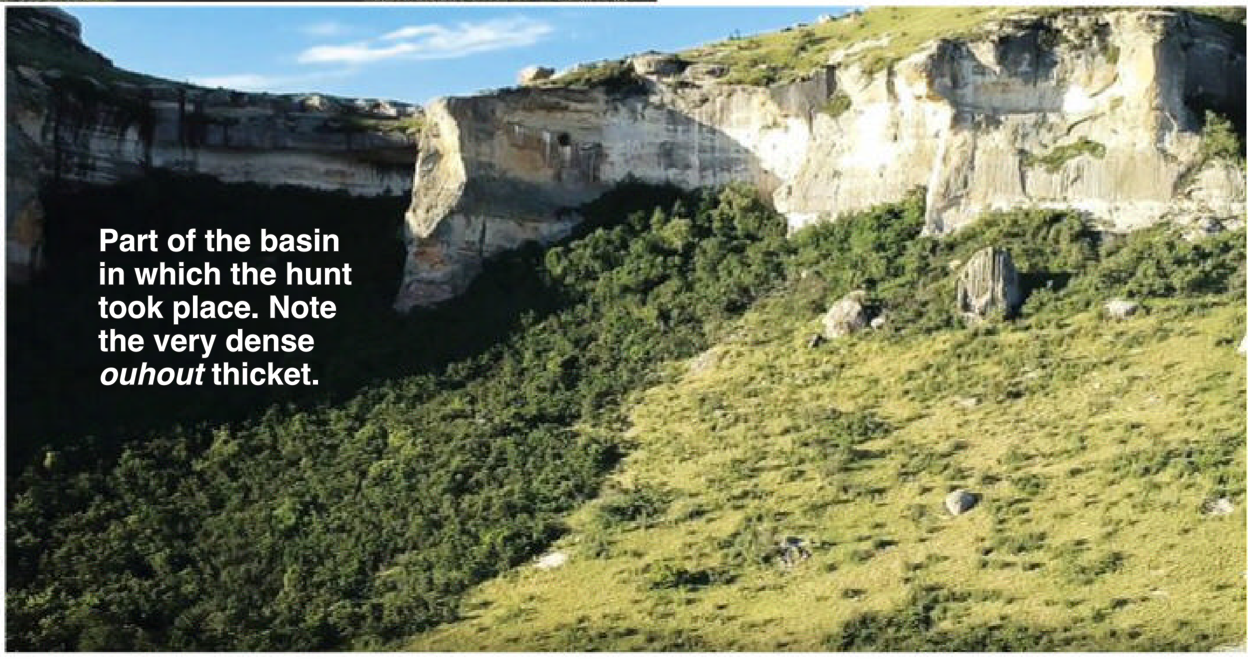
ON THE HUNT

Heading up the mountain on the second day, I was yet again astonished at how one can misjudge a mountain until you start climbing it. With burning lungs and aching legs, I finally reached the ridge on top of the basin. Breathtaking views unfolded on either side of the ridge. I was grateful as I stood there, admiring the awe-inspiring landscape. The essence of the hunt was enhanced by settings like these. In my opinion, the Drakensberg is one of South Africa's most scenic hunting areas!

As I looked over the basin, doubt niggled at my mind while scanning the almost impenetrable *ouhout* forest below. It stretched approximately 300 metres along the brook up into the basin and 100 metres across. If it served as the pigs' shelter, their only escape route would be down the brook and then over the two hills on either side of the brook, as the basin was completely enclosed by a horseshoe-shaped 30-metre-high cliff.

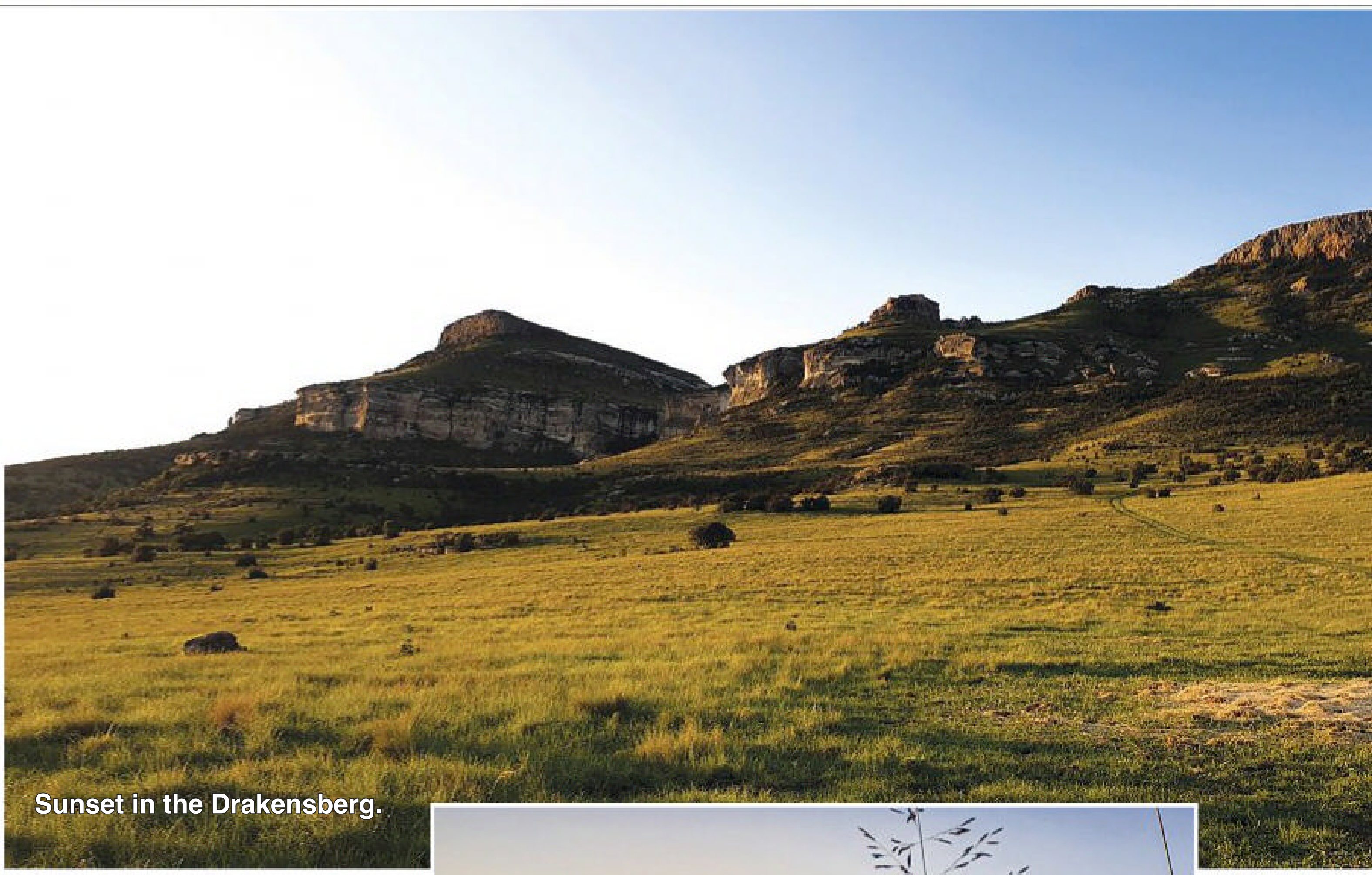
After spending some time glassing and daydreaming, the unmistakable shrill squeal of yearling pigs playing and fighting instantly lifted my mood. It sounded like they were right beneath me in the dense *ouhout* forest. I positioned my back-




Part of the basin in which the hunt took place. Note the very dense *ouhout* thicket.

pack on the edge of the ridge and pointed my rifle in the direction of the squealing. I realised that if I could flush them out, they would run down the basin following the brook. That meant the only clear shot I might get would be between 200 and 300 metres, and it would be a running shot. The squealing continued, interrupted by the occasional snorting and grunting from the older pigs – a thrilling moment for me!

Now to flush them! I started throwing stones toward the bushpigs down below, but all it did was silence them. I kept throwing stones and even shouted at them, but they kept dead still. I had experienced this behaviour before. The pigs were now in their own habitat where they felt safe; keeping still would give them the advantage over their pursuer. Since I failed to spook the pigs and found myself on the cliff 30 metres above them, the only other option was to stalk them on foot in the forest during the day. However, seeing that it was already late afternoon, it would have to wait until the next day.


Sunset in the Drakensberg.

STALKING ON FOOT

The following morning, Jan's foreman, Dirk, joined me. With my trusty old .30-06 slung over my shoulder, I would try and find the pigs on foot in the forest, while Dirk would wait on higher ground with my 6,5 Creedmoor. After Dirk got into position, overlooking both sides of the basin, I headed towards the basin, walking along the slope of one of the hills bordering it. I wanted to start at the cliff edge and then zig-zag downwards from the top of the basin to cover as much ground as possible. I would move as quietly and cautiously as the terrain would allow.

After reaching the cliff edge at the top of the basin, I realised it was going to be a lot more difficult than I had anticipated. The cliff slopes leading into the basin were very steep. To add to this, I had to crouch while trudging through the dense *ouhout*. I wore wet socks to move as quietly as possible.

Every so often, I had to stop to catch my breath and rest my legs. I constantly listened and analysed my surroundings, the forest fortress where the pigs lived. It was slow going and very tiring. In some areas, I had to get down on my knees to move forward and could only see a few metres ahead. Signs of the pigs were everywhere, and the anticipation grew stronger every time I found another nest. I even discovered a cave below the cliffs, but to my surprise, the pigs hadn't visited there. If I managed to find them and was presented with a shot, swift shooting would be a given in these surroundings!

AGAINST ALL ODDS…

I kept on struggling through the *ouhout* forest, and around every bend, it started to feel like some mystical fantasy. After what felt like a long day in the alien forest, I was dog-tired and downright discouraged. Then, sitting down to rest, I heard it…a soft grunt somewhere ahead. Could it really be, or was my mind playing tricks on me? It was hard to believe I had stumbled upon the bushpigs in this sea of *ouhout*.

With the adrenaline rushing through my veins, I kept a clear focus and carefully proceeded in the direction of the grunting. Suddenly, not even 10 metres ahead, I saw the distinct twitch of a bushpig ear. The reddish-brown bodies with white hair on the back confirmed my find – the whole sounder was bedded down in the thicket in front of me.

Muscle memory took over and the first shot went off, followed by a second and a third; three shots fired in three seconds. The first shot killed a large sow and the second one another pig. As the sounder scattered into the thickets, a large boar circled me a couple of times, grunting and snorting with frustration until the sound faded away.

Moments later, I heard the Creedmoor barking on top of the ridge, followed by the squeal of another bushpig. It turned out to be a young boar that Dirk had shot. As we had anticipated, the rest of the pigs fled down the brook and over the adjacent hill. It was almost dark, but with two bushpigs to carry out of the basin, the day was far from over!

That evening, Jan, his wife Marizelle, Dirk and I sat down to a feast of bushpig schnitzel, cracklings and sweet-and-sour nuggets that Marizelle had prepared from the sow I had shot. The adrenaline-packed daytime bushpig hunt was concluded in merry company in one of South Africa's most picturesque areas.

MAIN PHOTO: The American contingent: Bob Brister, Cyril Adams, David Trevallion and others made valuable contributions to the world of shotgunning, and their books are a valuable addition to every gunroom.

RECOMMENDED READING FOR THE MODERN SHOTGUNNER

Some things never change, no matter how much water passes under the bridge…

My father is an academic of the most dedicated kind. He has numerous doctorates behind his name, and his idea of fun is to spend a day with his nose in an academic journal of sorts. While I may have inherited some of this dedication for further study, I tend to focus my further reading on more socially orientated topics such as gun books and the like. As a result, I have formed a few opinions on what essential reading for firearm owners should be, specifically serious shotgunners.

