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**Die Clay
Cannon**

**Cartridges
Head to Head**

.458 Lott

VS

.458 African

Jagstories:

• *Bokkoors na een skoot*

**NORMA
BONDSTRIKE**
**'slaan met 'n
voorhammer**

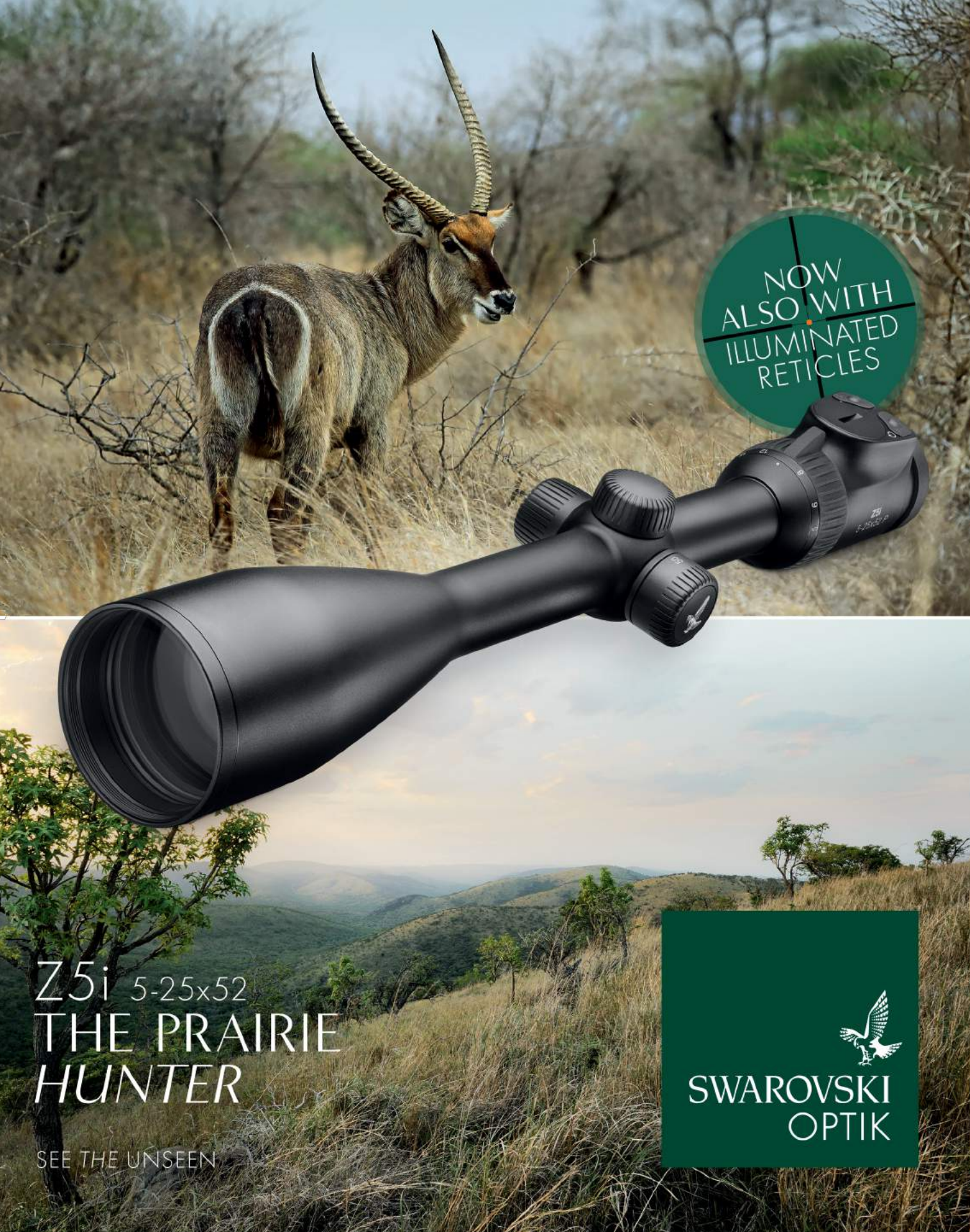
Patriot

**A Passion for
Pressure**

Marlin

'n goeie ou Cowboy





VERDIEN TOT DUISENDE RANDE SE MYBONUS PUNTE



**KWALIFISERENDE JAGTERS
KAN NOU DUBBEL MYBONUS PUNTE
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Algemene navrae / General enquiries
info@wildlandmag.co.za

Posadres / Postal address

Posbus 30541,
Wonderboompoort, 0033

REDAKSIE / EDITORIAL STAFF

Redakteur / Editor

André van Dyk
andre@wildlandmag.co.za
C: 082 455 8707

Assistent-redakteur en video's / Assistant editor and videos

André van Dyk Jr.
andrejnr@wildlandmag.co.za
C: 082 787 8948

Uitlegkustenaar / Layout artist / Admin, webblad en Facebook

Danie van Dyk C: 073 576 1179
danie@wildlandmag.co.za

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Algemene navrae / General Enquiries

Rika van Dyk / info@wildlandmag.co.za
C: 079 892 0023 F: 086 208 0652

Bydraers / Contributors

Jan de Man
Pierre van der Walt,
Elmo Scheffer
Thea Pieters

Drukker / Printer

CTP Cape Town

Versprei deur: / Distributed by:
Jacques Nothnagel
T: 021 503 7136
jacquesnothnagel@media24.com

Intekenare / Subscribers
info@wildlandmag.co.za
C: 079 892 0023

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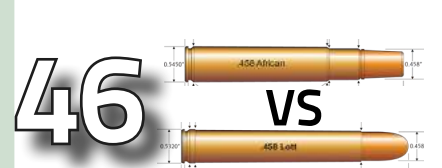
Hefboomaksie-gewere word in baie opsigte as 'Cowboy' gewere beskou. WILDLAND het 'n Marlin hefboomaksie in die .30-30 kaliber getoets. Ons het ook 'n blesbok met hom op die plaas Doornhoek net buite Zeerust, geskiet. Na ons mening is dit 'n goeie gewere en kaliber om kortafstand jag mee te beoefen. Dit is ook die ideale gewere vir junior opleiding.



Indien jy daarvan hou om met jou haalgewere te speel is die Clay Cannon die regte ding om te gebruik. Hierdie draagbare kleiwerper is maklik om te hanteer en jy kan kleie uit verskillende posisies gooi. Dit is ook in staat om twee kleie op 'n slag te gooi sowel as kleie van verskillende grootte.



The Patriot airgun shooting range recently opened its doors in Stikland Cape Town. It is the most modern airgun facility in South-Africa. Here airgun shooters can practise their sport under simulated outdoor conditions. WILDLAND was privileged enough to attend their grand opening.



If you were to decide between these two calibres, which one will it be? The question of which is best, has been raised multiple times. In this article, WILDLAND's rifle and ammunition specialist Pierre van der Walt compares these two calibres head to head and provides his expert opinion.

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Uit die heup uit

Jagters sê Dankie

Presies wat ek verlede maand gesê het, het waar geword – die jagregulasies het verander tussen my skryf van die redaksionele kolom en die publiserings daarvan. Gelukkig, hierdie keer ten goede. As jagters spreek ons, ons dank uit teenoor die Staatspresident dat hy hierdie stap geneem het om die jagters 'los te laat'. Die wat my ken weet ek hou nie my 'bek' nie en dat ek kritiek lewer waar dit nodig is – ek skiet baie keer uit die heup uit. Terselfdertyd gee ek ook erkenning as dit verdien word. Ons kan nou wel redeneer dat hierdie stap lankal moes gebeur het. Die ekonomie sou dalk so effens beter daarna uitgesien het, as dit 'n maand of wat vantevore kon gebeur het. Ons moet ook besef dat die struwelinge binne die regerende party al hoe feller word en dat die aanslae teen dit wat reg is al meer intens word. Waar en hoe dit gaan eindig is 'n ope vraag. Hoe dit ookal sy, die jagters kan weer doen wat hulle graag wil – jag en skiet.

Teen die tyd dat hierdie uitgawe verskyn, gaan ek, indien alles goed verloop, diep in die Kalahari wees om vir oulaas vleis vir hierdie seisoen huis toe te bring. Ons sal in 'n volgende uitgawe van Wildland meer hieroor vertel.

Wildland het in samewerking met die Wildman-winkelgroep 'n baie interessante skietkompetisie bekendgestel. Al wat jy moet doen is om een van die teikens by enige Wildman-winkel te koop en daarop te skiet. Neem dan 'n foto van jou teiken en stuur dit aan ons. Jy staan 'n kans om 'n koepbewys ter waarde van R5000 van Wildman te wen. Daar is ook maandelikse pryse op die spel. So, in plaas daarvan om 'n gewone teiken te koop, koop ons spesiale teiken, dit is jou inskrywingsgeld. Lees meer oor hierdie kompetisie op bladsy 50.

Ons vestig weereens ons lesers se aandag op ons maandelikse 'Jagfotokompetisie' waar jy 'n Bushnell verkyker as prys kan wen. Die wenner word elke maand in Wildland aangekondig. Onthou, die onus is op die wenner om ons te kontak om sy prys op te eis. Indien die prys nie binne drie maande opgeëis word nie, sal dit verbeur word.

Dit is met leedwese dat ons kennis geneem het van die afsterwe van Pieter van der Walt aan die einde van Augustus. Pieter het diep spore in die jagveld getrap en hy was gedurende die negentiger jare voorsitter van Bosveldjagtersvereniging. Jagters en sportskuts sal hom egter beter onthou as die vriendelike bestuurder van Zimbi Guns in Pretoria. Ons bid die familie sterkte toe vir die moeilike tyd wat voorlê.

Die 'lockdown' tydperk het mens baie tyd gegee om te dink en te besin oor die toekoms. Ons het dus besluit om ook 'n Engelse digitale weergawe van Wildland bekend te stel onder die titel 'Hunt The Wildland' wat primêr op die buiteland gerig is. Alle Suid-Afrikaners kan ook daarop



Danie van Dyk by die 17.3" witblesbokram wat hy gedurende 2017 in die Oos-Kaap geskiet het.

inteken deur slegs ons webwerf www.wildlandmag.com te besoek. Dit verskyn elke tweede maand. Die prys is R60.00 per uitgawe. Die Sept/Okt uitgawe wat 120 bladsye beslaan is nou beskikbaar.



Wel, dit is tyd om te groet.
Tot volgende keer.
Reguit skiet.

André en die WILDLAND-span.

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Marlin

'n goeie ou Cowboy

Deur Pierre van der Walt en André van Dyk

Marlin se geskiedenis

Marlin Firearms is in 1870 op die been gebring deur John M. Marlin (1836 – 1901). Sy wapenkennis het hy gedurende die Amerikaanse Burgeroorlog opgedoen terwyl hy by die Colt fabriek in Hartford gewerk het.

Die maatskappy is gedurende 1915 by Marlin se twee seuns oorgekoop en tot die *Marlin Rockwell Corporation* herdoop. In hul hande het Marlin gedurende WO-1 een van die grootste

masjiengeweevervaardigers ter wêreld geword, maar na die oorlog in duie gestort.

'n Prokureur, Frank Kenna, het die maatskappy in 1924 gekoop vir \$100 en homself 'n \$100 000.00 verbandverpligting op die hals gehaal. Die Kenna familie het Marlin se glorie herstel en uitgebou tot dit in 2007 aan die *Remington Arms Company* verkoop is.

Alhoewel Marlin ten beste bekend is

vir hul hefboom aksie gewere het die maatskappy homself reeds in 1954 in die grendelaksie-jaggeweer veld begeef met die *Marlin M-322*. Dit was nie 'n sukses nie en produksie is in 1959 gestaak. Die *M-322* is reeds so vroeg as 1956 met die beter *M-455* aangevul. Laasgenoemde het oor 'n *FN Mauser* aksie en *EC Bishop* kolf beskik. In 1996 het Marlin die *MR-7* geloods wat deur die *XS-7* vervang is.

Marlin® 

Marlin M-336 hefboomaksie - Cowboy Nostalgie

Wildland het onlangs weer die geleentheid gekry om die *Marlin M-336* hefboomaksie-geweer in .30-30 *Winchester*-kaliber te toets. Ek moet erken dat ek hefboomaksie-gewere nog nooit voorheen as ernstige jaggewere kon beskou nie. Dis seker omdat ek dié tipe geweer, danksy flieks, nog altyd as soort van 'n 'cowboys and crooks-wapen' beskou het; iets tussen 'n taktiese en 'n oorlewingswapen, wat eintlik vir groot pret eerder as biltongversameling bedoel is. Iets waarmee John Wayne, die Lone Ranger en hul maters, kopvelslagters en boosaards laat les opsê het.

Ek was aangenaam verras toe ek die *Marlin* uit sy kartondoos trek en 'n stewige geweer met 'n soliede staal raam sien. Die basiese hefboomaksie-ontwerp wat vandag nog gevolg word, maak soos 'n rewolwer van 'n hammer wat 'n drywende slagpen slaan, gebruik. Die konsep spruit uit die jare voor teleskope en die *Marlin* se hammer beland dan ook onder die teleskoop se agterste lensklok waar dit moeilik bereikbaar is om te span of te ontspan.

Ons vernuftige Amerikaanse "vrinne" het dié probleem egter lankal opgelos deur 'n pypie te vervaardig wat op die hammer se kuif vasgesit kan word. Die pypie steek dan sywaarts onder die teleskoop uit waar die skut dit gemaklik met sy duim kan bereik om die hammer te span. Die pypie word saam met die geweer verskaf en kan aan die regter- of linkerkant van die hammer geplaas word afhangende daarvan of die skut regs- of linkshandig is. Die hammer beskik oor twee posisies; halfspan en volspan.