After all these years, the technical intricacy of the humble shotgun is still somewhat of a fallow field for many. Most shotgun owners still simply go to their local gun shop, ask for a few boxes or a case of 12-bore fodder, and set off to enjoy a day's wingshooting with nary a thought about chamber length, barrel wall thickness, chokes and other equally mysterious topics.

With the help of a few astute friends, I have managed to collect a modest library of quality books written by experts in their various fields of interest. As many serious shotgunners tend to be extremely pedantic, if not

downright superstitious, I thought it best to start with the books that I've found the most useful over the years when dealing with the topic in question.

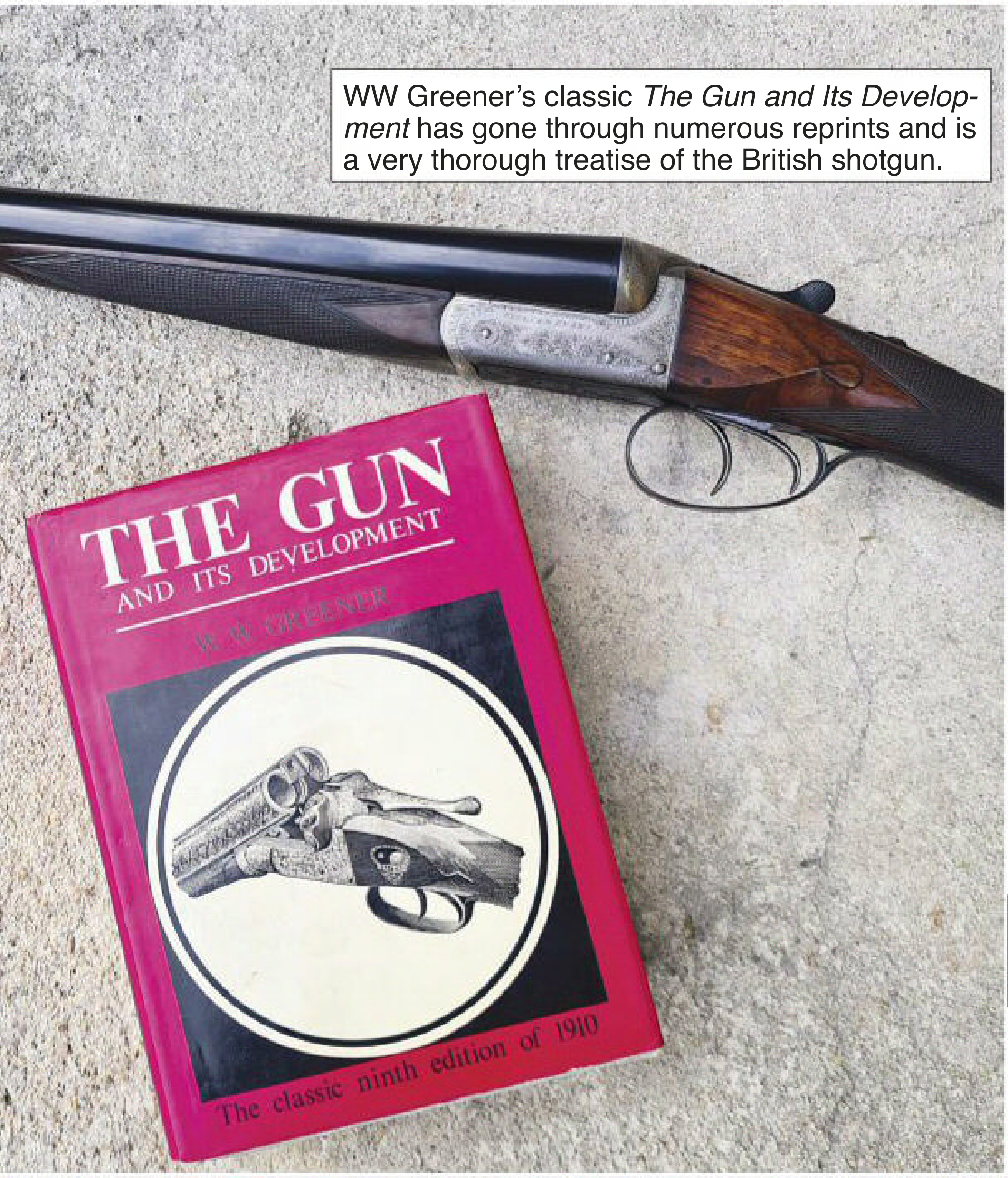
THE GUN AND ITS DEVELOPMENT – WW GREENER

Published for the first time in 1881, William Wellington Greener's magnum opus is probably *the* classic reference work on shotguns. Greener shotguns were manufactured in all sorts of grades and configurations over the years. At one time, it was claimed that the Greener factory was the largest gunmaking concern in Britain.

The Gun and Its Development went through no less than nine editions, with the last one seeing the light of day in 1910. Although Greener at times had no qualms about promoting his own company's products, the fact remains that he was a practical maker of the highest order when the book was written initially, as well as throughout the period of the revised editions. At its peak, the Greener factory manufactured thousands of guns annually that were exported to all corners of the globe.

For me, the most interesting aspect of this book is the detailed descriptions of the various manufacturing stages followed during earlier times. This is not only of historical interest but comes in very handy whenever a vintage gun must be assessed today.

Greener was one of two British manufacturers (the other one was Westley Richards) that championed the boxlock action over the sidelock. Greener's own take on the boxlock, his Facile Princeps design, naturally enjoys plentiful exposure in his writings. However, he also freely discusses designs by some of his competitors of the day, indicating that he must have been keenly aware of what the opposition was up to.



WW Greener's classic *The Gun and Its Development* has gone through numerous reprints and is a very thorough treatise of the British shotgun.

The Gun and Its Development has been reprinted several times since the 1910 edition was published. However, if you can find an earlier edition, it is a real prize, so don't hesitate to snap it up. It is a good read and an interesting trip down the path of fine gunmaking.

SHOTGUNNING – THE ART AND THE SCIENCE – BOB BRISTER

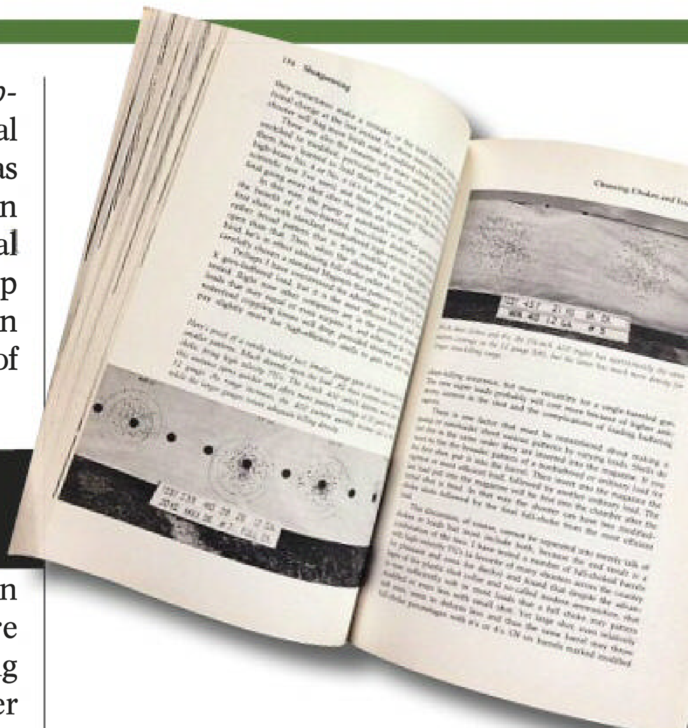
If a technical dissertation on shotgun shooting and, more specifically, shotgun patterning is your thing, look no further than this book. Bob Brister was one of the most accomplished shotgunners ever to emerge from the United States. He was the shooting editor of *Field & Stream* magazine for many years. In addition, he was a competition shotgunner of note and had an enquiring mind second to none when it came to the intricacies of shotgun shooting.

Brister's book covers numerous topics related to shotgun shooting, from how to teach a beginner interested in the sport to shot sizes for waterfowl. He also experimented with a wide range of guns and loads, and from this extensive experimentation came one of the definite works on patterning. If anyone is interested in how the complex matrix of choke, shot and wad fits together, look no further than *Shotgunning – The Art and the Science*.

Bob Brister is sadly no longer with us, but his book is still in print. It is highly recommended reading for anyone interested in the technical side of shotgun shooting and patterning. My copy of *Shotgunning – The Art and the Science* was published in 2008 by Skyhorse Publishing in the US.

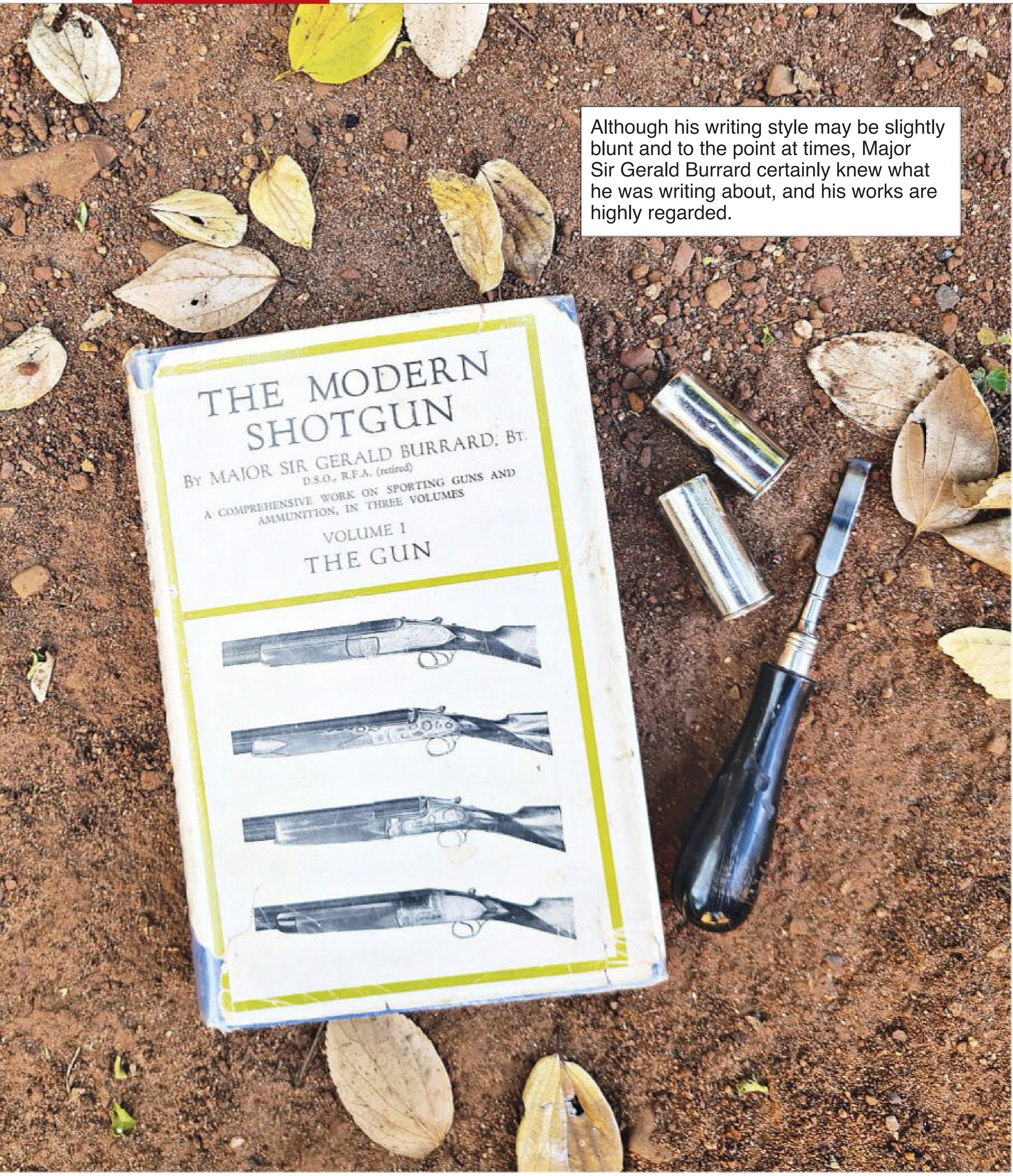
SHOTGUN TECHNICANA – MICHAEL MCINTOSH & DAVID TREVALLION

As the name suggests, *Shotgun Technicana* takes an in-depth look at some of the more technical aspects of the shotgun, especially from a gunsmith's point of view. The late Michael McIntosh was a Shakespearean scholar with a keen interest in all aspects surrounding the shotgun. In this instance, he did the writing while the technical know-how stemmed from the shop of Purdey-trained stocker, David Trevallion.