Dis ook een van die glanspunte van hefboomaksie-gewere. Ongeag watter kant van die wapen die laaipoot is, is die uitleg van hierdie wapens van so 'n aard dat dit grotendeels dubbelhandig (ambidextrous) is. Hulle is baie geriefliker as beide grendelaksie- en sy-aan-sy-dubbelloopgewere vir horrelpote. Die hefboom kan met enige hand gemanipuleer word en die veiligheidsknip en hammer ook. Dit is seker een van die mees onderskatte sterkpunte van hefboomaksie-gewere.

Die veiligheidsknip is 'n pen wat sywaarts dwarsdeur die agterkant van die aksie net voor die kolfstuk strek naby die hammer se basis. As die pen van

links na regs gedruk word, is die wapen op veilig. As die pen van regs na links deur die aksie gedruk word, is die wapen in battery. In dié toestand sien die skut 'n rooi ring om die pen om die stand van die wapen te beklemtoon. Die sneller kan wel getrek word selfs al is die knip of pen op veilig. Die hammer val egter nie tot teen die drywende slagpen nie, maar word blokkeer.



Anders as op oorspronklike hefboomaksie-gewere, werp die *Marlin M-336* se doppe nie na bo uit nie, maar is dit teleskoop versoenbaar en werp dit die doppe na regs uit. Die uitwerpopening sit net bokant die geweer se laaipoort waarmee die buismagasyn of pypmagasyn onder die loop volgelaa kan word. Die pypmagasyn kan ses patrone sluk. Dis 'n bekvol.

Die *Marlin M-336* in .30-30 beskik oor 'n 20"-loop en is met Marlin se sogenaamde Micro-groove rifling toegerus. Dis 'n ontwerp wat 12 fyner groewe gebruik eerder as die ses groewe wat deur beide SAAMI en die CIP vir die .30-30 Winchester-patroon voorgeskryf word. Micro-groove rifling is 'n *Marlin*-patent en -handelsmerk. Die groeftempo is 1:10" (1:254mm). Die *M-336* is in totaal 38,5" (978mm) lank en sonder teleskoop of patrone in die magasyn weeg dit 7,0lb (3,17kg).

Die *M-336* beskik oor 'n semi 'buckhorn-tipe' visier, wat beteken die bovlak van die visierblad is nie plat soos ons aan gewoond is nie, maar krul op die punte effens na bo. Anders as versiering dien die visierblad nie eintlik enige doel nie. Dis nogal mooi vir my en ek is nie 'n ou wat van tierlantyntjies op gewere hou nie. Die korrel is 'n standaard bessie-tipe met koper voorkant om sigbaarheid te verhoog. Dit is met 'n eivormige, byna vierkantige korrelbeskermer eerder as die normale ronde tipe toegerus.

Ons toetsgeweer het 'n olyfgroen sintetiese kolf gehad. Dis nie naastenby so elegant as wat ons op grendelaksiegewere gewoond is nie, maar pas uitstekend by die kolf se lyne en styl in. Die kolf self is Amerikaans-klassiek; met ander woorde dit het 'n reguit kam wat hoog genoeg is om die teleskoop steeds maklik te kan gebruik. Agter op die kolf is 'n dun, swart soliede rubber skokbuffer aangebring wat met 'n swart sintetiese spasieerder afgerond is. Dit lyk baie netjies – eintlik netjieser as wat ek verwag het.

Die loop en die buismagasyn word net agter die korrelsaal deur 'n loopband in posisie gehou. In die middel van die loop hou 'n soortgelyke loopband die voorgreep in posisie. Die snellertrek is effe harder as waaraan ek gewoond is. Ongelukkig kan daar min gedoen word om die snellers van hefboomaksie-

gewere merkbaar te verbeter. Dit is en bly egter heeltemal bruikbare snellers; alhoewel nie op die standaard wat grendelaksiegeweerjagters met spesialis snellers aan gewoond mag wees nie.

Ek is die meeste beïndruk met die *Marlin* se soliede metaalraamwerk en algehele indruk van stewigheid. Ek wil nie op ander hefboomaksie-

vervaardigers se tone trap nie, maar die *Marlin* is ongetwyfeld een van die stewigste Cowboy/M-1894-tipe hefboomaksie-gewere wat ek nóg in my hande gehad het. Ek het ál my vooroordele teenoor hefboomaksie-gewere laat vaar nadat ek die *Marlin M-336* onder hande gehad het.



Op die baan

Op die skietbaan skiet ek eers op 25 meter sommer so op 'n X-Bag oor die bakkie se neus en die groepering is heel skaflik. Daarna skiet Danie uit 'n staande posisie op dieselfde afstand en hy skiet ook 'n redelike groepering. Die *Marlin* se hefboomaksie werk seepglad en dit is nogal 'n lekker gevoel om daardie aksie so vining as moontlik te werk. Ek voel soos 'n Cow Boy – 'n regte John Wayne van ouds.



In die jagveld

'n Paar dae nadat ons op die skietbaan was kry ons die geleentheid om 'n paar bokke naby Zeerust op die plaas *Doornhoek* wat aan Andries van den Heever en sy pa behoort, te skiet. Toe ons die *Marlin* aan Andries wys was hy in ekstase en sê reguit dat hy nog altyd 'n sagte plekkie vir 'n hefboom-aksie gehad het. Hy skiet 'n paar skote met die *Marlin* op die skietbaan en toe is die 'koeël deur die kerk' Hy wil ook 'n rooibok met hom skiet.

Nadat ons die ander werk wat ons moes doen afgehandel het, is dit Andries se beurt om die *Marlin* op 'n rooibok te toets. Ons soek die hele middag en kry heelwat rooibokke maar ons kom nie binne trefafstand nie – onthou die *Marlin* het nie 'n teleskoop op nie.

Later sien ons rooibokke sowat 250 meter van die pad af wei en hulle is totaal onbewus van ons. Ons besluit om weer te probeer. Daar is ook 'n mak volstruiswyfie op die plaas en van nêrens kom sy te voorskyn en volg ons. Met Andries aan die voorpunt en dan die volstruis en ek en Jnr agterna, bekruip ons die rooibokke.

Ons beweeg oor 'n effense hoogte en hier vlak voor ons is 'n klompie blesbokke aan die wei. Hulle is niks verder as 35 meter van ons af nie. Hulle koppe is laag op die grond en die hoë gras help dat hulle ons nie sien nie. Een tel sy kop op en ek neem aan hy het die volstruis gesien en weer dadelik begin wei. Toe 'n ooi 'n skietbare skoot bied laat Andries loop en mens kon dadelik sien dit was 'n goeie skoot. Sy spring weg en verdwyn tussen die gras. Ons kry haar 20 meter verder met 'n netjiese skoot voor op die blad. Die Marlin 30-30 het sy werk gedoen. Toe is Andries se handbriek behoorlik los en hy wil nou, meer as ooit tevore met alle geweld 'n Marlin 30-30 koop.

Lees ook die artikel oor die Norma se BONDSTRIKE ammunisie wat ons op Doornhoek getoets het op bladsy 22 van hierdie uitgawe. In hierdie artikel word verder uitgebrei oor hierdie lekker jagplaas naby Zeerust.

Vir meer inligting oor die Marlin – kontak asseblief enige Wildman-winkel. Om Doringhoek te besoek skakel Andries van den Heever op 084 588 1737 of stuur epos na: andries.vdheever88@gmail.com

Klik of skandeer ook die QR- kode om na 'n kort video van die Marlin in aksie te kyk. 



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Die Clay Cannon

Deur André van Dyk Jr.

Hou jy daarvan om kleiteikens met jou haelgeweer te skiet, maar jy raak moeg om oor en oor 'n 'handgooier' te gebruik? Of droom jy van die dag wat jy kleiteikens kan skiet met minder gesukkel? Wel vandag praat ons oor die 'hand-veerbelaaide' Clay Cannon.

Die spesifikasies en funksies van die eenheid is:

- Maklik om te gebruik
- Veeraangedrewe
- Verstelbare veerspanning
- Veiligheidsknip
- Verskillende ondersteuningshandvatsel plekke
- Kan twee kleie gelyktydig gooi
- Werk met 'n verskeidenheid van kleiteikens en groottes
- Duursame plastiek konstruksie
- Weeg minder as 2.5kg
- Maklik vervoerbaar

Die Clay Cannon word voorsien van 'n ondersteuningshandvatsel. Jy moet hierdie handvatsel installeer op een van die twee plekke wat voorsien word, afhangende waar dit vir jou die gemaklikste is om te gebruik. Die enigste hulpmiddel wat benodig word vir die installasie is 'n kruiskopskroewedraaier (Star screwdriver).

Die spanning op die veer in die Clay Cannon kan verstel word met die knop aan die agterkant van die eenheid. Wanneer die knop kloksgewys draai verhoog dit spanning. Anti-kloksgewys sal dit die spanning van die gooiarm verminder. Dit beteken, wanneer daar meer spanning is gooi die Clay Cannon die klei vinniger en verder. Die spanning om die Clay Cannon oor te haal is ook dan verhoog en word dit dus bietjie moeiliker.

Ek dink Clay Cannon is 'n wonderlike produk wanneer dit by veiligheid kom omdat 'n sneller-veiligheidsknip op die Clay Cannon gebruik word. Wanneer die Clay Cannon oorgehaal is en die veiligheidsknip aan is, kan die sneller nie gedruk word om die lanseerarms los te laat nie. Dit is baie handig as jy die Clay Cannon laai, want glo my, jy wil nie jou hande in die pad hê as die gooiarm



los kom terwyl jy besig is om 'n klei te laai nie.

Om die Clay Cannon oor te haal, trek eenvoudig die lanseerarm terug tot aan die agterkant van die eenheid totdat dit vassteek. Sodra dit gesluit is, moenie vergeet om die veiligheidsknip te aktiveer nie.

Om 'n klei in die Cannon te laai, skuif die klei eenvoudig in die eenheid in en plaas dit op die swart gebied van die gooi arm. As jy twee klei-teikens op een slag wil gooi, plaas net twee teikens op die spanarm in plaas van een. Jy kan ook twee kleie opmekaar sit in plaas van langs mekaar.

Onthou om deeglik op te let waar die 'landingsarea' is sodat die kleie in 'n veilige rigting gegooi word. Om die klei te gooi is maklik en eenvoudig. Ontkoppel die veiligheidsknip en druk die sneller om die gooi-arm los te laat.

Terwyl die eenheid gemerk is met die "Launch Zone", wat die rigting aandui, neem dit 'n rukkie om gewoon te raak aan hoe die Clay Cannon kleie gooi. Die vlugbaan van die klei sal anders wees, afhangende van die hoek waarteen jy die eenheid hou. Dit is 'n voordeel omdat jy dan verskillende kleivlugpatrone van een eenheid kan gooi. Hierdie Clay Cannon is 'n ideale apparaat vir sportklei-oefeninge of somer net lekker pret.

Die Clay Cannon gooi ook die kleie baie vinniger as die gewone handgooiers, afhangende van hoe sterk jy die spanning arm vasgedraai het. Ek dink die produk is perfek vir haelgeweer liefhebbers, voëljaegers of vir die wat net bietjie pret wil hê in die buitelewe. Om die Clay Cannon te laai is amper net soveel pret as om die kleie te skiet. Aangesien dit maklik is om te gebruik, beteken dit meer tyd om kleie te skiet voordat jy moeg word om kleie te gooi. Jou vriende, vrou tot skoonma kan lekker kleie vir jou gooi!

Die Clay Cannon word ingevoer deur National Cartridge. Kontak hulle gerus om uit te vind waar jy jou Clay Cannon kan aanskaf.

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BONDSTRIKE

‘slaan’ met ‘n voorhammer

Soos almal sekerlik weet was ek bevoorreg genoeg om verlede jaar gedurende September, nou ‘n jaar terug, ‘n moose in Swede te kon jag. Hierdie uitnodiging was persoonlik aan my gerig deur die ammunisie-vervaardiger Norma. Ek het hierdie moose, my eerste, met Norma se BONDSTRIKE ammunisie in 30-06 kaliber gejag. ‘n Moose is ‘n groot dier, heelwaarskynlik groter as enige van die antelope wat in Afrika voorkom. Alhoewel die moose wat ek geskiet het nie so ‘n groot meneer was nie het daardie moose nie geweet wat hom tref nie, dit het werklik gelyk of iemand hom met ‘n voorhammer slaan. Ek was so beïndruk met hierdie ammunisie dat ek nie kon wag dat dit na Suid-Afrika ingevoer moet word nie.



Uiteindelik land die BONDSTRIKE reeks hier en ek kon nie wag om dit ook, onder ons Suid-Afrikaanse omstandighede op die plaaslike wild te toets nie. Die BONDSTRIKE reeks is beskikbaar in 6.5 Creedmoor, 6.5 x 55, .308 Win, 30-06 Spring, .300 Win Mag, .300 WSM, .300 RUM. Dit maak van ‘n ‘bonded’ koeël gebruik en ek neem aan dit is waar die naam BONDSTRIKE vandaan kom. Dit het ook ‘n ‘bootstert’ wat die lugweerstand verminder en dit veroorsaak ook groter akkuraatheid. Die punt van die BONDSTRIKE koeël is bedek met ‘n blou polimeer puntjie wat dit baie goed laat vertoon. Volgens Norma verlaat die 180gr koeël die loop teen 2756 v/s wat nogal haastig is vir so ‘n swaar koeël uit ‘n 30-06. Op 200 meter hardloop dit steeds teen 2609 v/s en op die 300 meter is die spoed 2432 v/s. Indien jy jou geweer op 100 meter zero sal dit 3,5 duim val op 200 meter en 12,7 duim op 300 meter.