For anybody interested in the ins and outs of things such as forcing cones, inertia-shift single triggers, Beesley's self-opening sidelock action, or even how to mend a broken stock, this publication is a must-have.

As can be expected with an ex-Purdey man involved, the book is written very much from a British point of view. Therefore, most of the guns and gun-related subjects covered deal with solutions to problems from a traditional British perspective. The upshot is that there is precious little in this book about how to disassemble and repair your semi-auto shotgun, but plenty of advice on how to deal with an ailing side-by-side. What holds true, however, is that things like barrel wall thickness, proof status and general condition are constant factors throughout the shotgun world. As a result, there is also plenty of valuable and pertinent information in *Shotgun Technicana's* 193 pages relating directly to modern shotguns, British-made and otherwise. *Shotgun Technicana* was first published in 2002 by Countrysport Press. »



Although his writing style may be slightly blunt and to the point at times, Major Sir Gerald Burrard certainly knew what he was writing about, and his works are highly regarded.

» *LOCK, STOCK & BARREL* – CYRIL ADAMS & ROBERT BRADEN

Cyril Adams, for many years the proprietor of famed British gunmakers Aitken, Grant & Lang, and Robert Braden, a civil engineer with a solid grounding in shotgun shooting, co-wrote this handy and very informative book. The book deals with some of the technical aspects involved in building a best-grade gun and is a treatise on the basic techniques involved in shotgun shooting.

As is to be expected from someone like Cyril Adams, who owned a British gunmaking concern and was well known for winning numerous international shotgunning events using a Damascus-barrelled Stephen Grant 12-bore, the content is very much biased towards British guns. However, as many of the technical aspects remain the same, regardless of where a shotgun is manufactured, *Lock, Stock & Barrel* is highly recommended for the serious student of the shotgun.

Published by Safari Press in 1996, *Lock, Stock & Barrel* is sadly no longer in print.

THE MODERN SHOTGUN – VOLUME I, THE GUN – MAJOR SIR GERALD BURRARD

There can be little doubt that Burrard's writings are some of the most informative and authoritative on the subject of shotguns. Burrard was keenly interested in the technical aspects of shotgun manufacture and shooting and was clearly also slightly biased towards best guns. He deals with the inner working of guns by Purdey, Boss and others, also discussing over/under guns in some detail. Considering that this book was first printed in 1931, this is rather revolutionary as over/under guns were still somewhat of a novelty in the 1930s and not at all in such widespread use as today.

Burrard employed a fairly abrupt writing style that can be tough going at times. However, there can be no doubt that he exactly knew what he was talking about, and his advice is still as sage today as in the 1930s.

The Modern Shotgun – Volume I, The Gun has been reprinted several times. My own copy is a reprint dating from 1951 by Herbert Jenkins Ltd. I had to go to some lengths to obtain my copy of this classic book and found one on the Internet on the website of a specialised second-hand book dealer in the United States. This seems to be the only way to get hold of a copy of the good major's writings these days.

The books discussed here represent a small collection of shotgunning literature that I regard as essential reading for anybody interested in a deeper study of the relevant subject matter. There can be no doubt that there are many other books by various authors, both British and American, that are similar fountains of knowledge. Therefore, I'm certainly not suggesting by any stretch of the imagination that these five books epitomise the beginning and end as far as shotguns are concerned. What they do offer, however, is bountiful information from an era when quality gunmaking was at its peak, as well as many years of practical shooting and experimentation, almost all of which is still very relevant today.

Even though obtaining copies of all these books may prove difficult, they will be valuable additions to any gunroom. On top of that, they will be treasured companions, especially when enjoyed with a wee dram or two. Enjoy the search and, more importantly, enjoy the read!

JOU GIDS VIR

JAG EN SKIET

Propvol interessanthede vir die beginner sowel as die ervare jagter.

- Wenke oor waarna om uit te kyk met die koop van 'n tweedehandse haelgeweer.
- Advies oor jag op die vlaktes sowel as in die Bosveld.
- Hoe om jou kinders te leer skiet.
- Die wonder van pasmaakgewere.

Indien jy dit nie in die winkel kry nie, bestel só:

DIGITALE WEERGAWE
Gaan na:
https://www.magzter.com/ZA/Media24/SA-Hunter-Jagter-Kolskoot/Fishing-&-Hunting/ *of* zinio.com/za *of* pressreader.com/catalog/south-africa *of* pagesuite.com

E-pos:
johan.terblanche@Media24.com

Tel:
021-406-4962

BO: Hier is my pa en neef by 'n ander ram wat op Japan-jagplaas gejag is.
HOOFFOTO: Die ranteveld wat die uitgeslape alleenloper se boerplek was.

DIE UITGESLAPE ALLEENLOPER

Die storie van 'n vasberade skoolseun met 'n .308 en 'n slinkse ou rooibokram

Wyle dr. Lucas Potgieter het maar altyd 'n sagte plekkie vir alleenloperbulle- en ramme gehad. Veral die uitgestote ou buffel- en blouwildebeesbulle het hom na aan die hart gelê. In die meeste gevalle is die alleenlopers gewoonlik die uitgestote bulle of ramme in die trop wat moes plek maak vir die jonger, sterker en meer viriele troonopvolgers. Soms is daar egter 'n paar van die alleenlopers wat weens ander faktore nie deel van die trop uitmaak nie. Partykeer is dit omstandighede buite die alleenlopers se beheer en ander kere wil 'n mens glo hulle verkies om hul eie ding buite die trop te doen.

In die laat sewentigerjare van die vorige eeu het my pa en sy buurman 'n jagplaas sowat 55 km buite Bloemfontein in die Verkeerdevlei-distrik van die Sentraal-Vrystaat op die been gebring.

Die veld het bestaan uit tipiese ysterkliprante, klowe, vleie en grasvlaktes – die tuiste van troppe blesbokke, springbokke, rooibokke en swartwildebeeste wat gejag kon word. Destyds is blesbokke teen R2/kg (karkasgewig) en springbokke teen R50 per bok aan jagters verkoop. Rooibokramme kon gejag word teen R150 per bok.

Geen dag- of oornagtariewe is gevra nie, en dít het menige jagter se oë laat blink.

DIE ONTSNAPPING

Daar moes inderhaas 'n klein wildkampie van ongeveer 2 ha gespan word, want die vragmotor met die eerste rooibokke was so te sê op pad. Soos te verstane, het die vakmanskap die wedloop teen tyd verloor en het die klein kampie sleg afgesteek teen die netjiese wildkamp met sy 2,4 meter- hoë heining wat kort daarna opgerig is. Hoe dit presies gebeur het, kan ek nie meer onthou nie, maar twee ooie en 'n ram het toe uit aanhouding ontsnap. Die ooie het ons later op 'n manier weer terug in die groot kamp gekry, maar al ons pogings om die ram met sy eie soort te laat herenig, was pure verniet. Hy het sy nuwe vryheid buite die wildkamp nooit weer vir die ruimte daarbinne verruil nie. Die digbegroeide olienhoutranteveld rondom die wildkamp was voortaan sy tuiste.

Hy was egter nie al alleenloper op Japan-jagplaas nie. As enigste seun in 'n gesin van drie kinders, was die vryheid wat daardie lieflike rantjiesveld met sy olienhoutklowe gebied het, vir my 'n ongekende weelde. As laerskoolseun en aspirant-grootwildjagter, het ek daardie plaas deurkruis en later soos die palm van my hand geken. Die noordelike hange van die spitskop was die tuiste van die troppie rooiribbokke wat skuiling teen die geniepsige suidewind gesoek het. Op koue, winderige dae het jy partykeer byna trompop in hulle vasgeloop. Ek het geweet om in die plat rante na die blesbokke te soek, terwyl die swartwildebeeste die kloof in die toegespande wildkamp wat op die rooigrasvlakte uitloop, verkies het. Net die uitgeslape alleenloper-rooibokram buite die wildkamp het ek nooit geweet waar om te verwag nie. Vir hom was ek altyd op die uitkyk. Hy het die meer beboste dele van die plaas verkies, maar soms wanneer jy dit die minste verwag, het hy die grensdrade van die wildkamp gepatrolleer, so asof hy tog maar behoefte aan die rooiboktrop gehad het.

Rooibokke in die Vrystaat was daardie jare nie 'n algemene gesig nie. Miskien was dít die rede waarom die alleenloper-rooibokram my so gefassineer het. Dit was nie 'n trofeeram nie en buitendien was sy een horing net bokant die halfpadmerk afgebreek. Dit het egter mooi herstel met 'n stomperige, dikkerige afwerking op die punt wat geensins afbreuk aan sy voorkoms gedoen het nie. Dit het hom definitief nie minder ram gemaak nie. Inteendeel, die stompie het 'n geheimsinnigheid aan hom verleen. Natuurlik het my kinderverbeelding vlerke gekry en het ek geglo dat hy daardie horing in 'n geveg met ander ramme gebreek het, waarin hy as die trotse oorwinnaar weggestap het. Daar was net iets aan hierdie bok wat my hart vinniger laat klop het. Miskien was dit sy trotse, uitdagende houding. Miskien daardie reguit kyk waarmee hy vir 'n sekonde na my gestaar het wanneer ek niksvermoedend op hom afgekom het en hy dan met sierlike spronge uit my gesigsveld verdwyn het.

Vanmelewe se plaaslik vervaardigde ammunisie en 'n getroue jagmes. Let op na die prys – slegs R13,96 per pak! Beide is op die jag vir die alleenloper gebruik.

Ek het die geweer net daar op die klip gelos, opgespring en die afstand oor klippe en deur bosse in 'n rekordtyd afgelê.