Op die skietbaan stel ons die 30-06 in dat dit op 100 meter twee duim hoog skiet. Dan kan mens sonder om te kompenseer tot op 200 meter na enige groterige dier se blad skiet. Ons doen dit juis so want die plaas, Doornhoek, waar ons die BONDSTRIKE op ‘n blouwildebees gaan toets het oop vlaktes maar ook ruie bos. Ek skiet ‘n goeie groepering van onder 15mm met die BONDSTRIKE, en ek hoor hoe my pa kommentaar lewer “onthou dit is my geweer”.

Lukaan Trading & Safaris behoort aan Andries van den Heever en sy pa Loek. Dit is net 20 km buite Zeerust in Noord-Wes en mens kan dit maklik, binne drie ure van Gauteng bereik. Die jag area bestaan uit ‘n paar plase wat ongeveer 1500ha groot is met oop vlaktes sowel as digte bosse. Dit is ‘n waterryke plaas en selfs nou in die winter vloei die stroompie water vanaf die fontein op die buurplaas redelik sterk.

Die akkommodasie bestaan uit ‘n ou plaashuis wat gerestoureer is en waar 12 mense in gemak kan slaap. Hierdie plaashuis laat my dink aan die plase wat ek, as jong kind, altyd saam met my pa op sy jagtrips in Suid-Afrika besoek het – dit is ‘n ware jagterskamp waar mens lekker kan kuier en kan ontspan, sonder die gepiep van my selfoon. Die spoorsnyers en slagters doen hul werk goed en Andries is die hele tyd by om ‘n

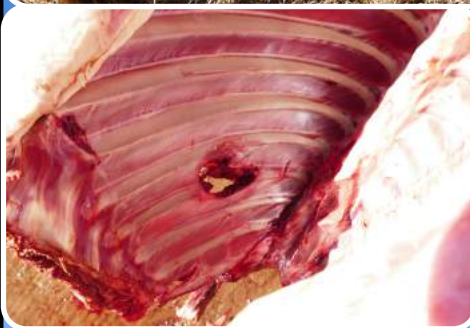
ogie oor die slagproses te hou. Daar is verskeie uitkykpunte op die plaas gebou en vandaar kan mens die hele omgewing deur jou verkyker bespied en planne maak om by die bokke uit te kom. Op een randjie is daar 'n behoorlike kuierplek gebou waar mens die ondergaande, rooi Noord-Wes-son kan geniet. Toe ons een middag laat hier sit het daar verskeie diere by die suipplek sowat 250 meter laer af kom drink. Om diere so rustig in die laatmiddag son te sien is altyd 'n baie mooi gesig.

Meeste van die gewone wildspesies kom hier voor, vanaf elande tot steenbokke. Daar is ook swartwitpense, gouewildebeeste en swartrooibokke.

Toe ons klaar is op die skietbaan ry ons deur die plaas opsoek na blouwilbeeste. Ons kry 'n troppie maar hulle wil nie saamspeel nie en verdwyn uit sig. Dit is toe dat Andries sê ons kan maar 'n gouewildebees ook skiet, sy pa soek 'n vel of twee. My hart mis 'n 'beat' of twee! Het ek reggehoor? Ek hoor ook hoe my pa sluk. Andries kyk na my "My pa wou nog altyd 'n goue-vel gehad het en of ek hom nou skiet of jy, maak mos nie saak nie". Ek het reggehoor – ons kan goue een skiet!

Die volgende trop wat ons kry is te vër en ons bekruip-poging werk ook nie. Oppad terug bakkie toe sien ons 'n paar wildebeeste skuins na ons toe draf, hulle weet nie van ons nie. Daar is paar goues by en Andries stel die skietstokke op want ons dink hulle gaan hier vlak voor ons in 'n gangetjie vassteek. Dit gebeur ook so en die een wat die beste skoot bied is 'n jong gouekoei. Andries sê ek moet skiet. Ek laat nie op my wag nie en ek laat loop die skoot. Mens kon dadelik sien die BONDSTRIKE het haar hard geslaan. Ons kry haar 50 meter verder met die skoot voor op die blad. Dit sit aan die anderkant agter die blad en net onder die vel. Ek kan dit nogsteeds nie glo nie ek het 'n gouewildebees geskiet. Daardie aand om die vuur het ons dit behoorlik gevier.

Vroeg die volgende dag is ons by die slagplek en ons kry die koeël waar ons dit die vorige dag gesien het – net onder die vel. Dit het baie mooi 'gemushroom' en dit weeg 133,4 grein wat 'n gewig retensie van ongeveer 74% verteenwoordig. Op so 'n kort afstand waar die wildebees slegs 50 meter weggestaan het en die hoek waarteen die



koeël haar getref het – op die punt van die bladbeen voor – is dit werklik nie 'n slegte resultaat nie. Onthou die spoed van die koeël op daardie afstand is nog baie hoog maar dit het nogtans amper 'n meter vër penetreer. Die bladbeen was aan flarde geskiet.

Andries klim in die jagvoertuig – "Kom ons skiet nog 'n goue een en ek weet waar hulle is, die wind waai vandag en hulle staan altyd daar as die wind waai!" . Toe skud ek my kop behoorlik, kan dit waar wees. Ek kyk vir my pa en hy staan ook in ongeloof na my. Andries ry en ons sê nie 'n woord nie want ons is nie seker of hy ernstig is nie. Na 'n rukkie parkeer hy die bakkie en ons loop deur 'n digte bos. Hoe verder ons loop hoe stadiger gaan ons vorentoe. Op die rand van die bos steek Andries vas en kyk deur die verkyker. "Ja daar is hulle op die gewone plek" Ons kruip terug die bos in en gaan verder voetjie vir voetjie. Weer gaan ons na die rand van die bos en nou is hulle binne trefafstand . Hulle het ons egter gewaar en raak onrustig. Andries sê ek moet die groot bul wat amper plankdwaars staan skiet. Ek vat sommer dooierus oor 'n tak en toe die BONDSTRIKE sy teiken 220 meter verder tref weet hy dit en ons weet dit ook. Sy go is gou uit en hy dop om. Die BONDSTRIKE koeël het hom laag op die blad getref en sit ook aan die anderkant effens agter die blad teen die vel. Dit het ook amper 'n meter penetreer en die gewig daarvan was 152,2 wat 85% retensie beteken. Mens kon duidelik aan die vorm van die koeël sien dat dit beter bymekaar gehou het op die langer afstand waarop geskiet was teenoor die kort afstand van die vorige dag. In hierdie geval was die bladbeen ook gebreek maar die koeël het dit nie op die dikste plek deurboor nie.

Die fotos word geneem en dit is baie duidelik dat daar een gelukkige jagter saam met die gouebees poseer.

Ons weet almal dat 'n wildebees of hy nou blou, swart of goud is, nie sommer met enige kaliber en koeëls aangedurf moet word nie. Ek het ookal 'n foutjie of twee op 'n wildebees gemaak wat my letterlik blase op my voete gegee het en baie sweet laat verloor het voordat hy finaal grond toe gegaan het. Gelukkig het die BONDSTRIKE baie goed in hierdie geval gewerk, en o ja voor ek vergeet 'uit my pa se geweer'.

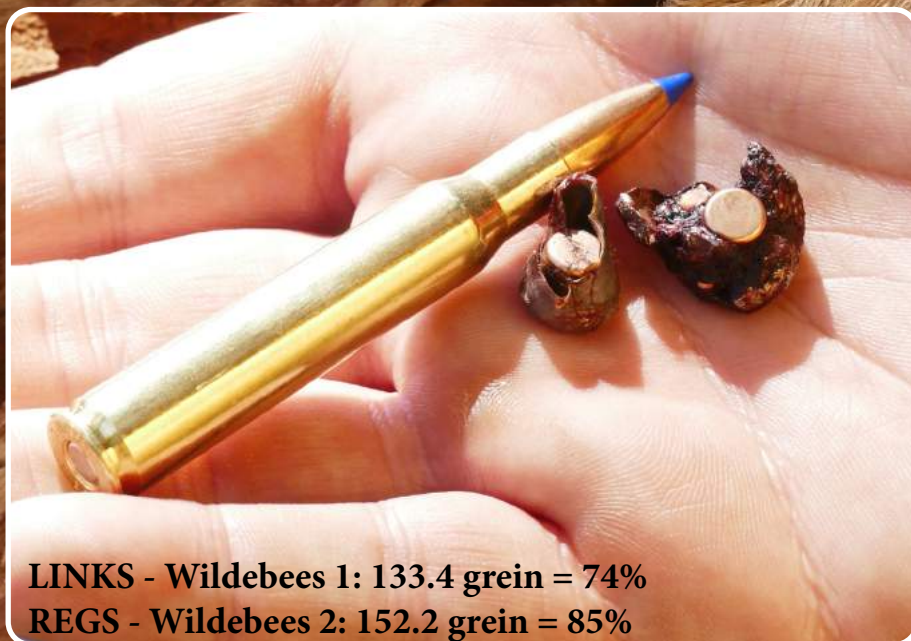
Dit is ware fees om die kampvuur en ek hoor oor en oor – julle weet van wie af – dat ek ‘n gelukkige snuiter is wat iets geskiet het wat my pa nog nie geskiet het nie, en nogal twee daarvan. Ek sal dit seker vir nog ‘n baie lang tyd hoor! Hoop net die biltong en droëwors maak dat hy dit ook sal onthou.

Lukaan Trading & Safaris op die plaas Doornhoek het my hart gesteel. Dit is ‘n baie mooi plaas en voldoen aan enige plaaslike jagter se vereistes. Alles wat jy wil hê is hier beskikbaar. Dit is egter die vriendelikheid en behulpsaamheid van Andries wat my altyd sal bybly – ‘n ware man van die veld – ‘n jagter uit murg en been.

Norma se BONDSTRIKE ammunisie slaan so hard soos ‘n voorhammer – dit was duidelik te sien in die reaksie van beide die diere. Die resultate spreek ook vanself.

Klik of skandeer die meegaande QR-kode om na ‘n kort video te kyk

Om op Doornhoek te gaan jag kontak vir Andries op 084 588 1737 of epos: andries.vdheever88@gmail.com. 



LINKS - Wildebees 1: 133.4 grein = 74%
REGS - Wildebees 2: 152.2 grein = 85%



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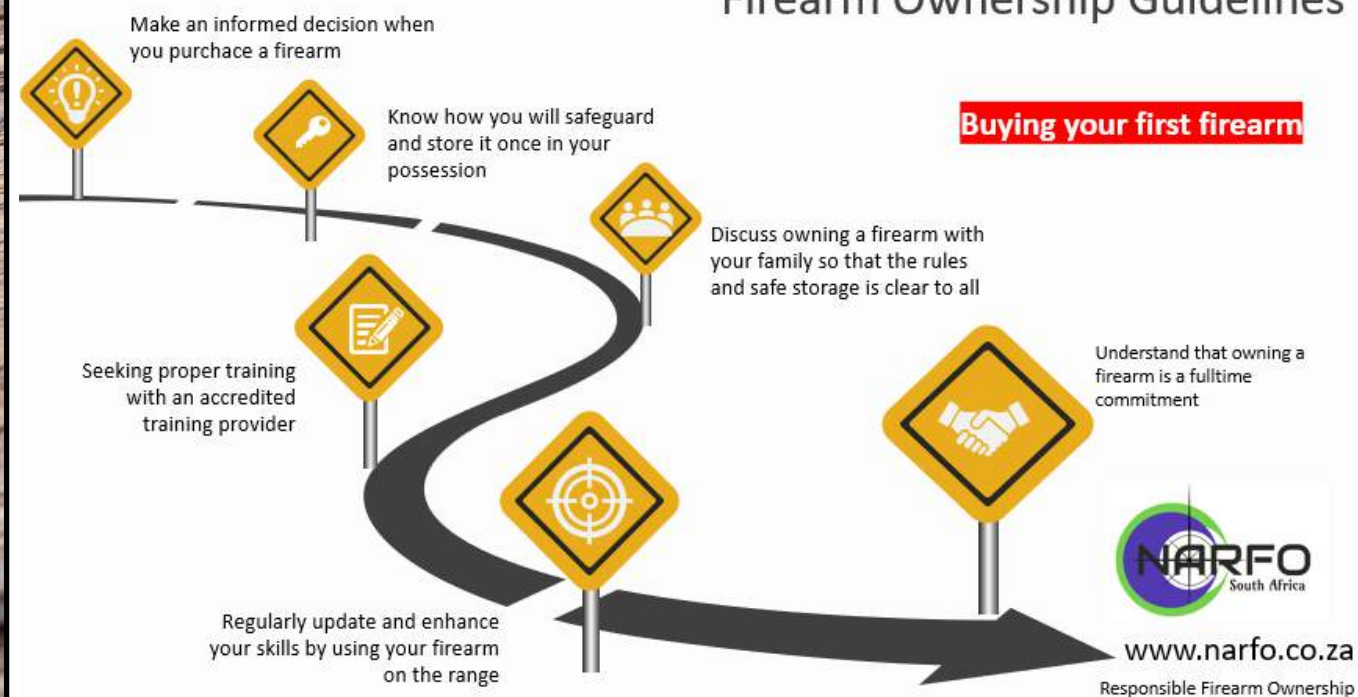
Firearm Ownership Guidelines

By Elmo Scheffer



Buying and owning a firearm comes with ongoing commitment and responsibility. This also comes with the understanding that you as a firearms owner should Own it, Respect it, and Safe Guard it. We have created the following guidelines to assist with making this decision.