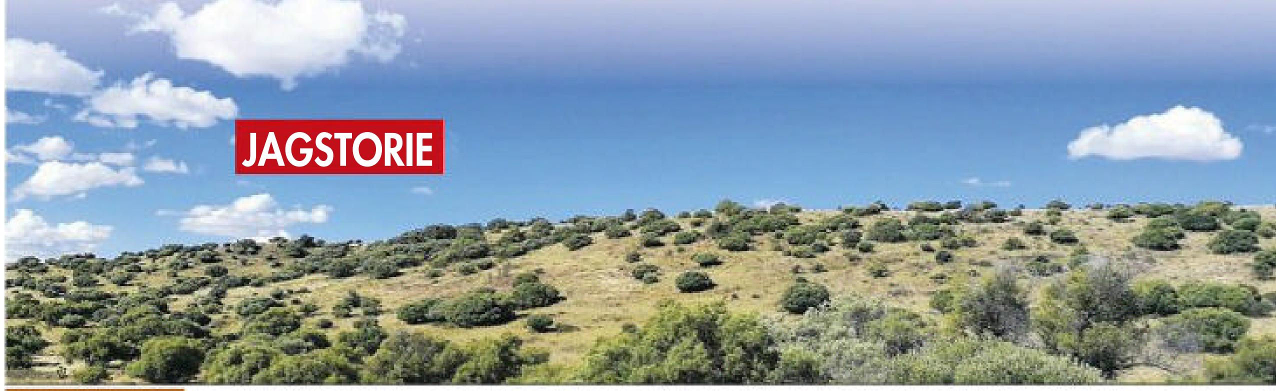
'N UITGESLAPE KALANT

Destyds het ek nog self geslyp aan my oplettendheid en bekruipvermoë in die veld en daardie tipiese rooibok-blafgeluid het my dikwels in my spore gestuit. Dán was ek net betyds om te sien hoe die twee swart strepe op die agterkant van die boude om 'n bos of in digte ruigtes verdwyn. Dit het later 'n obsessie by my geword om daardie uitgeslape alleenloper te jag. Ek was egter nie al een wat sy ondergang beplan het nie. Pa het ook sulke planne gehad en elke groep jagters is van die ram vertel en gevra om op hom jag te maak. 'n Spesiale jagnaweek is selfs een keer gereël om biltong van die alleenloperram te maak. Pa en die buurman, asook my twee ooms, is een Saterdag met sonop te voet die rante in. Gestewel en gespoor met genoeg ammunisie en baie deursettingsvermoë, het hulle gesoek na enige vars tekens wat die ram se skuilplek kon verraai. Vroegoggend het laatoggend geword, en uiteindelik laatmiddag, maar sonder enige sukses. Voetseer en kort van draad, moes die moeë jagters die aftog blaas. Ek het stilletjies geglimlag, want ek het geweet ek en daardie bok was bestem om mekaar eendag raak te loop. Dit sou egter eers 'n paar jaar later in 1982 op dertienjarige ouderdom gebeur.

Die jaarlikse wintervakansie het uiteindelik aangebreek en vir 'n koshuisseun het dit drie lang weke op die plaas beteken. Gedurende die kwartaal het ek al uitgewerk hoe ek die ram gaan uitoorlê en hoe hy niksvermoedend in die .308 se loop gaan vaskyk. Tot op daardie stadium het ek nog nooit eers op hom aangelê nie, maar hom net van ver af deur die verkyker beskou. Ek het myself belowe dit sou alles daardie vakansie verander...

Een oggend was ek en pa met die bakkie op pad na die buurman. Dit was te ver om padlangs op die grootpad te ry en pa het toe self 'n pad oor die rante gemaak om by sy vennoot uit te kom. Korter ja, maar nie noodwendig vinniger nie! Gedagtig aan die alleenloperram, het die geweer ook saamgery. Ons moes deur die wildkamp met sy hoë heining ry en deur 'n hek ongeveer 200 tree van 'n steilerige bult af. Ons het die bok daardie dag aan pa se kant bo-op die koppie in operige terrein tussen harpuis- en besembosse gewaar. Hy het plankdwars gestaan en reguit vir ons gekyk, sowat 80 tree ver.

Toe die bakkie staan, het ek uitgespring, die geweer oorgehaal en sommer oor die bakkie se dak op die ram aangelê. (Dit was daardie jare normale praktyk.) My mond was kurkdroog en die adrenalien het deur my »



» are gepomp. Die teleskoop se kruishaar wou maar net nie agter die blad tot stilstand kom nie. Voor ek mooi besef wat gebeur, het die skoot afgegaan. Daar was 'n suising in my ore en ek was die kluts heeltemal kwyt, want die bok het nie geval nie. Ek het net sy hakskene met die swart klossies gesien. Vol bravade het ek my na die bok se staanplek gehaas, maar daar was nie 'n enkele druppel bloed te bespeur nie. Ek moes tot my skok erken dat die skoot mis was.

TWEEDE PROBEERSLAG

Die misskoot het by my gespook, maar daar was nie weer tyd vir rooibokjag nie. Vir die volgende paar dae was daar 'n groep jagters op die plaas, wie se belange voorkeur moes kry. Die volgende Saterdag is nie deur jagters bespreek nie en ek en pa het die dag opsygesit om my skandes van die vorige ontmoeting met die ram in ere te herstel. Vroeg die oggend, toe die ryp nog wit gelê het, is ek en pa weg veld toe. Ons eerste mikpunt was die plat rante omdat dit die naaste aan die huis was, maar die rante was leeg. Ons is toe na die ram se gunstelinghouplek – die groot ysterkliprant met sy plate olienhoute en digte klowe. Hulle was ook leeg. Ons is weer terug plat rante toe en van daar af oppad na die wildkamp, want "hopelik is hy weer op patrollie al langs die wildkamp se grensdrade," het pa my probeer moed inpraat.

Só het ons in die slingerende tweespoorpad beland, al teen die rante uit op pad na die wildkamp se hek. Die son was al by kwartdag verby toe ons bo-op die bult kom waar ek 'n paar dae vantevore die ram misgeskiet het. Dié keer was daar egter geen teken van die alleenloper-rooibokram nie. Ongeveer 100 tree verder, naby aan die wildkamp se hek, het pa my saggies aan die skouer gevat en afgedruk grond toe. "Daar staan hy," het pa gefluister. Hierdie keer was die ram aan my kant van die pad, sowat 120 tree skuins voor my aan die voet van die spits rant en 50 tree van die wildkamp af. Hy het in sy volle glorie daar gestaan. Nie plankdwars nie, maar in 'n reguit lyn en kop omhoog, het hy stip vir ons gekyk. Trots, fier, uitdagend.

UITEINDELIK SUKSES

Met bewende vingers het ek 'n patroon in die .308 se loop gestoot en oor die eerste klip op die ram aangelê. "Mik vir die kuiltjie," was al wat pa gesê het. Die geweerkolf het die pad na my skouer geken en gerusstellend daar vasgeskop. Dié keer het die teleskoop se kruishaar nie rondgedans nie, maar halfpad teen die pragbok se nek tot stilstand gekom en daar gestop. Ek kon hoor dit was raak toe die skoot klap en het die bok in die teleskooplens sien val. "Dis 'n doodskoot," het pa gesê en breed geglimlag.

Ek het die geweer net daar op die klip gelos, opgespring en die afstand oor klippe en deur bosse in 'n rekordtyd afgelê. Pa het met die geweer agternagekom. Die 180 grein-koeël het ook die mes se werk vir hom gedoen en die bok se slagaar netjies afgesny. Hy was reeds besig om uit te bloei toe ek daar kom. By nadere ondersoek het ons die koeëlgat in sy linkeroor opgemerk. "Nou die dag se skoot was toe nie heeltemal mis nie, maar ver van die kol af," het pa droog opgemerk.

Dit was my eerste bok groter as 'n steenbok en 'n groot oomblik in my lewe. My hart was te groot vir my borskas. Pa se glimlaggende gesig het 'n verhaal van sy eie vertel en die wêreld was op daardie oomblik sommer net 'n beter plek. Ek kon nie help om aan die uitgeslape alleenloper en al die kere wat hy my uitoorlê het, te dink nie. Ek was dankbaar dat hy nie uit die trop gestoot is nie. Hy het individuele vryheid bo die trop se gevangenisskap verkies. Dié alleenloper-rooibokram was inderdaad uitgeslape.

DIE ELEGANTE DUINBEWONER

Die gemsbok *(Oryx gazella)* is een van Suidelike Afrika se mees ikoniese bokke. Gemsbokke is by uitstek aangepas om in droë streke te oorleef. Benewens 'n bevolking van dié diere wat inheems aan die noorde van Limpopo-provinsie is, is die gemsbok se natuurlike habitat streke soos die Karoo en die Kalahari- en Namib-woestyne.

Met hul skerp horings en 'n humeur wat vinnig kan opvlam as hulle bedreig word of gekwes is, het gemsbokke al menige roofdier en jagter laat les opsê. Hierdie bok is gewis nie 'n kalant wat sonder die nodige omsigtigheid aangevat moet word nie!

Afgesien van alleenloperbulle (wat tot 250 kg of meer kan weeg), kom gemsbokke gewoonlik in kleinerige troppe van ongeveer 30 diere voor, alhoewel groter troppe al in streke soos die Namib waargeneem is. As water beskikbaar is, sal hulle kom suip, maar hulle kan vir baie lang periodes sonder water in selfs die droogste streke oorleef.

Die gemsbok het 'n baie kenmerkende swart gesigsmasker wat, tesame met die prominente horings en stewige bou, hom onmiskenbaar maak as hy in die veld raakgeloop word.

FOTO'S: Johan van Wyk

DIE DUISTER(NIS)

'n Professionele jagter wat sy sout werd is, sal weet: Daar is tye wat jy 'n opstroppelis jagkliënt moet reghelp, en daar is tye wat jy liewer stilbly.

"Dié duisternis," onderbreek Panien die stilte. Ek vermoed aanvanklik dat hy na my gemoedstoestand verwys, hier waar ek op die jaghuis se stoep sit, besig om 'n modderprop uit 'n .270 se loop te verwyder. Maar dan voltooi hy die sin, "leer die manne van daar dan nooit skiet nie?"

Dit neem my 'n oomblik om die kloutjie by die oor te bring. Dit was 'n lang, emosioneel uitmergelende dag en my brein is in neutraal. Dan skop my oorwerkte brein in rat en sy vraag begin sin maak. Ons jagkliënt, wat verantwoordelik is vir my beswaardheid én die modder in die geweer se loop, is immers 'n Duitser, of dan 'n "Duister", soos Panien na hom verwys. Dit maak mos sin dat 'n Duister se tuisland die Duisternis is.

'N GOEIE BEGIN...

Die dag het goed begin en ons gas was in 'n gemoedelike bui. Dit was immers sy eerste jagdag in Afrika. Op ons 100 meter-skietbaan het hy 'n gholfbalgrootte groepering met die Ruger .270 geskiet. Ten spyte van die roer en kaliber se Amerikaanse herkoms, het hy te kenne gegee dat hy tevrede is met die geweer. Dit was tydens die jag van sy eerste Suid-Afrikaanse dier, 'n springbok, dat dinge uitgerafel het.

Dit is nie nodig om die presiese aantal skote wat dit geneem het om die ram plat te trek, hier te noem nie, maar ná die eerste twee waarskuwingskote, het ek 'n leë boks teen 'n miershoop staangemaak om seker te maak die *"verdammte"* Amerikaanse skietding met die *"verdammte"* Amerikaanse teleskoop was nog op skoot. Panien het so onderlangs opgemerk dat dit snaaks was dat 'n "verdomde" geweer wat nie 'n bok kan raak skiet nie, so netjies op 'n "verdomde" boks skiet.

Die Duitser se rooibok was die eerste bok wat geval het nadat hy na die 7x57 oorgeskakel het. Die jag was egter nie sonder sy probleme nie...

Laatmiddag, met die .270-ammunisie wat kommerwekkend min raak, het 'n mooi springbokram besluit om voor 'n 130 grein Nosler Partition in te stap, met noodlottige gevolge.

Met ons aankoms by die jaghuis, het ek my eie bydrae tot die lang lys mislukkings van die dag gelewer. Soos dit 'n goeie jaggids betaam, het ek eerste van die bakkie afgeklim sodat ek my kliënt se geweer kon aanvat. Net toe hy die geweer wil aangee, het my vrou van die kombuisdeur se kant af geroep dat die koelboks kombuis toe moet kom. Soos dit 'n goeie eggenoot betaam, het ek omgekyk om haar te antwoord. Dit was op daardie oomblik dat ons Europese gas die geweer, met die tromp na onder, gelos het. Die geweer het, loop eerste, soos 'n enorme veerpyltjie in die pas natgespuite grasperk vasgepen.

ERGER EN ERGER

Dag twee begin op 'n somber noot. Die Duister is nie 'n oggendpersoon nie. Hy is nie gelukkig met die Engelse ontbyt wat my vrou vir ons voorsit nie. Hy is nie gelukkig met die Amerikaanse geweer nie. Ook nie met die Amerikaanse teleskoop en die Amerikaanse patrone nie. Ek bied hom my Howa .300 Winchester Magnum aan. Dit is 'n fout; sy haat vir magnums ken geen perke nie en dit wil voorkom of hy nog minder van Japannese as van Amerikaners hou. Ek leer 'n paar nuwe Duitse woorde, almal onbruikbaar in gemengde geselskap. Daarop gaan haal ek my 7x57 uit die kluis.

Die Duister bekyk die Musgrave. Hy hou van die kaliber. Hy hou van die M98 Mauser-aksie en die Sako-patrone is vir hom aanvaarbaar. Die enigste moontlike probleem is die Japannese Tasco-teleskoop. Op die skietbaan bring die 7x57 én die jagter hul kant. Ons oefen van die skietstokke af en ná 'n uur is ons jagter gereed vir die tweede rondte.

'n Halfuur later skiet die Duister met sy eerste skoot vir die dag 'n rooibok raak. Twee ure en drie Sako 7x57-patrone later, skiet hy die gekweste rooibok dood.

Laatmiddag bekruip ons 'n pragtige bosbokram in 'n rivierloop. Op 80 tree stel ek die skietstokke op. Panien druk sy ore toe en ek hou die pikswart ram deur my verkyker dop. Die effense windjie koel my natgeswete voorkop af. Die laatmiddagson is warm op my blaaie en die bosbok is salig onbewus van die beplande aanslag op sy lewe. Ek volg die dampspoor van die koeël, perfek in lyn met die ram se voorbene, maar 'n driekwart meter te hoog. Die Finse koeël tref die sandwal aan die oorkant van die rivier. Die Kaapse bosbok verdwyn in die ruie oewerbos. Die Duitse jagter vloek.

> Die Duister haal asem soos iemand wat pas die Comrades-maraton voltooi het.

Dag drie begin op 'n hoë noot. Ons kry 'n koedoebul oorkant 'n klein klofie. Dit is 'n 100 tree-skoot – onder normale omstandighede, 'n formaliteit. Onder die huidige omstandighede, 'n dobbelspel. Die Duister vat dooierus oor 'n dik soetdoringtak en ek fluister raad in sy oor: *"Take your time. Keep your hand under the fore-end of the rifle. Shoot him low on the shoulder. Don't rush your shot. Squeeze the trigger."*

Die klein 7mm se blaf weergalm deur die kloof en die koedoe slaan in sy spore neer. Ons staan langs die bul. Daar is 'n netjiese gaatjie tussen sy oor en oog en die bloedkol groei onder sy kop. Ek skud die Duister se hand. *"Waidmannsheil,"* sê ek. *"Waidmannsdank,"* antwoord my kliënt, die trane vlak in sy oë. Hy is op daardie plek wat ons as jagters so goed ken, iewers tussen bewoë en ekstaties.

Panien het 'n plan om 'n bosbokram te kry. Die ram wat ons die vorige middag mis geskiet het, loop elke aand op dieselfde paadjie en Panien weet van 'n plek om hom voor te lê. Ek is skepties – as iemand op mý geskiet het, gaan ek daardie plek soos die pes vermy. Panien en die Duister praat my egter om. Laatmiddag neem ons stelling in agter 'n droë boomstomp wat omgeval het. Die stomp bied skuiling én 'n dooierus. Die paadjie is 80 tree weg, met die wind in ons gesigte.

Die Duister sit met sy geweer gereed op die stomp; die voorlaai rus op Panien se netjies gevoude bosbaadjie. My .300 Win- »

Die jag is afgesluit met 'n rooiribbok wat genadiglik net 'n enkele skoot nodig gehad het.

» chester Magnum is ook gereed, want ek het geen behoefte om 'n gekweste bosbokram in die donker, digte bos te volg nie. Ná 'n uur verskyn die bosbokram soos 'n skim en gaan staan reg oorkant ons skuilplek.

Die Duister haal asem soos iemand wat pas die Comrades-maraton voltooi het. Ek druk die Howa se veiligheidsknip vorentoe, die kruishaar op die ram se blad, my vinger op die sneller. Ek wag vir die skoot, maar dit kom nie... Dan stap die ram rustig in die paadjie af en verdwyn in die bos. Ek kyk kwaai vir my kliënt. Hy mompel iets onverstaanbaars. Panien haal sy skouers op. Dit is te laat om iewers anders te probeer. Al wat ons kan doen, is wag.

NOG 'N KANS

'n Tweede bosbokram kom teen alle verwagtings in doodluiters in die paadjie af geslenter. Hy stop op dieselfde plek as sy voorganger. Die skoot is oorverdowend. Die ram kyk verbaas in ons rigting en ek sien hoe die hare op sy rug begin rys. My brein sê "wag", maar my snellervinger het reeds sy eie besluit geneem. Toe die .300 Magnum brul, steier die groot swart ram 'n paar treë en val.

Ek is te bang om te kyk hoeveel koeëlgate daar in die ram is, want ek weet wat die antwoord gaan wees. Ek weet nie hoe ek vir die Duister gaan verduidelik dat ék sý bok geskiet het nie. Panien ken geen vrees nie. Hy ondersoek die karkas lank en deeglik en verklaar dan luidkeels in Engels: *"Only one shot hit!"*

Die Duister kyk vir my; sy hele lyf begin ruk en skud. Dan bars hy uit van die lag. *"You missed! The PH missed!"* Hy swaai 'n vinger voor my neus. *"Bad shooting, bad shooting!"*

Daar is nie veel wat ek kan sê nie. Ek kry in elk geval nie eintlik tyd om te praat nie. Die Europese jagter is te besig om sy opinie omtrent Japannese gewere, Amerikaanse teleskope en *"verdammte"* magnum-kalibers te deel.

Dag vier is die dag wat ons gas ons verlaat. Hy moet net ná middagete vertrek, maar wil vir oulaas 'n draai gaan stap. Ek is nie opgewonde oor dié idee nie. In my ondervinding eindig 'n beduidende persentasie van laaste-oomblik-jagte in 'n gekweste bok. Ek reken dit is beter om die jag op die vorige aand se hoë noot af te sluit, maar daar is nou geen keer aan die Duister nie.

Ons kry die rooiribbokram teen 'n klipperige rant, minder as 'n kilometer van die huis af. Ek maak of ek hom nie sien nie en Panien toon ongekende belangstelling in 'n swerm kakelaars. Dan fluit die simpel bok en die Duister sien hom.

Die ribbok is 200 tree weg en staan reguit vir ons en kyk. Om 'n doodskoot te skiet moet ons jagter, 'n jagter wat twee keer 'n hele bosbok misgeskiet het, 'n teiken van effens meer as 10 cm in deursnee op 200 meter tref. Ek hoop hy skiet eerder heeltemal mis. Gegewe sy vorige rekord, is dit gelukkig baie waarskynlik.

"Wait until it turns broadside," gee ek raad. *"I can take the shot!"* sê die jagter selfversekerd. *"Wait!"* beveel ek, onnodig hard. Dan, onverwags en onwelkom, blaf die 7mm. Die koeël tref die ribbok presies in die kuiltjie.

Ek skud die Duister se hand. *"I told you,"* sê hy. Daar is tye wat dit beter is om stil te bly.

Dié is een van daardie tye, besluit ek.

get YOUR ad HERE
ADVERTISE
with US
JAGTER
HUNTER
CONTACT:
Jacques Boshoff
Cell: 079-528-8793
jacques.boshoff@media24.com
JAGTER
HUNTER
The lost-and-found
BROWNING B25

VAROTEC
PREMIUM OPTICS
FINEST PERFORMANCE FOR PERFECTIONISTS
AFFORDABLE, UNCOMPROMISED QUALITY
SUPERIOR ACCURATE - RUGGED - RELIABLE
CRYSTAL CLEAR MULTI-COATED LENSES
ILLUMINATED MILL-DOT RETICLES
Varotec Marksman 1"
Varotec Sniper 30mm
3-9x40 R 850
3-9x40I R 990
- -
6-24x50 R3,200
4-16x50 R2,700
3-12x44 R3,900
4-16x44 R4,600
4-16x56 R4,800
4.5-18x50 R4,950
5-20x50 R5,500
6-24x50 R5,800
5-20x50 R4,400
5-25x50 R5,900
8-32x50 R6,500
DEALERS WELCOME
RECKNAGEL
GERMAN SCOPE MOUNTS
Accurate. Ultimate Reliability. Quality.
Quick release pivot and standard, Picatinny, Mannlicher, Blaser Mounts
Ringed and railed scopes
Rings and rails
VAROTEC Eagle Sport Optics Multi coated HD lenses - Nitro filled
Varotec multipurpose
high-definition rangefinders
Best hunting and golf partner
600m - R2,200 : 1,000m - R2950
TOOLFair
Cell: 082 566 2332 • Email: wilhelm@toolfair.co.za • Web: www.toolfair.co.za

MagnetoSpeed
FISHERS
SHOOTERS
Wholesale & Retail
018-632-1293
marlene@fishers.co.za
www.fishersshooters.co.za

KALAHARI HUNTING
NORTH WEST
(Between Vryburg and Tosca)
Twenty species.
Self-catering, accommodating 18
(max four hunters in the field).
Trophy and biltong hunting all year round.
Cold rooms, swimming pool, DStv.
Sandveld Hunting Lodge
Koos: 082-900-3051
Slimkoos@sandveldhunting.co.za
www.sandveldhunting.co.za

Regskwessie?
Testamente en Boedelberedderi ng
Egskeidings en Familie-aangeleenthede
Huwelikskontrakte en Notariële Dienste
Boedelbeplanning en
Mediese Nalatigheid.
079 648 7253
VAN ELLEWEE
ATTORNEYS
sune@vanellewee.co.za

BLITZ
BLADE SHARPENER
Any blade super sharp
in a Blitz!
0823761835
mooiblitz@gmail.com
www.blitzblade.co.za
Includes 2 belts

SA Reloader™
SA Tumbler
MADE IN
SOUTH AFRICA
Reloading trays
SA Case Prepper
078-354-6262 | hello@satumbler.co.za
Website: http://sareloader.co.za/satumbler

AIR CHARTERS FROM ALL MAJOR AIRPORTS
TO SAFARI AND HUNTING FARMS
AND LODGES.
SOUTH AFRICA • BOTSWANA • ZAMBIA • NAMIBIA • ZIMBABWE • SWAZILAND • MOZAMBIQUE • MALAWI • LESOTHO
Kantoor:
083 637 9040 / 018 63 26477
Liza Maree:
083 632 6304
MULTIMEDIA ENTERTAINMENT GROUP AIR
Majestic Air

Q Gun is 'n goeie produk vir alledaagse gebruik wat koolstofneerslae verwyder, jou geweer olie en dit teen roes beskerm.

Die twee stukkies lope soos beskryf. Die behandelde loop het weinig roes getoon, terwyl die onbehandelde een met 'n dik laag roes oortrek was.

Q GUN

'n Drie-in-een-olie wat die lewe makliker maak

Die naam "Q20" het sedert 1950 al só bekend oor die wêreld geword dat byna almal dit al gehoor het. Die globale maatskappy wat dit vervaardig (CRC Industries), is bekend vir hul voortdurende innovering en het in 2020 "Q Gun" bekendgestel. Soos die naam aandui, is dié produk spesifiek op die geweermark gemik.