Firearm Ownership Guidelines



Make an Informed Decision.

When you have decided that you want to buy a firearm, it is of utmost importance that you make an informed decision. Each type of firearm is suitable for a specific use, be it for sport shooting, self-defence or for hunting. You need to understand what type of firearm you want including the model and the calibre. You should also be sure that you can safely and with confidence handle and maintain the firearm. There are so many platforms where you can do some research on your own, but the challenge for a new firearm owner is to ensure you sift through all the information and verify what get presented is in fact true. There are many thousands of keyboard experts out there and information could be misleading or false. The best way is to do research and then speak to an expert at your local firearm dealer asking for advice and guidance, verifying your own data and physically inspecting the firearm in question.

Know how you are going to store it safely.

This is one of the key aspects of owning a firearm. You may own more than one firearm or you might not carry your

firearm with you 24/7. When your firearm or ammunition is not in your physical presence, it needs to be stored in a safe that complies with the act. Regulation 86 refers to "a safe or strong room that conforms to the prescripts of SABS Standard 953-1 and 953-2".

Regulation 86 (11)(a) Firearms other than those in respect of which a license for self-defense in terms of section 13 of the Act has been issued, must be stored unloaded in accordance with these regulations.

This means that any other firearm can not be stored loaded in your safe or strong room.

Regulation 86(11)(b) Any person who may lawfully possess a firearm or ammunition shall store these in a prescribed safe or strong room, to which he or she shall have at all time exclusive access or his or her presence and co-operation shall be a necessary prerequisite for access to the relevant firearm and ammunition.

In short, no one may have access to your safe. You may not give you safe keys to anyone and your safe keys should be in your possession all the time.

If you do have a self defense firearm

and you "Every Day Carry" or EDC for short, you need to be mindful of where you may carry it and how you safeguard it whilst in your possession.

Keeping firearms locked away is the first and foremost way to help prevent firearm accidents, theft and or miss use.

Discuss Owning a Firearm with you Family

This is another important step in the process of owning a firearm. Discuss the matter with your family or persons living with you in the same house and have a serious conversation with minors. It is important that they know your will have a firearm for what ever use. It is equally important that they also understand aspects of the law and understand that they should never touch or handle a firearm without the direct supervision of the licensed owner. For some people, guns are just outright scary, but with the right conversation and information, this could be overcome.

If you are going to own a hunting or sporting firearm, shooting can become a family recreational pastime. Encourage them to participate.

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Seek Proper Training

Firearm training is one aspect of obtaining your competency. It is a requirement of the unit standards. However, this type of training is done under the supervision of your competency training provider. Going to the range for the first time on your own can be something quite different. If you feel the need to further your skills, seek a competent training provider and a take a few extra lessons. Most shooting ranges have highly qualified and experienced range officers who will also assist with the basics and show you the ropes. Most sport shooting disciplines have training sessions and workshops for you to attend. Also watch out for hunter courses that could assist you with extra training. There are also a number of self-defense training providers who will focus more on this type of skill.

Regularly Update and Enhance Your Skills

There is only so much training that you can do, but the real training is you - going to the range and practicing. It is important that you do this regularly for several reasons. Firstly, you will regularly test the functioning and operation of your firearm. Secondly you will become comfortable in loading, shooting and making your firearm safe, and thirdly, after shooting, you will need to clean it. Most important is practicing the repetition of all the safety steps. It has to become second nature going through all the safety drills, even if it just taking the firearm out of its holster and putting it in the safe.

Understand that Owning a Firearm is an Ongoing Commitment

When you start your journey, there is no turning back. Once you are in possession of the firearm, the ongoing responsibility starts.

An important part of that journey is sharing what you know with others. As a responsible gun owner, you can be a powerful voice in building a culture of firearms safety within your house, your neighborhood and your community. You can never let your guard down. Firearm owners face some serious scrutiny during the application process and have to be a fit and proper person as described in the Act and the

Regulations. One wrong decision or a moment of letting your guard down can land you with a hefty fine, jail time and see you being declared unfit to possess a firearm and loose all of your firearms.

We hope that your firearm owner journey is a pleasant one and that you and your family can have many years of safe shooting. Shoot responsible and enjoy. **WL**



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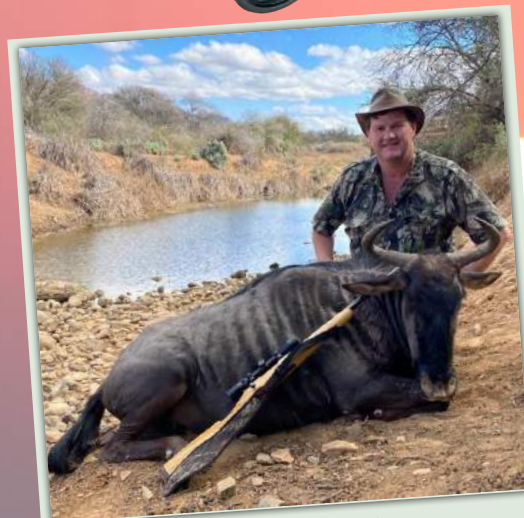


WILDLAND-WENNER

Die wenner van die Bushnell-verkyker is Stephan Botha met die bergskaap wat hy gejag het. Baie geluk!



Jagter: Stephan Botha; **Spesie:** Bergskaapram;
Geweer: Sako .308; **Ammunisie:** 165gr Hornady
Afstand: 330m; **Plek:** Loxton, Noord-Kaap



Jagter: Morne Limby;
Spesie: Blouwilbeeskoei;
Geweer: Ferlach .308;
Ammunisie: 165gr PMP
Afstand: 110m; **Plek:** Bhejane, Oos-Kaap



Jagter: Leon Lourens; **Spesie:** Koedoebul;
Geweer: Sabatti .500 NE; **Ammunisie:** Impala 420gr
Afstand: 50m;
Plek: Groblersdal, Limpopo



Jagter: Ruan Geyser; **Spesie:** Gemsbokbul;
Geweer: .303 Lee Enfield;
Ammunisie: 180gr Remington Core-Lokt
Afstand: 185m; **Plek:** The Vale, Beaufort West



Jagter: Theuns v.d. Merwe; **Spesie:** Sebra;
Geweer: .303 Lee Enfield;
Ammunisie: 174gr
Afstand: 80m;
Plek: Marble Hall



Jagter: Hendrik Möller; **Spesie:** Livingstone elandbul;
Geweer: Ruger .338 WM; **Ammunisie:** Perigrine 220gr;
Afstand: 145m; **Plek:** Stockpoort, Limpopo



Jagter: Morne Voges; **Spesie:** Blesbok;
Geweer: Howa .308;
Ammunisie: 150gr Lapua; **Afstand:** 200m;
Plek: 3 Shots Safari, Vrystaat



Jagter: Christelle Fick; **Spesie:** Swarttroobokram;
Geweer: Howa .375 Ruger; **Ammunisie:** 270gr Rhino;
Plek: Gelee, Koedoeskop



Jagter: Leon Mentz;
Spesie: Koedoebul;
Geweer: Savage .300 WSM;
Ammunisie: 200gr Hornady ELD-X;
Afstand: 95m



Jagter: Jonathan McDonald; **Spesie:** Springbok;
Geweer: .308 Winchester; **Ammunisie:** 180gr;
Afstand: 275m; **Plek:** Murraysberg, Wes-Kaap

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PATRIOT

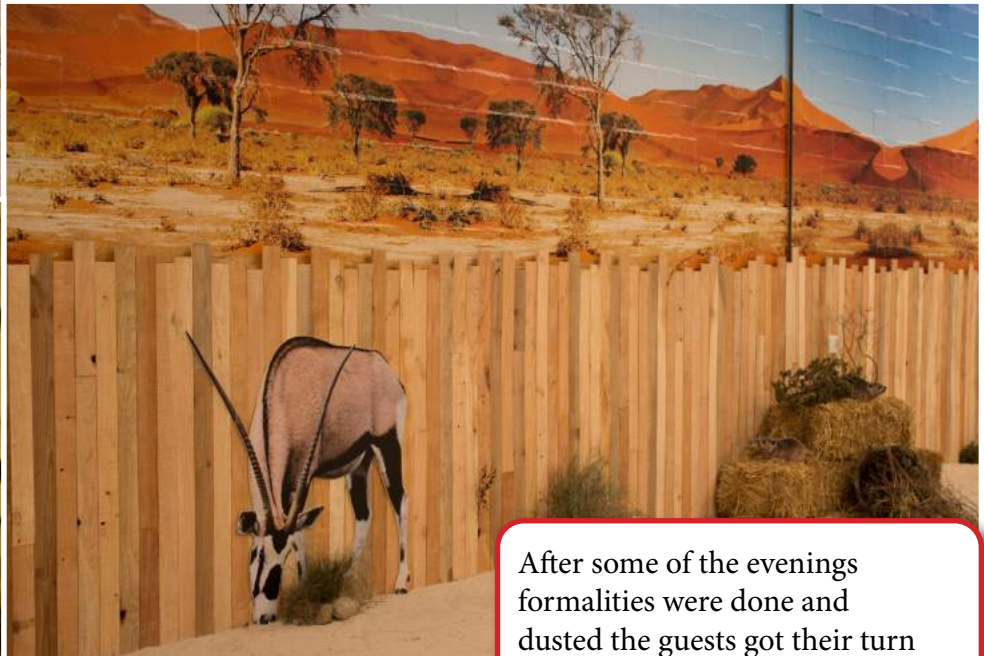
Passion for 'Pressure'

The shooting community today is all about placing accurate shots over long distances in the shortest possible time...(so to speak). It's all about precision, ballistics, time and in this case 'pressure'

Last month WILDLAND was invited by Wentzel Jonker, general manager, to attend the grand opening of Patriot Outdoors, a business that specifically focuses on airguns and the airgun market. Upon arrival at Patriot the evening of the 27th of August, I struggled to keep my jaw from dropping and my mouth opening so wide to swallow a Nikon DSLR. From what I have been told about Patriot is that it really was something special but I definitely was not expecting this!

By Danie van Dyk

As I mentioned Patriot specifically caters for the airgun enthusiast and hunters, every inch of this place was designed to be the best it possibly can be. There is a 10 lane 50 meter indoor shooting range created to give the public an 'outdoor experience', a retail shop, a lounge you name it they got it. The whole setup and layout of this place was planned and executed beautifully, one can see they spared no expense.



After some of the evenings formalities were done and dusted the guests got their turn to play with the 'toys'... After seeing, hearing and shooting them myself I soon realised that I should recategorise items that I once classified as toys. These are far more powerful than the "neck-breaker" airgun I grew up with, some of these rifles are capable of shooting a 34gr slug at well over a 1000fps. Whilst indulging these wonderful combinations of an extraordinary shooting range, the FX airguns and Patriot's own Javelin (Precision Swaged Airgun Slugs), I wondered how all this came to be... what started it, what gave spark to this fire....



Meet the team



FLTR- Back: Roelf Vorster, Gerhard Slabbert (Operations Manager) and Wentzel Jonker (GM)
Front: Matt Dubber and Andries Laubscher

As the foundation for lots of companies it all started with a passion. A passion for a certain idea, concept and/or dream. All the members of team Patriot has a passion for the airguns industry and the great outdoors and as most tales there was series of events that brought them all together.

Gerhard Slabbert: Operations Manager at Patriot, brings his experience to South Africa as part of the Research and Development Team for FX Airguns. He will be heading up the Service and Distribution Centre and actively mentoring new and emerging airgun shooters. Gerhard's expertise in custom power tuning, airgun servicing and technical reviews is something to stay on top of.

Matt Dubber: Matt Dubber has been deeply involved in the advancement of PCP Airgun technology through the development of the Smooth Twist X Slug Liners, and has been widely acknowledged as the driving force behind the agenda to make small bore slugs more widely available. Matt Joins Team Patriot alongside fellow South African Roelf Vorster who has the same passion for technical advancements in the Airgun world.

Roelf Vorster: Roelf's technical background has been key to our web & IT infrastructure at Patriot – something that we believe has been lacking amongst Airgun distributors in South Africa – and his experience in design has given us a kickstart as we begin

work on some exciting new projects.

These three, while perhaps known primarily as "YouTubers", bring many years of combined experience and expertise to the team and ensure that strong relationships between manufacturers, retailers and end users are always maintained.

Andries Laubscher: The driving force behind Patriot Outdoors. Andries' passion for shooting and the outdoors led him to dream big, and provided the vision which first brought the team together. His entrepreneurial spirit and business experience made it possible to turn the passion of everyone involved into reality.

Patriot Javelin Slugs



Patriot is proud to present the Javelin Slugs, designed and manufactured by their team of

experienced marksmen, competition winners, hunters and world renowned FX Airguns. They done more than a year of ballistic testing with a variety

of designs using doppler radar and real world in-the-field terminal performance analysis to develop a balanced design which gives you the ultimate sweet-spot between a high ballistic coefficient and devastating terminal expansion. The ogive, meplat and hollow point

designs they offer are catered to long-range airgun hunting for small game animals such as rodents, lagomorphs and birds, and they offer these in a variety of diameters and weights for your convenience.