Q Gun blyk 'n tipiese CLP-*(clean, lubricate and protect)* produk te wees. Die vervaardiger gebruik nie die CLP-beskrywing nie, maar maak nie 'n geheim daarvan dat dit koolstofneerslae verwyder, roeswerende bymiddels bevat en die geweer se bewegende dele olie nie. Alhoewel die beste resultate verkry word deur spesifieke probleme soos koolstof- en koperneerslae met die skoonmaak van gewere aan te spreek, hou ek van 'n *jack-of-all-trades*-produk soos 'n CLP om daardie minder vuil geweer of haelgeweer 'n vinnige skoonmaak te gee ná min gebruik, of tussen opvolgende jag- en skietsessies. 'n Volledige skrop van kop tot tone is nie altyd nodig nie.

Ek het Q Gun die afgelope drie maande gebruik om my haelgewere, pistole en verskeie gewere mee skoon te maak. Dit was meestal 'n vinnige skoonmaak, soos hierbo genoem. As kontrole het ek by een geleentheid my ou plaaslike (duur) produk, waarin ek vas glo, ná die tyd gebruik om te kyk of daar enige vuil neerslag ná die Q Gun-skoonmaaksessie oorgebly het. Daar was minimale vuilheid oor in die loop van my .30-06 (wat ek vir sowat 20 skote gebruik het sonder skoonmaak), wat die kontroleproduk kon loskry. My haelgewere het meestal net twee behandelings nodig gehad voordat die lope silwerskoon was en geen verdere vuilheid uitgekom het nie.

DIE MARTELTOETS

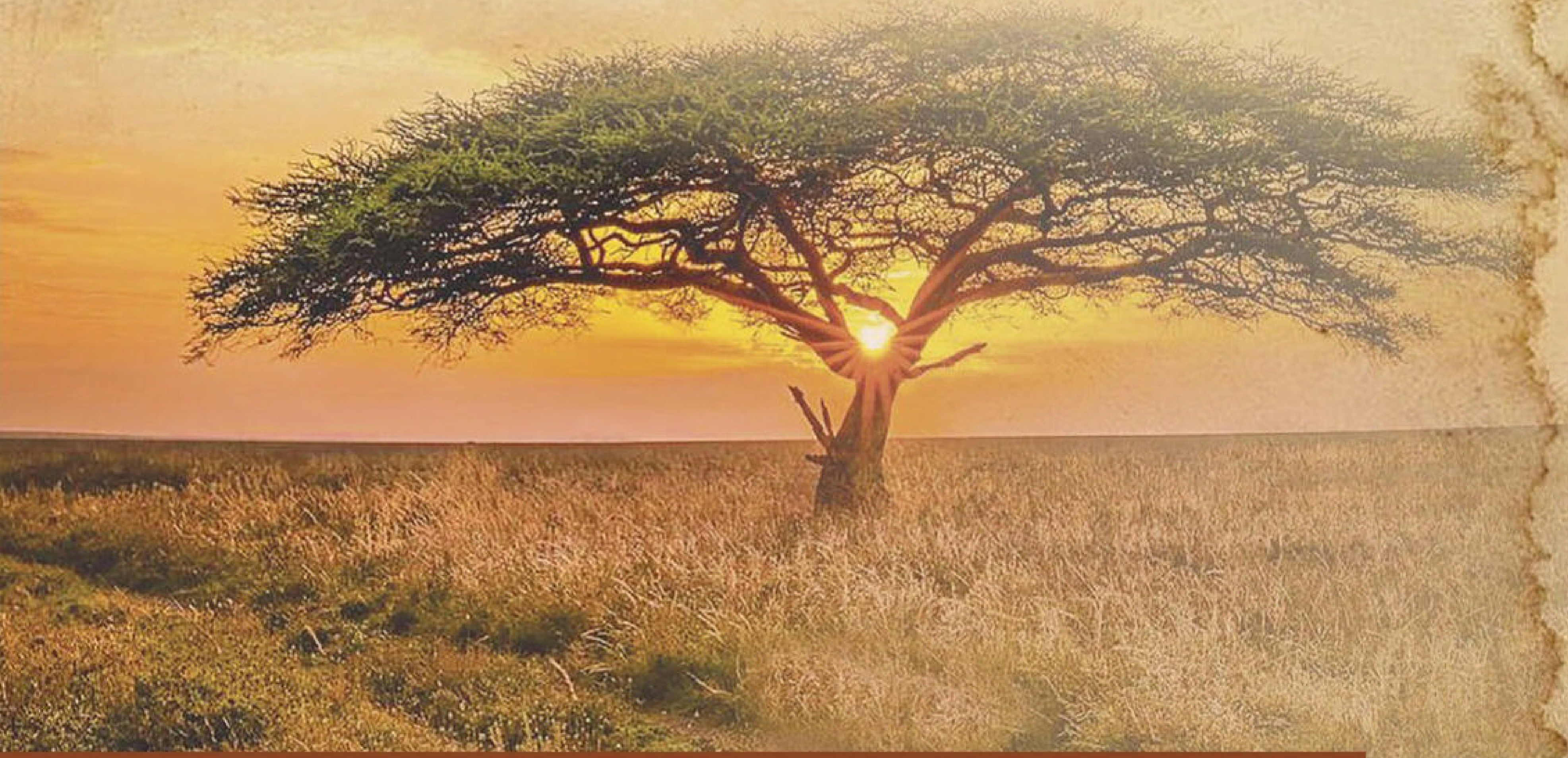
As 'n marteltoets het ek twee ou stukkies geweerlope met Q Gun behandel nadat ek alle vorige lagies skoonmaakmiddels in water afgekook het en deeglik met skottelgoedseep geskrop het. Een stukkie loop is met 'n enkele laag Q Gun gespuit en weer met 'n droë lap afgevee. Die lope is toe in 'n Ziplock-sakkie met 100 ml soutwater gesit en drie weke in die son gelos.

Die resultate was insiggewend. Die behandelde loop het amper geen roes gehad nie terwyl die onbehandelde een met 'n dik laag roes oortrek was (sien bostaande foto). Gegewe die erge graad van behandeling, kan 'n mens tot die gevolgtrekking kom dat Q Gun onder normale omstandighede baie goeie beskerming teen roes sal bied.

Die produk is in 'n handige 150 ml-spuitbotteltjie verpak en die spuitstokkie wat in die spuitmondstuk pas, word styf vasgehou deur 'n hakie op die blikkie se deksel en kan dus nie maklik verloor nie. Q Gun is maklik om mee te werk en die spuitfunksie is volgens my amper 'n móét om by daardie klein, versteekte plekkies in te kom en tyd te bespaar.

Die kleinerige botteltjie is net die regte grootte vir jou jagtrommel en neem nie baie spasie op nie. Dit laat 'n baie dun lagie op die geweer self agter en dit is dus maklik om oortollige produk af te vee voor jy die geweer bêre.

Q Gun is by alle goeie geweerwinkels beskikbaar teen ongeveer R95 per blikkie. Kontak National Cartridge Company by 021–797-8787 vir groothandelnavrae.



BOSOGGEND-VOETPAD

Skrik wakker vroeg in die dwaallig
Cruiser se pistons wat deur my kop druis
koue stort vir brekfis
koel wind deur die bome suis
kopseerpil is die eerste dis
Sukkelend om nie die grou dag te mis

Ou *army*-sokkies vir die moed
skuiling in 'n *sniper*-kispak
versigtig die stewels oor die poot
ruik die vorige aand se vuur
baadjie se walms vaag soos die rook
Strompel uit onder vroegson se gluur

My brein die vorige aand gekook
... Sigare, Shiraz en *Songs* ...
staar na patrone in die vuur se rook
bosveld-TV op die beste kanaal
goeie vriende en lekker braai
Elkeen vertel sy eie verhaal

Dit het my teruggevoer na iets
Wat ek laas jaar verloor het
Iewers langs die jaar se grootpad

Skop aan die hardekool se grys as
babavlam teug aan suiwer lug
groet skaam die nuwe dag
boomtakke se sagte mompel
koffie laat my hart harder lag
Karringmelkbeskuit diep dompel

Streel my troue bosvriend oor die loop
let op skrapies wat ou stories fluister
verkyker, skerp lem en nog lood
terwyl ek denkend na die wind luister
swel ou rugsak met vrug en water
Skop in die sand vir die bos se spookasem

Tree die kronkelpad uit die kamp
verby die maters wat nog slaap
eerste tree na die bosveld se ruigte
soekend na die bos se ritme
voëls se simfonie in my ore
Vinnig in die digte veld verlore

Dit neem my terug na iets
wat ek vroeër verloor het
Iewers langs die jaar se flippen lang pad

Onder die nuwe son se strale
in die wild se dowwe kronkelstrate
stadig gaan en oor spier span
fynkam skemering en skadu
vermy die oop gras en trap sag
Soek na tekens op die rooi aarde

Iemand vat die *aircon* se lug
son klim en gooi die hitte op
sweet teen voorkop en op my rug
waarom die swaar rugsak saamslof
hier en daar stry 'n ouer ledemaat
Kwaaier trek die geweer oor my skof

Beweging in die digte ruigte
self spring die dood in my arms
wees rustig en vir asem swoeg
moenie hierdie opdonder
met haas ontwrig
Skuifel nader

Vergeet van alles
Wat het ek vroeër verloor
Iewers langs laas jaar se verlore pad

Kruip op hurke
nou hoop die sagte stewels
en skuilpakkie bring hulle kante
versigtig vir droë takke
Skuifel nog nader

Lig die skouerwapen
deur die *scope* se lof
net die kruis vas stoei
laat die sneller los
die stilte ontplof
Doodknal eggo deur die bos

Sit by die ram se dowwe oog
trek hom in skadu neer
rus onder die groot boom
verlig, hartseer, kalmeer
dink diep oor die dood
Stil word voor die Heer

Dit neem my vorentoe na iets
Wat ek weer terugkry
Hier op die nuwe jaar se pad

BURRIS ELIMINATOR IV – AIMING MADE EASY

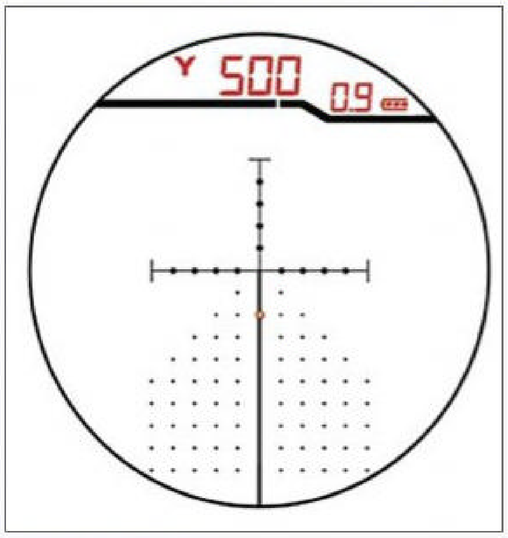
An all-in-one solution for everyday hunting and shooting

The Burris company was founded by Don Burris in 1971. Burris was a design engineer at Redfield for over 12 years and believed he could build a better riflescope than what was available at the time. Although Don Burris passed away in 1987, the company grew from strength to strength. With over 50 years of development and manufacture of good-quality optics, Burris has become a major role player in today's marketplace. The company certainly offers high-end optics at very reasonable and comparable prices.

Recently, I was given one of the latest models in their Eliminator range, the Burris Eliminator IV. When opening the box, you will find all the necessary tools, batteries and manuals needed for the operation of the scope. The scope uses two AAA batteries and, according to Burris, they will last for 5 000 range cycles. Just make sure you put the small Phillips-head screwdriver in your hunting bag when going to the range or on a hunting trip if you need to change batteries. As you all know, batteries have the bad habit of dying on you when you least expect it…

You will also find a remote-control unit for the Eliminator in the box. I have never used it as the scope has convenient buttons on both the left and right side when you want to activate it and get the range. A sunshade, plastic lens caps for the front and rear lenses and a branded Burris lens-cleaning cloth are also included.