FX Airguns

FX Airguns was founded by Fredrik Axelsson in the small picturesque town of Mariestad, Sweden in 1999. As a passionate airgun enthusiast, he was constantly on the look for the best airgun available. When Fredrik didn't find what he was looking for, he started on the journey to create the airgun of his dreams. Two decades later, he has more than succeeded.

The highly skilled FX team (with Fredrik at its helm) has since its small beginnings, relentlessly introduced cutting edge technologies that has propelled the airgun industry into a new era where FX Airguns are globally considered an industry leader. As intricate as their guns are, the philosophy behind their creations is quite simple; to provide the most exceptional airgun in every possible way; and so, they have.

FX Airguns are lovingly handcrafted by a team of over 50 Swedish craftsmen and engineers that have honed their skills to perfection; and airgun lovers worldwide have rightfully come to

expect much from them. An FX Airgun won't leave the factory until it has been thoroughly tested in all aspects of its masterfully engineered capacities. FX Airguns provide superior accuracy, dependable consistency, as well as being remarkably quiet, efficient and extremely powerful. Inevitably, FX Airguns are known for outperforming their competition with ease.

Their merit list is long. FX Airguns have been a trailblazer for the airgun industry since its inception. They have more patents, unique innovations and are more technologically advanced than any other airgun manufacturer existing today.

The backbone of FX Airguns has always been and will always be their deep passion for the airgun sport and their drive to outperform yesterday. With new technology always pushing the limits of what is possible, who knows what incredible airguns are yet to be invented, in the cradle of the minds from Mariestad.



Years of hard work determination and a passion for 'pressure' has led to this moment. Patriot is not just about FX Airguns (which they are the sole importers off) and Javelin slugs, they welcome all airgunners, air rifle brands and styles from Springer Airguns and PCP Air Rifles. Patriot is working towards becoming an industry leader in the airgun field. So if you are an airgun enthusiast, hunter or simply just find the idea interesting, be sure to pay them a visit next time you're in the shadow of Table Mountain.

For mor information on Patriot, Javelin slugs and Fx Airguns contact them on: 021 001 4666, send and email to: info@patriot-outdoors.com or visit their website: <https://patriot-outdoors.com/>

Click or scan the QR code to watch a video created by Patriot Outdoors. 



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Indawo skietkompetisie so twee-twee op die Hoëveld.



Hierdie gewilde Indawo skietkompetisie, wat reeds 'n paar keer al aangebied is, het bestaan uit twee-man spanne. Dit is dus 'n twee-twee-skiet, wat niks met die .22 kaliber te doen het nie maar skuts wat twee-twee deelneem.

Op 22 Augustus het die manne so twee-twee, vroeg oggend al begin opdaag. Aan hul voertuigregistrasienommers kon mens sien dat hulle nie almal plaaslik was nie, maar dat sommige van hulle wyd gery het om hierdie skiet aan te durf. Dit was 'n perfekte dag met uitstekende skietkondisies – mens kon nie maklik vir 'n mooier Augustus dag op die Hoëveld gevra het nie. Sewe uur het hulle al begin inskryf en daarna het elke span eers die inskietbaan besoek om te kyk of die kruishare nie na die lang rit geskuif het nie. Terwyl die eerste skuts geskiet het, kon die ander wat wag stomende koffie en lekker boerbeskuit

geniet – net om die koue-vingers los te maak.

Nadat die veiligheidsreëls vir die dag bespreek is, het die eerste skote net na agt op die onderskeie skietbane geklap. Die twee-man-skietkompetisie vir die dag het bestaan uit ses bane van vyf ghonge elk wat almal 200mm in deursnee was. Die skietafstand was tussen 250 en 400 meter en daar kon nie van afstandmeters gebruik gemaak word nie. Die bane het as volg gelyk:

1. Baan een was 'n paal wat aan twee kante vasgemaak was aan 'n ketting wat skuins gehang het waar altwee skuts oor die paal geskiet het.
2. Baan twee was 'n standard skietstok

wat gebruik moes word.

3. Baan 3 het bestaan uit klein 20 L diesel dromme wat as rus gedien het.
 4. Baan 4 het bekendgestaan as die 'toubaan'. Twee vertikale geplante pale het as ankers gedien vir die tou wat daaraan vasgemaak is. Die skuts moes die tou wat horisontaal gehang het as rus gebruik.
 5. Baan 5 was 'n taai tande snyer en skuts moes in die lêposissie, sonder om 'n rus te gebruik skiet. Die geweerbelt kon wel gebruik word.
 6. Baan 6 was 'n klein lusernaal met 'n X-bag bo-op.
- Die interessante uitleg van die ses bane het gesorg dat die skuts dit nie so maklik



John de Beer het die pryse oorhandig. Beste skuts vir dag links na regs: Jan Roux, Stoffel Bester, John de Beer, Johan Lottering, Christi Marais, W.P. Roux.



Wenspan van die dag WP en Jan Roux
John de Beer middel



Y nots span saam met John de Beer, Stoffel Bester en Frederick Maritz.



Piet van den Heever en Morne Barnett.



Beste vroue skut Elize van den Heever saam met haar man Piet.

kon doen nie en daar is op sekere van die bane maar bietjie 'gesweet'. Altesaam was daar 1500 skote geskiet en 1110 van hulle het die gongs getref. Die baan met die laagste puntetelling was baan ses met 163 uit 'n moontlike 250. Die baan met die hoogste puntetelling was baan vier met 200 uit 250

Spanwenners was as volg:

1. Gongbusters (60) (Jan en WP Roux)
2. Overwatch 1 (59) (Johan Lottering en Deon de Villiers)

3. Overwatch 2 (58) (Christi Marais en Hein Snibbe)
4. Y nots 1 (57) (Stoffel Bester en Frederick Maritz)

Die beste skut vir die dag is gedeel deur vyf manne in die eerste plek:

- Johan Lottering
- Christi Marais
- Jan Roux
- W.P. Roux
- Stoffel Bester

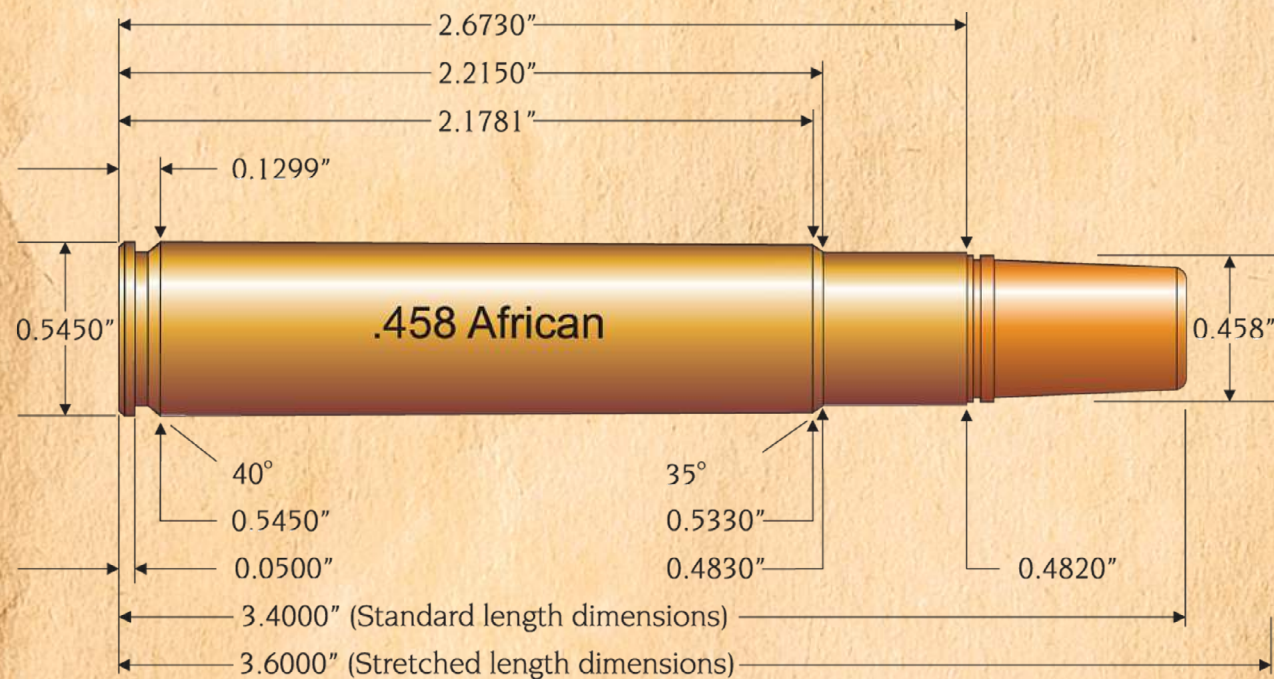
Beste vroue skut vir die dag was Elize

van den Heever met 27/30

Na die skietdag was daar natuurlik lekker gebrui en gekuier en groot 'skiet stories' vertel. Almal was dit eens die twee-twee-skiet is 'n wen idee en daar is reeds 'n paar inskrywings vir volgende jaar se kompetisie. Vir meer inligting Wildman op Ermelo. Daar is nog twee sulke geleenthede in die naby toekoms 26 September en 10 Oktober. [WL](#)

Cartridges Head to Head:

.458 African



Introduction

During the latter half of the 1800s the solid brass cased .450 BPE 3¼" black powder cartridge was the most popular deer hunting cartridge in the United Kingdom. So, it therefore is not surprising that when the smokeless propellant era dawned, British gunmakers keenly looked at smokeless .450" calibre cartridge options to carry the baton into the future. In 1898 John Rigby & Company simply substituted the black powder in the .450 BPE 3¼" with smokeless propellant and named it the Rigby .450 Nitro Express 3¼". The cartridge fired a 480 grain .458 diameter bullet at 2,125 fps from a 28" proof barrel. By doing this Rigby turned the deer hunting .450 BPE 3¼" black powder cartridge into a successful

double rifle dangerous game cartridge.

The .450 Nitro Express 3¼" was not perfect, so Jeffery decided to up the ante. He introduced the .450 No.2 Nitro Express 3½" in 1903. This cartridge fired the same bullet 50 fps faster (2,175 fps) at roughly 8% lower pressure. Both cartridges were popular and they established the parameters required for .450" calibre African dangerous game hunting.

After the Second World War the American tried to emulate the British. The .458 Winchester Magnum was born. It was supposed to deliver a 510 grain bullet at 2,150 fps from 610mm (24") barrels. We do not have space here to delve into the Winchester Magnum's failure to deliver those ballistics, but it did not. The .458 Winchester Magnum

soon acquired a bad reputation and American big game cartridge wildcatters began looking to fix its shortcomings.

From these efforts four American wildcat cartridges were born; the .450 Ackley Improved, the .450 Watts, the .458 Lott and the .460 G&A. Roy Weatherby also introduced the mighty .460 Weatherby Magnum. Of these the Lott became the most popular as its designer, Jack Lott, was a well-known gunwriter who naturally gave his cartridge a lot (no pun intended) more exposure than its competition could achieve. The .460 Weatherby Magnum simply is more cartridge than most hunters want.

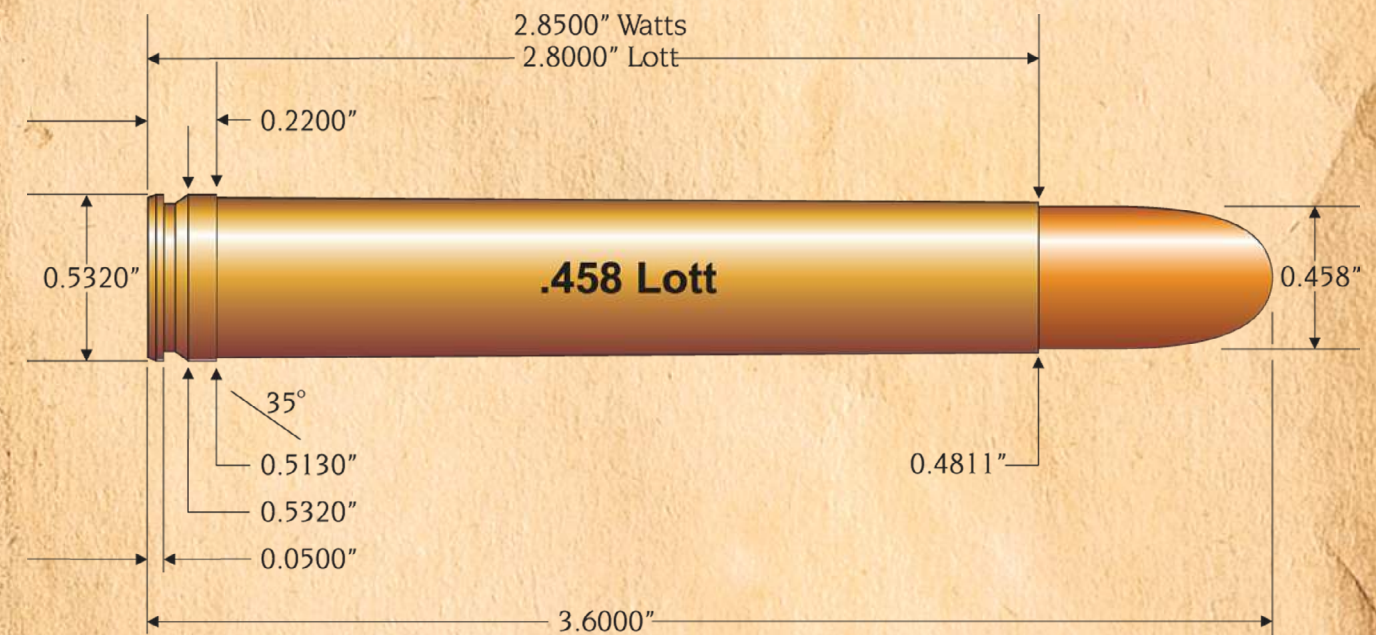


By Pierre van der Walt

Pierre van der Walt is an old hand in our firearms and hunting circles and has written hundreds of articles for local and international magazines. He was the man who convinced politicians in 1993 to legalise gun shows in South Africa and then launched the concept. He served as a SAGA Trustee for many years and was the founding editor of *Phasa News*, *Safari*

Times Africa and the *Big Bore Journal*. Pierre is a qualified advocate and professional hunter as well as a publisher. He presently handloads for 42 cartridges and is the author of the popular book *African Dangerous Game Cartridges*. His next book, *African Medium Bore Cartridges* will be ready shortly for publishing. Contact Pierre at info@pathfinder-publications.com

.458 Lott



The .458 Lott Story

The story of the .458 Lott cannot be told without telling the story of the .458 Watts. The Watts was developed by James Watts and his gunsmithing friend, Harvey Anderson, both of Yakima, Washington, USA. They used barrels made by the famous wildcatter, P.O. Ackley, who wrote about the cartridge in Volume I of his *Handbook for Shooters & Reloaders* (1962).