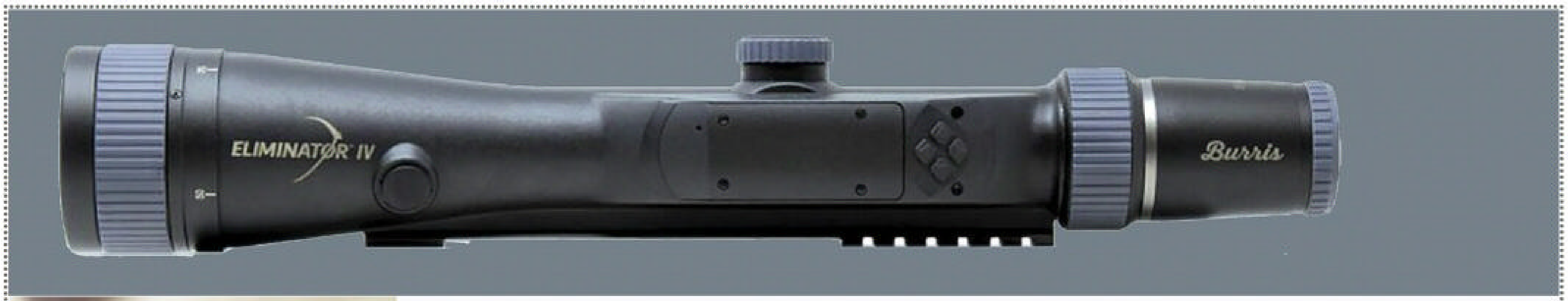
Integrated scope mounts allow quick, easy mounting on any Weaver-style or Picatinny base. I used Warne Maxima two-piece Weaver bases to mount the scope. If you are using a tapered base or are having difficulty sighting in at 100 metres because of a lack of downwards elevation adjustment, you get three front mounting plates that will give you 10, 20 and 30 MOA adjustment downwards. Simply consult the well-illustrated manual on exactly how to install them. With all the manuals and booklets that come with the scope, Burris certainly made sure that the whole process, from start to finish when unboxing and mounting your new Eliminator IV, is as effortless as possible.



TOP: The Burris Eliminator IV removes all the guesswork from shooting at extended ranges.

BOTTOM: The X96 reticle, with the red dot showing the holdover for the required distance.

For testing purposes, the Eliminator IV was mounted on a Howa in .308 Winchester.



TOP: The controls for the laser rangefinder as well as the ballistic reticle are situated on the left side of the Eliminator IV.

LEFT: Parallax adjustment on the Eliminator IV is via an adjustment ring on the scope's ocular bell.

RANGE AND WIND

In a nutshell, the Burris Eliminator IV is a second focal plane telescope with a built-in laser rangefinder, which, if programmed correctly, gives you a holdover illuminated dot on the vertical pillar of the crosshair. One of the major improvements of this scope is that, according to the manufacturer, it can now range up to 2 000 yards, or just over 1 800 metres. You may never shoot this far, but it is still a nice-to-have feature.

Another feature is that the X96 reticle displays 10 mph (or roughly 16 km/h) dots. While complete wind compensation is not fully automated within the scope, it gives the shooter the tools needed to make a calculated hold-off estimate. In addition to distance, the scope's digital display will show a 10 mph wind value for your specific cartridge at the indicated range to your target.

The Eliminator IV also has what Burris calls an integrated inclinometer, which compensates for downhill or uphill shots. I tested the 4-16x50 model, which was more than adequate for me. The Eliminator has parallax adjustment from 30 yards to infinity, situated on the front ocular lens and not on the left side of the turret housing like in many other telescopes these days. Optically, the Burris clearly has good-quality glass with Hi-Lume multi-coating for additional clarity.

CELL PHONE RECEPTION A MUST

I consider myself quite old-school with regard to technology and was therefore somewhat sceptical about mounting the scope on my .308 Winchester. Burris has a very easy-to-use ballistic application on their website where one can find the correct details on how to programme your Eliminator in a few easy steps. Just don't make the same mistake I did: Make sure the range you go to when zeroing the scope has cell phone reception. Once that little detail was sorted out, the actual programming of the scope was very easy and much more user-friendly than I imagined.

You simply enter your muzzle velocity, sight height above the bore, bullet information, elevation and ambient temperature into the ballistics application on the Burris website. You will then get a four-digit code that you enter into the scope along with your two-digit BC, and you are ready to go. You can also choose whether you want your scope to measure in yards or in metres.

The windage and elevation knobs felt very positive, and you can feel a steel-on-steel click when adjusting. The adjustment values are 1/8 inch at 100 yards, and there are a total of 50 MOA windage and elevation adjustments.

ON THE RANGE

Once zeroed, I was slightly sceptical, to say the least. I tried my luck on the 200-metre steel gong and, to my delight, hit it with the first round. The same thing happened with the 300-metre steel gong. I used 150-grain Federal Fusion ammunition which, according to the manufacturer, has a muzzle velocity of 2 820 fps. However, I would suggest that you still check the muzzle velocity of your rifle with your chosen ammunition over a chronograph, especially if you use a suppressor on your rifle that obviously affects muzzle velocity. You might not notice any adverse effects at 100 metres and even to 250 metres, but changes in expected muzzle velocity drastically influence the accuracy of the longer shots, as I had noticed on the range.

IN THE FIELD

I was privileged to be invited on a driven hunt for springbuck in the De Aar area earlier this year. I really looked forward to using the Eliminator IV on the open plains as I was told the norm would be longer shots than what I was accustomed to as opposed to bushveld hunting in Limpopo.

After lots of time and ammo spent on the range, I felt ready and prepared. I enjoyed a very successful hunt, managing to shoot 12 springbuck in a relatively short space of time and also putting down a wounded springbuck for one of the other hunters in the group. My longest shot was on the wounded springbuck at 458 metres (something I would never even consider trying on unwounded game of any kind), with the closest shot being at 110 metres. Most of the springbuck were shot between 250 and 300 metres.

What made my hunt even more successful was the fact that I only needed to put the crosshair on my target, press the ranging button, close the bolt, and shoot. There was no need for a separate rangefinder, which speeded up the process.

At a suggested retail price of just over R30 000, you get excellent value for money with the Eliminator IV, and you get to enjoy the combination of both telescope and rangefinder. On the downside, the scope is quite heavy and bulky, but this can be forgiven, considering it is basically a 2-in-1 product. Furthermore, the vertical pillar on which the holdover dot appears is quite thick, which might make precision target shooting difficult over longer ranges.

The Burris might not be the ideal scope to fit on your walk-and-stalk rifle, but I think it's a very good choice for someone wanting to take a further-than-normal shot responsibly on an animal, such as when hunting springbuck on the open plains. When all is said and done, the Eliminator IV is a very handy tool for the open-plains hunter. It offers relative ease of operation, combined with laser rangefinding and well-thought-out ballistic programming at a competitive price.

Burris products are exclusively imported and distributed in South Africa by Inyathi Sporting Supplies in Pretoria. If your local dealer does not stock Burris products, they can contact Inyathi Sporting Supplies on 012-808-9911 or visit their website at www.inyathi.net.

HOU JOU VLEIS OF DRINKGOED KOUER VIR LANGER

HoneyKomb – die nuwe, innoverende oplossing

LINKS: HoneyKomb se 20 liter-koelboks met sy gemaklike drahandvatsel bo.

ONDER: Die 50 liter-koelboks het 'n handige sleephandvatsel en sterk wiele aan die agterkant, asook stewige drahandvatsels.

LINKS: Die suigpoort, uitlaatpoort en drukmeter bo-op die 20 liter- asook die 50 liter-koelboks se deksels.
REGS: Bo-aansig van die 20 liter-koelhouer

Suid-Afrikaners se vermoë om innoverend te wees, het niemand nog ooit teleurgestel nie. HoneyKomb het dit beslis weer bewys met hul nuwe koelboks. 'n Handpomp vorm 'n vakuum binne-in die koelhouer om jou drinkgoed, vleis en vars produkte langer koud en vars te hou – iets wat nog nooit voorheen gedoen is nie.

Die handpomp wat gebruik word met die pypie om die vakuum binne-in die koelhouer te vorm.

Die reeks bestaan tans uit 'n 20 liter- en 50 liter-koelboks en 'n handpomp word ook verskaf om die vakuum in die koelhouer te vorm. Ek het die voorreg gehad om die laaste paar maande albei koelbokse te toets. Met die eerste oogopslag is dit duidelik dat hulle baie sterk is en deeglik op verskeie punte seël ten einde die vakuum binne-in te behou. Tydens my navorsing het ek gesien hoe die vervaardiger die koelboks behoorlik misbruik en probeer breek, maar sonder enige sukses.

Die perfekte oplossing vir daardie reise waar jy nie noodwendig elektrisiteit gaan hê nie, is om albei koelbokse (20 en 50 liter) saam te neem. Ek het op een so 'n uitstappie my vleis en vars produkte in die 20 literhouer gebêre en dig geseël gehou. Al die nodige drinkgoed is in die groter koelhouer gepak om te sorg dat dit yskoud bly.

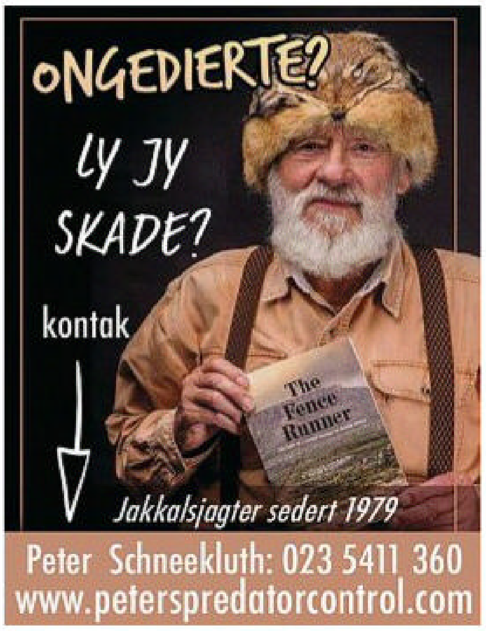
Die 50 liter-boks het my werklik beïndruk met stewige handvatsels aan albei kante, wiele van baie hoë gehalte aan een kant en 'n baie stewige handvatsel aan die ander kant waarmee dit gemaklik rondgetrek kan word sonder te veel inspanning. Albei koelbokse het vier grendelskarniere (twee voor en twee agter) wat hulle dig seël. Dit word gedoen deur die skarniere in te haak en stewig te sluit deur hulle te draai totdat hulle styf vas is. Die skarniere kan ook as botteloopmakers gebruik word.

Die grendelskarniere is van primagehalte-staal gemaak. Aan die een kant onder is ook 'n dreineerklep van vlekvrye staal wat met behulp van rubber behoorlik kan seël. Die klep is met 'n ketting aan die koelboks vas – 'n uitstekende idee omdat dit verhoed dat dit kan wegraak.

Die koelhouer se geheim lê in die middel van die boonste deksel wat die suigpoort, uitlaatpoort en drukmeter bevat. Die vervaardiger beveel aan dat 'n -60 kPa-vakuum gebruik word. Om dit reg te kry, moet jy eerstens seker maak dat die houer behoorlik geseël is deur die vier grendelskarniere mooi vas te draai. Verwyder die plastiekdeksel om die suigpoort, uitlaatpoort en drukmeter oop te maak. Konnekteer die pomp en die pypie met die suigpoort en begin pomp totdat die nodige vakuum gevorm is. Hou die drukmeter dop om te verseker dat geen druk verloor word nie. Volgens die vervaardiger bly die koelboks se inhoud 20% kouer as in enige ander koelhouer. Omdat die vakuum byna al die bakterieë uit die koelboks verwyder, is daar drie keer minder aërobiese bakteriese groei by sekere vars produkte teenoor ander koelbokse op die mark.

Nadat ek die afgelope ruk beide koelbokse deeglik gebruik het, kan ek hierdie innoverende produk van HoneyKomb met die grootste vrymoedigheid aanbeveel. Ek sien baie uit na my volgende jagtog omdat ek daarvan hou om my vleis self te bewerk wanneer ek tyd het. Ek kan dus my gejagte bokke se vleis op die plaas ontbeen en met 'n geruste hart in die koelbokse pak vir die lang pad huis toe.

Besoek gerus https://honeykomb.buzz/ *of kontak hulle op epos* contact@honeykomb.buzz *vir meer inligting.*



OM TE ADVERTEER IN JAGTERSMARK, KONTAK:
Esmarelda Ferreira |
Sel: 084-744-9948
E-pos:
esmarelda.ferreira@landbou.com

DIENSTE | SERVICES

QUINTIN JORDAAN ATTORNEYS
Firearm licence and firearm appeal applications.
(99% success rate)
All other legal work.
info@qjattorneys.co.za
Phone: 082-805-0674
(Pretoria)

GESOEK | WANTED

WANTED: USED CARTRIDGE CASES *(DOPPIES)*
Reloading dies *(matryse)* and reloading equipment. All common rifle calibres.
Trevor: 082-897-6899

JAGTERSMARKVORM | HUNTER'S MARKET FORM

Die advertensie sal verskyn onder JAGTERSMARK/HUNTER'S MARKET.

JAGTER HUNTER MEDIA24

ADVERTENSIE: KIES EEN (X)	
A = R355 - 20 woorde (opskrif uitgesluit) - *Net bewoording*	
B = R1 080 - Swart/wit bewoording met kleurlogo ingesluit - 40 mm Wyd x 105 mm Hoog	
C = R635 - Swart/wit bewoording met kleurlogo ingesluit - 40 mm Wyd x 50 mm Hoog	

Die sluitingsdatum vir die advertensies is 30 dae voor die volgende maand se uitgawe.
Geen advertensie sal geplaas word sonder 'n volledig voltooide aansoekvorm en betaling nie.

Pryse sluit BTW in. Rates include VAT.

NAAM VAN ADVERTEERDER			
ID-NO. INDIEN PRIVAAT KLIËNT			
REG-NO . INDIEN BESIGHEID			
POSADRES			
TEL		FAKS	
SEL		E-POS	

ADVERTENSIE VIR:		
		(maand)
tot		(maand)
Bedrag inbetaal	R	

BANKBESONDERHEDE: Media24 Die Burger | ABSA | Rekening: 0550000059
Takkode nodig vir elektroniese inbetalings: 632005
Gebruik u Media24-rekeningnommer as verwysing, indien u een het. Andersins, naam en van of in die geval van 'n besigheid, die besigheid se naam.

E-POS BEWYS VAN BETALING NA: esmarelda.ferreira@landbou.com

KATEGORIE/CATEGORY: KIES EEN/CHOOSE ONE (X)									
JAGGELEENTHEDE/ HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES		TE KOOP/ FOR SALE		GESOEK/ WANTED		DIENSTE/ SERVICES		ANDER/ OTHER	

BEWOORDING VIR ADVERTENSIE :	

OM TE ADVERTEER IN JAGTERSMARK, KONTAK:
Esmarelda Ferreira | Sel: 084-744-9948 | E-pos: esmarelda.ferreira@landbou.com

JAGGELEENTHEDE | HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

LASARUS GAME FARM, ALBERTINIA, RIVERSDALE

Best hunting destination in Western Cape. No hidden costs. Rifle/bow/biltong/trophy hunt. Full/self-catering. 45+ species. Owners are PH and outfitters
082-443-1147/082-448-3975
www.lasarusgamefarm.co.za
info@lasarusgamefarm.co.za

LOCAL HUNTING MARBLE HALL/ROEDTAN – DIPHÔFU GAME RANCH

- 1½ hours north of Pretoria,
- We cater for all your Bushveld needs, including trophy and biltong hunting.
- Lodge accommodates 10 people.
- Self-catering.

Nicole: 012-346-6305
hunting@diphofu.co.za
www.diphofuhuntingsafaris.co.za
https://www.facebook.com/Diphofu

SAND SPOOR SAFARIS – THABAZIMBI

Bushveld farm – 220 km from Pretoria. Well-equipped bush camp. Eskom power. Skinners, slaughtering and cooling facilities.
Price list on website.
paul@sandspoorhunt.co.za
www.sandspoorhunt.co.za
Paul Jordaan
Cell: 083-227-3420

AUCH MACOY

Agt kilometer buite Bloemfontein. Agt jagspesies. Selfsorgeenhede.
Slag- en koelkamergeriewe.
Skakel Davin: 079-870-0499
of Maryke: 051-407-6938
marykeb@satb.co.za

ALLDAYS BROMBEEK-PLAAS

- Trofee- en biltongjag
- Rooibokke, koedoes, elande en vlakvarke
- Selfsorgeenhede, volledig toegerus
- Slag- en koelgeriewe

Kontak Susara: 082-554-8922
brombeek.safaris@gmail.com

CHIMOYO WILDLIFE & SAFARIS

COME HUNT IN THE LOWVELD: GRAVELOTTE

Size of hunting area: 2 700 ha

Sixteen species, including magnificent buffalo, sable antelope, kudu and Livingstone eland bulls.

- Special discount for groups of five or more.
- Comfortable tents on decks.
- Clean bathrooms, lapa, fully equipped kitchen.
- Self-catering or fully catered options. Camp serviced daily.
- Cool room, hunting guides and vehicles all included.
- Meat processing available on request.
- Corporate or family groups, PHs and outfitters all welcome.

Johan: 082-555-3367
johan@chimoyo.com
Website: *www.chimoyo.com*

JAGPRYSE 2022

	Bul/Ram	Koei/Ooi	Trofee
Blouwildebees:	R5 600	R4 800	R9 500
Swartwildebees:	R4 000	R3 500	R5 500
Blesbok (bruin):	R2 200	R2 200	R3 500
Blesbok (wit):	R2 500	R2 500	R4 000
Springbok:	R1 800	R1 800	R2 500

Jagdagfooi: R200 per persoon
Slagfooi: groot bok - R100; klein bok - R50
Willie Vermaak
Welkom Vrystaat
Tel: 073-162-8657

BILTONGJAG IN DIE BEAUFORT-WES-OMGEWING

10 000 ha gemengde veld en tipografie.
22 spesies op plaas en 12 om te jag.
Geen minimum getal jagters per groep.
Eeva Birkner: 082-703-7566
of kontak deur web:
www.badshoek.co.za

DWARSSPRUIT SAFARIS - BOSVELD

- 45 km vanaf Rustenburg
- Boog-/geweerjag
- Vyf puik skuilings
- 12 Spesies
- Akkommodasie vir tot 18 persone
- Slag- en verkoelingsgeriewe

Pryslys op aanvraag. Kontak:
FB: Dwarsspruit hunting
E-pos: *pjmostert@mweb.co.za*
Philip Mostert:
083-236-8140

KMK SAFARI

Kameelperdbul - R28 000.
Blesbokke te jag. R2 500 stuk.
Dagfooi: R250.
Bring tent en/of woonwa en skietstoel. Kragopwekker, warm en koue water, stort en spoeltoilet beskikbaar.
Skiet uit skuilings. Koelkamers beskikbaar.
Japie: 061-733-1034/
084-373-7874

TE KOOP | FOR SALE

Hunt Africa – Since 2020

WWW.HUNTAFRICALEATHER.COM

-15% Discount coupon code SAJ2535

Hunt Africa (Pty) Ltd
Brits, 0250
Contact: +27-64-739-9773
info@huntafricaleather.com

AANDAG ALLE JAGTERS:

Vetstertskaap te koop teen R45/kg (Lewendig geweeg) in Loxton, Noord-Kaap. Kan ook geslag word indien vroegtydig gereël word.
Goeie kwaliteit vet (persie- en afrikanerskaap).
Enige navrae, kontak
Dries Wiese by 082-809-2949
of Pieter Wiese by 082-868-4828
of stuur 'n e-pos na
marketing@wiesebt.co.za

CAPCHURE DART GUN

+ Darts + .22 Blanks.
Like new.
Contact Lou: 083-633-4905

25% SHARE IN GAME FARM

Limpopo riverfront of 2,6 km, fully fenced. Furnished house sleeps 12, outbuildings, cold storage and lapa. Various game species.
Contact: 082-574-9884

Leica
LEICA CALONOX VIEW
RECKNAGEL
62mm
Made in Germany
LEICA CALONOX SIGHT
Leica Calonox.
The Thermal Camera.
As a hunter, you know every shot is an ethical responsibility – you want to identify game correctly and fire a perfect shot. As a hunter, you know that ethical hunting also demands the right equipment for every situation. Now, with the new Calonox series of thermal cameras, Leica is setting new standards in modern hunting. The Leica Calonox View delivers exceptionally sharp, detailed, high-contrast images thanks to the innovative Leica Image Optimization (LIO™) feature. The Leica Calonox Sight gives you an extremely stable, reliable thermal clip-on with maximum precision and repeatability and can also be used as a thermal camera.
Every shot is a responsibility. Rely on Leica Calonox.
leica-calonox.com
Please observe relevant national legislation.
tudortech
For more information please contact Ian Hardie:
leicasales@tudortech.co.za | 082 894 1528

Benelli
JUST ARRIVED
LUPO
DOMINATE THE MOMENT
THIS CHASSIS-STYLE HUNTING RIFLE ALLOWS FOR EXCLUSIVE FIT, FEEL, AND ACCURACY RIGHT OUT OF THE BOX. IT COMES WITH A 3-SHOT SUB-MOA GUARANTEE.
AIRTOUCH GRIP
STEEL-BARRELED ACTION AND 3-LOCKING LUG SYSTEM
EASY LOADING
PRIMARY EXTRACTION ON STEEL
AMBIDEXTROUS SAFETY
COMBTECH
MUZZLE THREAD
SUB-MOA CRIO FREE-FLOATING BARREL
DETACHABLE MAGAZINE
ALUMINIUM CHASSIS
ADJUSTABLE TRIGGER PULL
PERFECT FITTING
PROGRESSIVE COMFORT
BE.S.T.
Combtech
PERFECT FITTING
Progressive Comfort
CRIO SYSTEM
FEATURES VIDEO
FORMALITO
OUTDOOR SPORTING BRANDS
Available at all Premium Dealers countrywide.
www.formalito.co.za I tel: +27 (12) 664 - 7793/4

Sunel
Kyk wat het ek gratis gekry! Stuur dit aan. 😄
JAGTER
SUID-AFRIKAANSE · SOUTH AFRICAN
HUNTER
VELDRYVERNUF
VELDRY TYDENS JAG
SAJAGTER_22
PDF
Johan
Hoe het jy die nuwe uitgawe verniet gekry?? 🤩
Sunel
Wie gee om? Stuur dit net aan.
DIE DEEL VAN PDF-PUBLIKASIES IS 'N MISDAAD
MOENIE STEEL NIE
AS JY 'N PDF-PUBLIKASIE OP E-POS, WHATSAPP OF ENIGE ANDER BOODSKAPDIENS ONTVANG, RAPPORTEER DIT ASSEBLIEF AAN REPORT@MEDIA24.COM
MEDIA24