The .450 Watts is a stretched length, belted .458" calibre cartridge with an overall cartridge length of 91,44mm (3.6"). Different sources list the Watts' case length from 72,39mm – 72,50mm (2.85" – 2.8543") long.

The .458 Lott is exactly the same thing, except that its case length is generally listed as 71,12mm (2.8"). American Gunwriter Jack Lott was

allegedly tossed by a Mozambican buffalo while using an early .458 Winchester Magnum. Probably not understanding that it was the cartridge loading and not the design that was the issue, he decided that he wanted a .458" calibre rifle that could fire a 500-grain bullet faster than the Winchester. He used a .375 H&H Magnum case, blew it out into a straight-walled case and loaded a .458" diameter bullet in it in 1971. The .458 Lott was born.

Lott might have had his shortcomings and he was not universally liked over here, but that is beside the point. He was an intelligent man and a very well informed and knowledgeable gunwriter. He must have known about the .450 Watts Magnum, whereas not many of his readers could have. Lott has therefore

understandably since been accused of copying Watts' design and the more one delves into at the facts, the more one tends to believe the accusations. That does not concern us though.

Although the .458 Lott undoubtedly was an improvement over the .458 Winchester Magnum, it does not reliably and safely deliver the 2,300 fps muzzle velocity with 500 grain bullets claimed for it. In fact, it is a 2,250 fps cartridge with 500 grain bullets at best.

Determining the Standard

Serious South African handloaders and big game hunters soon realized that the .458 Lott was better than the Winchester Magnum, but not nearly what it was made out to be. So locals started designing a 'better-than-the-Lott' (pun intended) local solution. Jurie Majoor created the .450 Majoor on the .416 Rigby case. To the best of my knowledge only one was ever built. Oom Fanie Combrink designed the .458 Sabi on the .500 Jeffery case. There must be a couple

of these floating around. Prof Koos Badenhorst and I rejected all these wildcats as solutions for reasons which are of no importance here. We determined that the solution must be better than the Lott, but not by too much otherwise recoil and magazine capacity became issues. Our calculations indicated that a cartridge with a total case capacity around 118 – 120 grains of water, or combustion space of about 94.0 grains of water after bullet seating,

was enough to deliver 500 grain bullets at 2,300 fps from 24" barrels at pressure levels that would be safe in Africa's heat. Have a look at the enclosed table that compare the more common .458 cartridges against each other. The comparisons were made using actual pressure tested handload results, but then I homogenized the results to the pressure level of .458 Winchester Magnum commercial loads.

TABLE: .458 Cartridge Comparisons

Cartridge Name	Cartridge Length mm	Gr Case Volume	Velocity fps 500gr / 24"
.458 Win Mag	84,84	72,5	2 100
.450 Ackley Mag	92,30	85,3	2 220
.458 Lott	91,44	85,8	2 225
.458 Express 3"	96,52	94,1	2 300
.450 Majoor	84,84	94,3	2 300
.460 G&A Special	81,40	96,2	2 320
.458 African	84,84	101,9	2 350
.450 Rigby Rimless	95,25	110,9	2 450
.458 Sabi	91,30	115,0	2 500
.460 Wby Mag	95,25	118,5	2 550

The .458 African Story

Prof Koos and I were good friends and remained so until his passing. We did however have different ideas about the perfect .458 cartridge to deliver 2,300 fps with 500 grain bullets from 610mm (24") barrels. Koos simply wanted to stretch the Lott to a 76,2mm (3.0") case to increase the combustion space to the required level for acceptable pressure and 2,300 fps muzzle velocity. His argument, and it was a sound one, was that it would be the cheapest conversion of existing .458 Winchester Magnum chambered Brno ZKK-602 and CZ-550 Magnum rifle actions. This required specially made, extra long, .458 belted cases to be made. My argument was that I wanted to create a compact, fast cycling cartridge that would fit in all standard length action magazine boxes such as the Mauser M-98, Winchester M-70 and standard Brno/CZ's on a cartridge case that did not require special production.

I also did not want a belted case and I wanted to make sure that my cartridge could be long-loaded to also fill CZ-550 Magnum length magazine boxes. We both set out to work on our designs, often sharing ideas and when completed we had both achieved what we set out to do. PMP made a large batch of 3" long belted basic cases for Koos and his customers. I completed my design and shelved it as I had no intention of ever turning my design into reality. I did have a minimum spec proof barrel made and the cartridge proof tested at Somchem. The .458 African met and slightly exceeded my expectations. Koos however pestered me and even offered to have me a stock built for my rifle if I proceeded to turn the cartridge into hunting rifle reality. I eventually relented and chambered the first rifle for the .458 African twenty years ago (2000) on the short-lived, but

excellent Vektor Bushveld/Lyttelton design. Koos was ecstatic and came all the way from Haenertsburg to help me fireform the first cases. I then did some load development with a variety of local and foreign propellants, but then shelved the concept. I have never bothered to promote it. I intended it, like most of my other cartridge designs, to remain low-key and largely private. Koos however liked the cartridge so much that he could not keep his mouth shut. Through his efforts there now are about 40 – 50 rifles chambered for the .458 African romping around after dangerous game in southern African game fields. The owners constantly pester me to be a bit less selfish about their beloved .458 African's existence. In my view, and I am just being modest for a change (sic!), is that my .458 African is just another .458 among a list of many great options.

Design Comparisons

The .458 Lott has a straight-walled belted case measuring 71,12mm (2.8"). Cartridge overall length is stipulated at 91,44mm (3.6"). The objections to the .458 Lott case are:

- The absence of the shoulder and the relatively small difference between base and mouth diameters result in the rear of the chamber entrance being less than a millimetre wider than the front of the case. There is no feeding leeway or guide if the cartridge runs forward slightly misaligned. The Lott is not renowned for reliable feeding.
- The long and thin propellant column means that primers cannot ignite the entire powder column at once as the primer flame cannot reach that far through the propellant packed in the case to ignite it all at once.
- Although I have in the enclosed Table given the .458 Lott the benefit of the doubt of 110 grains water capacity before bullet seating, I have rarely come across cases that actually offer more than 105 grains of water capacity. Combustion space therefore hardly ever exceeds 80 grains. That is one of the reasons why the .458 Lott cannot achieve the 2,300 fps Lott claimed for it at safe pressure tested pressures in warm conditions such as the Zambezi valley or the tropics.
- Resizing dies cannot swage the entire body of belted cases smaller right down to the belt face because the die stops against the belt. A bulge develops and grows just ahead of the belt and after just a few firings (very often five or less) the bulge has become so big that the case only chambers with difficulty, or not at all. Special dies costing thousands are required to solve that problem. Truthfully the .458 Lott delivers only about 2,225 - 2,250 fps (at best) cartridge with 500 grains from 610mm (24") barrels. That is good enough to fell anything on this planet reliably though. The Lott is what the .458 Winchester should have been and there is nothing

Conclusion

The ballistics of the .458 Lott sufficiently improves upon the original .458 Winchester Magnum to offer the African dangerous game hunter all

I will not face with a .458 Lott. It is just not what it has been made out to be. The .458 African had to be designed to:

- Fit a standard 86,4mm (3.34") long Mauser action magazine box. At the same time it had to offer the option of 'long-loading' it. When monometal bullets were to be used it had to be capable of loading to 91,44mm (3.6") for use in CZ-550 Magnum magazines and to still offer full ballistics
- Not compromise magazine capacity due to overly large girthed cases, such as the .450 Majoor, .458 Sabi, .450 Rigby Rimless and .460 Weatherby Magnum cases do. It had to be based on cases readily available in South Africa such as the .404 Jeffery.
- Deliver 2,300 fps with a 4th Generation 500 grain jacketed solid and 2,250 fps with a 500-grain monometal solid from 24" barrels at .458 Winchester Magnum pressure levels.
- Clean a .458 Winchester Magnum chamber out during re-chambering.
- Offer more shoulder area than the .460 G&A – the cartridge that inspired the .458 African.
- Generate the minimum recoil to facilitate fast between-shot recovery time, and promote accurate shot placement; in other words, minimise the case size and propellant dose of propellant needed. Bigger cased .458's recoil harder, induce excessive muzzle lift and blast and are less economical.
- Achieve all of the above with the limited range of South African propellants.

Every design aspect of the .458 African was compared to existing designs. The dimensions settled on do not push any parameters. The body taper is more than that of the .460 G&A Special, but safely between that of two proven cartridges, the .500 Jeffery and the .460 Weatherby Magnum.

Its shoulder angle is 35°, twenty degrees more than that of the .460 G&A Special, but 10° less than that of the

.416 Rigby, the .450 Rigby or the .450 Majoor. The .458 African's shoulder is less prone to collapsing when crimping than these designs. The larger shoulder diameter also offers a larger shoulder area for positive headspacing. Combined with the modern shoulder this cartridge headspaces positively. The neck is 1.77% longer than calibre. This long neck ensures positive bullet grip. Case length of the original .404 Jeffery case was reduced from 73,0mm to 67,89mm; very similar to that of the 8x68mmS cartridge. This satisfied the criteria that the cartridge case had to be short enough to swallow 500 grain bullets at their crimp groove, while still fitting in standard magazine boxes without dropping velocity of jacketed below 2,300 fps. The chamber opening measures 2,2mm larger than the bullet diameter, so feeding alignment is less critical than it is with the .458 Lott. Combined with a much more compact design, reliable feeding of the .458 African is much easier to achieve than with most other .458 cartridges. Despite being a more compact cartridge with a potentially faster cycle interval than the Lott, the combustion space of the .458 African is between 18,7% (real) – 26,0% (theoretical) larger than that of the Lott. Assuming equal pressure it enables the .458 African to deliver 100 fps – 125 fps higher muzzle velocity than the .458 Lott. Now let us be frank here – the Lott delivers enough muzzle velocity. So, the advantage of the .458 African should not be considered higher velocity, but being able to equal the Lott in either shorter barrels or at lower pressure. The handling of a barrel that is just an inch (25,4mm) shorter, already improves handling and shot acquisition time.

the power he needs. There can be no argument about that. It has, until recently, also been chambered in factory rifles and commercial ammunition is

available for it. Those are big plusses. The .458 African simply is a better cartridge though – but for handloaders and so it must remain. 

ROOIBOK KOLSKOOT – WEN 'N R5000 KOOPBEWYS VAN WILDMAN.



Die beste nuus wat die jagter hierdie jaar gekry het, was toe daar aangekondig is dat die provinsiale grense oop is en dat jagters weer kan doen wat hulle gewoonlik doen – om te gaan jag! Hierdie aankondiging is wyd verwelkom! Sommer die volgende dag het die jagvoertuie vanaf Gauteng noordwaarts, suidwaarts, weswaarts en ooswaarts vertrek. Elke windrigting het 'n jagbestemming. As daar nog windrigtings was, sou daar ook jagvoertuie soontoe oppad gewees het. Ongelukkig is die beste van die jagseisoen reeds agter die rug en sal jagters baie mooi na hul vleis moet kyk om dit in 'n gesonde toestand by die huis te kry. Jagters is egter vindingryke mense. Hulle maak baie vinnig planne om elke moontlike probleem te oorkom. So ek weet daar sal nie 'n tekort aan eetbare biltong of vars vleis wees nie. Om die jagter se skietlus so bietjie te prikkel het Wildland in samewerking met die Wildman-groep

'n baie interessante skietkompetisie bewerkstellig. Hierdie kompetisie leer jou ook meer van skootplasing. Wat meer is, jy kan dit op jou eie tyd doen en slegs 'n foto van jou teiken instuur om in aanmerking vir hierdie prys te kom. Dit werk so:

1. Koop die rooibokteiken waar die skootplasing aangedui word (A1 formaat) by enige Wildman-winkel teen ongeveer R35.00.
2. Vul jou besonderhede daarop in en teken die teiken om korrespondensie in die toekoms te ontvang.
3. Skiet minstens vyf skote op die gewone blokkisteiken of op die rooibokteiken.
4. Fotografeer jou teiken as jy klaar is en stuur dit aan info@wildlandmag.co.za
5. Die sluitingsdatum is 27 April 2021. Die wenner sal deur middel van 'n trekking, wat tydens die HuntEx skou 2021 gedoen sal word, aangekondig word.

6. Daar is maandelikse pryse ook op die spel. Elke maand sal 'n ander prys bekend gestel word. Die prys vir Oktober is 'n R500 koopbewys van Wildman plus twee skootplasingboeke en twee Wild & Warm potjiekos resepte boeke vanaf Wildland. In totaal is hierdie prys R1000 werd.

7. Jy kan meer as een inskrywing stuur, maar elke inskrywing moet van 'n afsonderlik teiken gebruik word.

Let wel, die doel van hierdie kompetisie is nie om te bepaal wie die beste skut is nie, maar om die konsep van skootplasing te bevorder. Daarom moedig ons ook juniors aan om deel te neem, selfs met hul luggewere.

Kry jou teiken, of dalk meer as een! Wees deel van hierdie pret! R5000 is sekerlik in hierdie tye nie te versmaai nie. Hoe sê die Hollanders? "Een Prettige Kompetisie"

ROOIBOK IMPALA

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Tel

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Hunting Association/Membership number

Kaliber/Caliber

Afstand/Distance

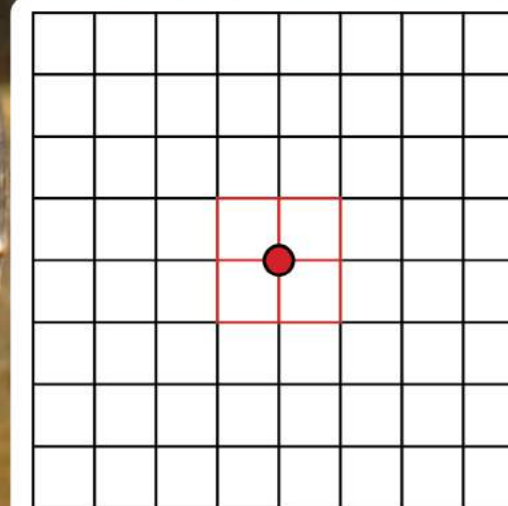
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1. Vul jou besonderhede op die teiken in en skiet minstens vyf skote enige plek op die teiken of bok.
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3. Stuur die foto per e-pos aan die adres soos hierbo.

4. Maandelikse bonuspryse. Vir verdere inligting lees enige Wildland (Okt 2020 – Mei 2021) uitgawe.
5. Kry Wildland hier: www.wildlandmag.co.za
6. Sluitingsdatum 27 April 2021
7. Die wenner sal deur middel van 'n trekking bepaal word en by HuntEx van 2021 aangekondig word.

Skootplasing: Die Feite Praat
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BOKKOORS NA EEN SKOOT!!

JAGTER: Thea Pieters
SPESIE: Blesbok
GEWEER: 303 Lee Enfield oop
vessier full stock
AMMUNISIE: 174gr PMP
AFSTAND: +- 150m
PLEK: Memel Distrik, Vrystaat



Deur Thea Pieters

Die idee van my eerste bok was gemengde gevoelens. Opgewonde en flinders in my maag terselfde tyd. Ek het lank gewag om die kans te kry om my eerste bok te skiet en gewonder hoe ek die bokkoors gaan hanteer.

Dit het begin by die basiese om eers tyd in te sit by die skietbaan en genoeg te oefen om my self sekerheid te gee om met die eerste jag met die aanlê proses self vertrou te hê. Alhoewel dit nie maklik was nie want mens het maar die onsekerheid en emosies vat soms oor, is ek gereed of nie.

Die dag het aangebreek toe ek my oë oopmaak het die gevoel van opgewondenheid deur my liggaam

gegaan toe het ek geweet vandag is die dag waarvoor ek lank gewag het.

Ons het op die plaas gearriveer dit was koud en kwaai winderig wat die omstandighede nog soveel kompliseer. Ons het vertrek met die bakkie, my liggaam was koud en benoud maar die oomblik wat ek die trop blesbokke gesien het was daar net een doel voor oë en dit was vandag of weer wag. Ons gids het geweet dis my eerste jag en die situasie reg hanteer deur om dit nie 'n gejaagde proses te maak nie.

Ek het aangelê, my hart kloep erg, toe draai die trop eers tot agter 'n bultjie en die gids ry nader en toe staan my bok 2de van regs stil maar dwars in my fissier. Toe die gids my toestemming gee vir daai bok toe trek ek die sneller en my bok val net daar in sy spoor met die eerste skoot.

By die bok aangekom en natuurlik is daar mos tradisie met die eerste bok. My maag draai klaar want dis 'n ram, met die gedagte dat ek moet kies tussen die geslagsboon en 'n stuk lewer. My man het my gesig gesmeer met bloed. Ek was braaf om die geslagsboon te probeer maar kon nie deur druk met dit nie toe eet ek 'n stuk rou lewer. Dit was nie te sleg nie maar hoef dit gelukkig nie weer te doen nie (nie gedink daai smaak kan so lank agterbly nie).

So kom die lang verwagting tot 'n einde en kry die status ek is 'n jagter. Dit sou nie moontlik gewees het sonder my man Corné nie en om als te kroon kon ek nie vir 'n beter verjaarsdag geskenk gevra het nie. 



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'n Jagnaweek om te onthou...



Die Jagters se uitsig oor die Vaalrivier



Van links na regs: Jurie, Elyna, Phillip, Dehandre, Clarissa en Phil voor die vuur by die Jagtershuis.

Deur Jan de Man

Ons het verlede maand Elyna Bouwer van Witbank se eerste bok jagstorie met julle gedeel. Op daardie selfde jagnaweek het haar boetie, Dehandre, en die van der Berg sussie en boetie, Clarissa en Phil, ook elkeen 'n bok geskiet. Dit was ook Phil se eerste bok... Die kinders het saam groot geword en ek kon sien dat dit baie spesiaal vir hulle was om ook saam te kon jag! Vandag deel ons hierdie drie jongmense se jagdag en -naweek met julle...

Eerste aan die woord is Dehandre: "Dit was 'n koue wintersoggend toe die wekkers in die huis vir ons laat weet het dat dit tyd was om op te staan en te gaan jag. Toe ons by die landerye/skietbaan aangekom het, was dit tyd vir 'n paar skote - wat mooi geklap het - en toe ry ons na die blesbokkamp toe..."

Daar het ons al die Fords en 'n Toyota onder 'n pragtige groot vuurhoutjieboom parkeer en die vuur was aangesteek. Eerste aan die beurt was my suster, Elyna. Ek, Elyna en my pa, Jurie, het agter op die plaasboer, Gert Viljoen du Plooy, se bakkie geklim met 'n .308 Howa, oppad nader na die bokke toe. Na my sussie se eerste bok geval het met 'n fantastiese kopskoot, het ek die eer gehad

om 'n bok te gaan soek en in die geweer se visier te kry. Ons kry 'n verdwaalde, maar groot, blesbokram in die lang gras. Ek mik en sien hoe hy gras vreet. Volgens foto's is daar 'n knop net agter sy blad waar die ideale plek is om 'n blesbok te skiet, maar dit is maar altyd veilig om hom plankdwaars in die blad te skiet, en dit is waarvoor ek gemik het. Ek het tot dusver in my jagloopbaan geleer dat as jy sien die kruishaar van die teleskoop is waar hy moet wees, dan skiet jy. So ek het nie baie tyd gemors toe ek sien dat hy op die regte plek is nie. Net na die 168gr PMP patroon die loop verlaat het, kon jy sommer hoor dat dit die bok getref het. In die lang gras was dit natuurlik moeilik om te sien presies waar die bok geval het, maar die organiseerder van die jag, oom

Jan, het soos 'n kompas opgetree en ons presies na die bok toe gelei. Daar het ons 'n paar fotos geneem en die bok was na die slagplek toe gevat. 'n Jagnaweek gaan oor meer as net om 'n bok te skiet; dit gaan oor die samesein wat jy saam met familie en vriende het..."

Clarissa sluit hierby aan: "Ons het Vrydag, 3 Julie, na skool Vrystaat toe gery vir 'n jagnaweek saam met vriende. Ons het eers na oom Jan se huis op Viljoensdrif gegaan en hy het ons van daar af na die jaghuis toe gevat waar ons gebly het. Die huis was reg langs die Vaalrivier. Die uitsig oor die rivier was prentjie mooi. Die seuns moes die donkie stook sodat ons warm water gehad het om te stort. Daar was nie elektrisiteit nie, so ons het 'n klein kragopwekker gehad



Phil op die skietbaan voor die jag, terwyl pa Phillip, die plaaseienaar, Gert Viljoen du Plooy en Jan 'n ogie hou...



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Dehandre en Jurie by Dehandre se mooi ram in die lang gras.



Clarissa by haar baie mooi blesbokram. Uiteindelik!

om ons selfone te 'charge' en ligte aan te sit. Die aand was vol opgewondenheid oor die dag wat voorgelê het...

My alarm het al vyf uur Saterdagoggend afgegaan. Dit was 'n ander tipe koud, iets waaraan ons nie heeltemal gewoond is nie. Dit was -4 C toe ons by die huis gery het. Al die jagters het by oom Jan se huis bymekaargekom voordat ons na die plaas toe is waar ons gejag het. By die skietbaan het die kinders en van die grootmense 'n skoot of twee afgedruk, net om dood seker te maak dat ons almal en die gewere op dieselfde plek skiet. Dit was so koud, my vingers het gevoel asof hulle gaan afbreek. Die kinders wie se eerste bokke dit was het n knipmes en boekie gekry. Ongelukkig was dit nie my eerste bok nie...

Elyna en Dehandre was die eerste twee wat uit was. Terwyl hulle weg was moes ek 'n bietjie huiswerk doen terwyl die res onder 'n groot vuurhoutjieboom gekuier het. Na die Greeffs was 'n ander gesin eers veld toe voordat ek en Phil ons bokke kon

gaan skiet het...

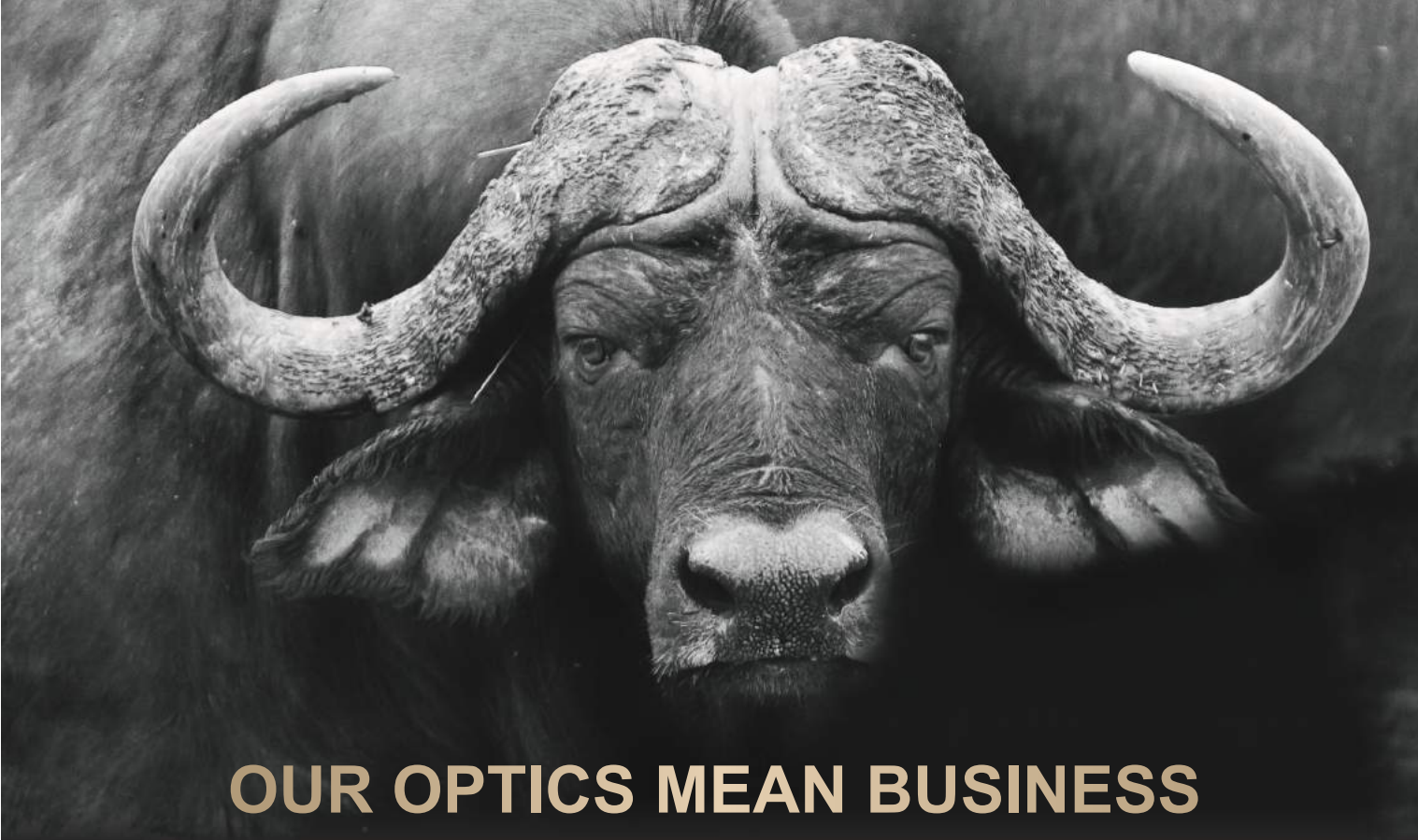
Phil was eerste agter die geweer, hy wou nog sê, nee wag, toe val sy bok. Hy het 'n witblesbokram geskiet. Ek het 'n klein bietjie langer gevat. Ek moet sê, ek vat nogal lank om die sneller te druk. Dis dalk nie gepas om te sê hoe lank dit gevat het voor ek uiteindelik my bok geskiet het nie. Na 'n ruk het ons Phil se bok opgelaai en gaan aflaai en net so 'n blaaskansie gevat...

My tweede probeerslag in die veld het vinniger sukses gebring. Dit het wel sy eie uitdagings gehad. Ek was net reg oor die dooierus om die sneller te druk, toe loop 'n koei voor die bok verby. Nadat sy verby was, en my fokus weer op die bok was, het haar kalfie reg voor die bok gaan staan... Die oomblik wat die kalfie geloop het, het die skoot afgegaan. Die bok het 'n paar treë geloop voordat hy gaan lê het. Ek het ook 'n blesbok geskiet. Hierna was dit my pa se beurt en hy het glad nie tyd gemors om sy bok, die een wat saam met my ram geloop het, te skiet nie. Hulle het almal

n bietjie met my gespot dat hulle moes opmaak vir die tyd wat dit my gevat het om my bok te jag ...

Die aand oppad terug na ons verblyf toe, het ek, my pa en Elyna 'n klein bietjie verdwaal. Net Elyna se foon was nie dood nie, maar hy was op 10%... Ons het darem vinnig agtergekom waar ons verkeerd gery het. Ons was van oom Jan af op pad terug na die plaas toe waar ons gejag het, in plaas van na waar ons gebly het... Ons het darem weer terug gekom by die huis.

Daardie aand was ek so moeg, my oë kon nie oop bly nie. Ek was vroeg Saterdagagaand reeds in die bed, net nadat ons geëet het. Sondag het ons 'n klieën bietjie later geslaap. Voordat ons terug Witbank toe is, het ons eers die bokke by oom Jan se huis opgelaai. Dit was 'n naweek vol avonture! Baie dankie aan al die mense wat die naweek so 'n sukses gemaak het. Dit was 'n naweek wat altyd na aan my hart sal lê!



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Daar is nou al oor Phil se eerste bok en skoot gesels, maar gee die jongman kans om sy eie storie te vertel: "Dit is Vrydag, 3 Julie 2020; ek is baie opgewonde; ons is op pad Vrystaat toe! Ek, my pa en my suster. Ek gaan my eerste bok jag! My pa het alles gereël met oom Jan..."

Ek ontmoet vir oom Jan vir die eerste keer. Hy is 'n baie gawe oom. Hy gaan my help om my eerste bok te jag. Oom Jan vat ons toe na die huisie waar ons vir die naweek gaan bly. Ons kom by ons huisie aan by die rivier; dit was die mooiste uitsig ooit. Ons het 'n lekker aand gehad om die braaivleisvuur. Vir warm water moes ons 'n donkie stook. Dit was ook 'n ander lekkerte...

Op Saterdag 4 Julie 2020, net na die koffie en beskuit, het ons weer na oom Jan toe gery. Van oom Jan af is ons plaas toe. Ons was drie kinders wat daardie dag ons eerste bokke wou jag. Ek en twee meisiekinders...

By die plaasaangekom, is ons eers skietbaan toe. Oom Jan het met ons

gepraat oor wapenveiligheid en waar jy moet mik as jy jou bok gaan skiet. Na dit het hy vir ons drie elkeen 'n knipmes en 'n handleiding vir jagters-boekie gegee. Ek is so trots op my eerste Leupold jagmes... Almal wat hulle eerste bok sou jag het eers op 'n teiken aangelê en geskiet sodat oom Jan kon sien ons weet hoe om 'n geweer te hanteer. Hy was tevrede...

Almal ry toe na die plaas toe waar die bokke is. My pa en die ander mense sê dit was die eerste keer wat hulle jag gekyk het, amper soos rugby kyk... Die eerste kinders is toe uit veld toe om hulle bokke te gaan soek. Al die ander het by die enigste boom in die omgewing gestaan en gekuier...

Daar is dadelik vuur gemaak om 'n stukkie wors te braai. Uiteindelik breek die tyd aan, ek moes my bok gaan soek. Ek moet sê ek was nogals senuweeagtig, maar oom Jan praat so mooi met 'n mens dat my senuwees sommer bedaar het.

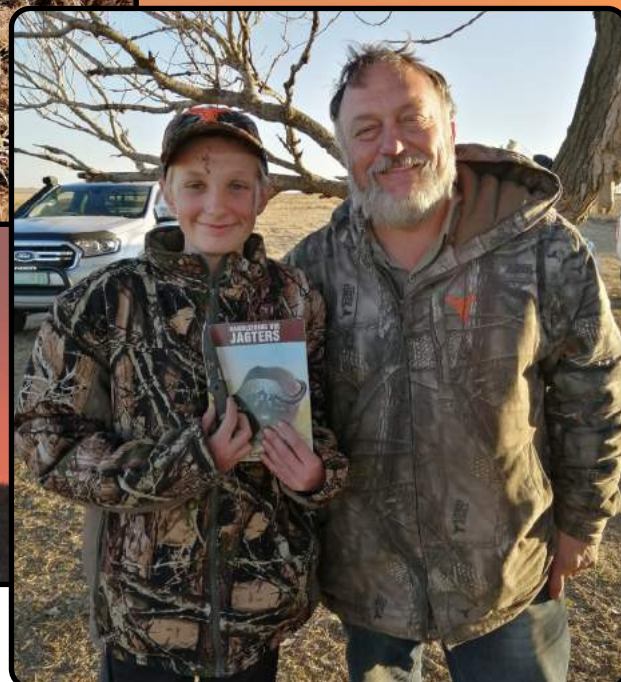
Toe ons die trop binne skootafstand kry, se oom Jan vir my watter een ek

moet skiet. Ek was volgens die 'range finder' so 126 meter van die bok af. Hy staan so effens skeef. Jy hoor nog die een oomblik vir my wat skree, NEE! Toe klap die skoot en val my bok neer in sy spore. Dit het vir my gevoel ek was amper nog nie reg vir my eie skoot nie. Oom Jan se hy was ook nie. Ek het hom in die nek geskiet. Miskien bietjie per ongeluk, maar gelukkig. En dis wat saak maak. My eerste bok! Almal het my gelukgewens. Oom Jan het my met bloed gesmeer. Ek is nou 'n volwaardige jagter...

Die naweek was een van die lekkerstes wat ek al ooit gehad het en ek hoop ons sal weer kan gaan. Dankie vir oom Jan wat my so mooi gehelp het en my pa wat dit moontlik gemaak het!"

Hoe lekker is dit nie om al die opgewonde stories te hoor en te lees nie! Deel gerus ook jou storie met ons. Stuur dit vir my na jan@wildlandmag.co.za Mooi loop tot volgende maand. 

Phil se witblesbokram



Phil met sy nuwe Jagtershandleiding, saam met oom Jan na die jag. 'n Strepie droë bloed, van sy inlywing as nuwe jagter, is nog op sy voorkop sigbaar...

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ISSUE 14

GEAR

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Blue duiker
with a bow and arrow

BOWHUNTING KUDU

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GEAR

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EDITOR

REAN STEENKAMP

EMAIL: REANSTEENKAMP@GMAIL.COM

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Bowhunting kudu

By Cleve Cheney

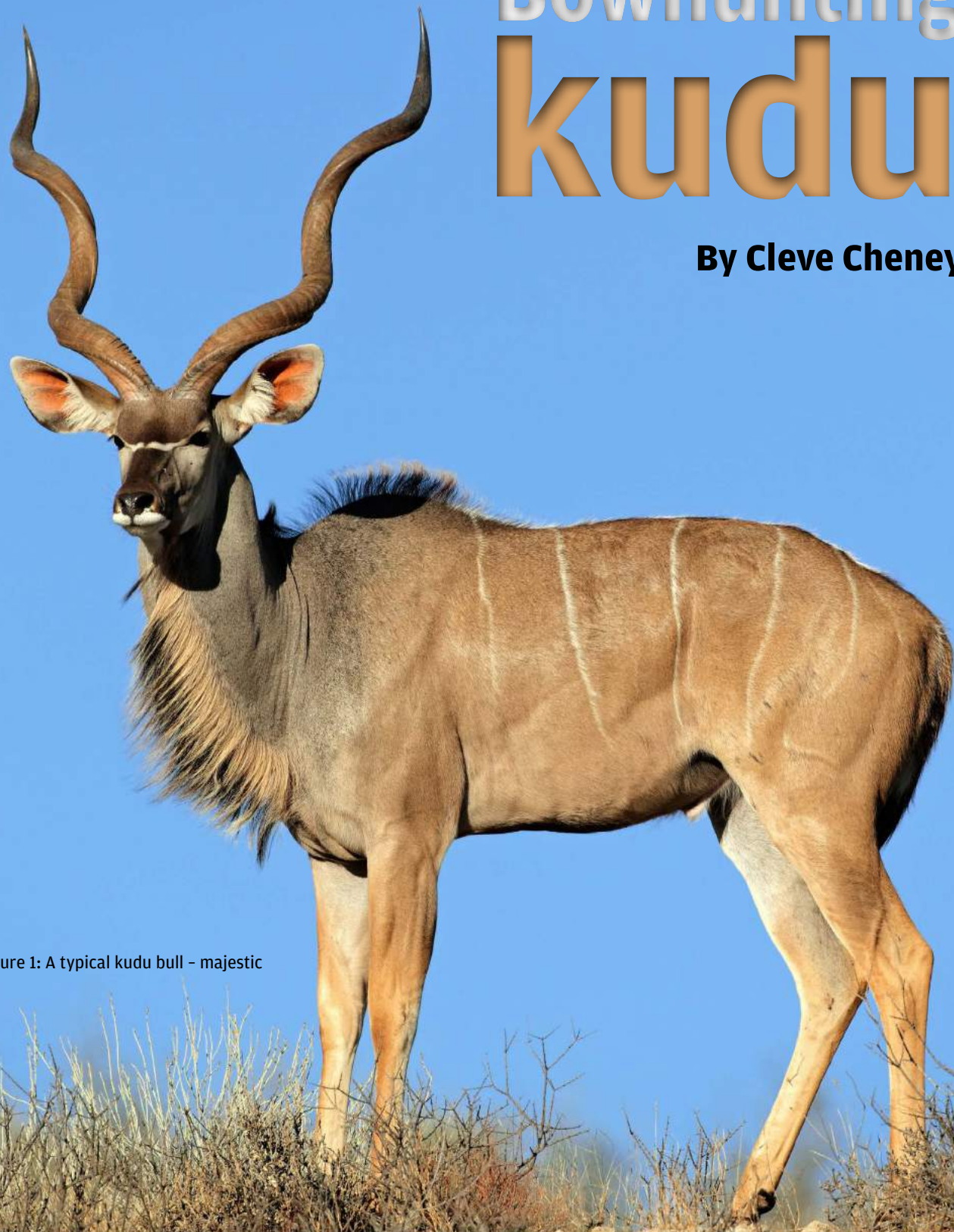


Figure 1: A typical kudu bull – majestic

The superlatives “majestic” and “magnificent” come to mind when one looks at a big kudu bull, without doubt one of the most desired African antelope trophies (Figure 1). There is something mysterious about these animals as they “ghost” their way through the African bush like monarchs surveying their domain. The cows, being hornless, do not have the same stately appearance, but are nonetheless beautiful and fitting counterparts for their sovereigns. They have the appearance of being gentle and benevolent.

The greater kudu (*Tragelaphus strepsiceros*) is a woodland antelope found throughout eastern and southern Africa. Despite their wide distribution they have become quite scarce in certain areas because of declining habitat, poaching and deforestation. The scientific name comes from the Greek words “tragos” meaning “he-goat” and “elaphos” meaning “deer”. “Strepsis” is the Greek word meaning “a twisting” and “keras” means “horn”.

“Kudu” or “koodoo” is the Khoikhoi name for this animal.

Kudu show strong sexual dimorphism, meaning that there are distinct differences between males (referred to as bulls) and females (referred to as cows). Bulls carry massive, long, spiral horns which reach lengths of up to 1.8 m, attaining full length at the age of about six years. Bulls are heavier and bigger than cows, weighing as much as 300 kg and standing up to 1.4 m at the shoulder. Adult cows have a shoulder height of about 1.25 m and can weigh up to 210 kg. The tawny-brown to grey-brown coat is marked with four to 12 thin, vertical white stripes on the flanks that are uniquely distinctive in pattern in each individual. There

is a white V-shaped band on the forehead and white spots on their cheeks. Manes of long hair extend from the back of the head along the back to the tail, as well as on the lower neck down to the belly in the males. Kudu have large, rounded ears.

COST TO HUNT

Prices to hunt kudu may vary from area to area and also according to trophy size. Most websites advertise prices in US dollars. Very few indicate trophy fees in rand. Most cater for foreign clients.

BIOLOGY

Behaviour and habits

Females form small social groups of three to ten individuals and their calves. Bulls are generally solitary, but can form small bachelor herds when they reach sexual maturity at the age of two years, only joining up with female herds during the mating season (Figure 2). In South Africa the rutting season is April to May. Single calves are born during January-February after a gestation period of about 240 days. Out-of-season births are not unusual. A single calf is





Figure 2: Kudu social grouping. A - Lone bull; B - Bachelor groups; C - Female and young (adult bulls absent); and D - Family group, female, young and adult bull.

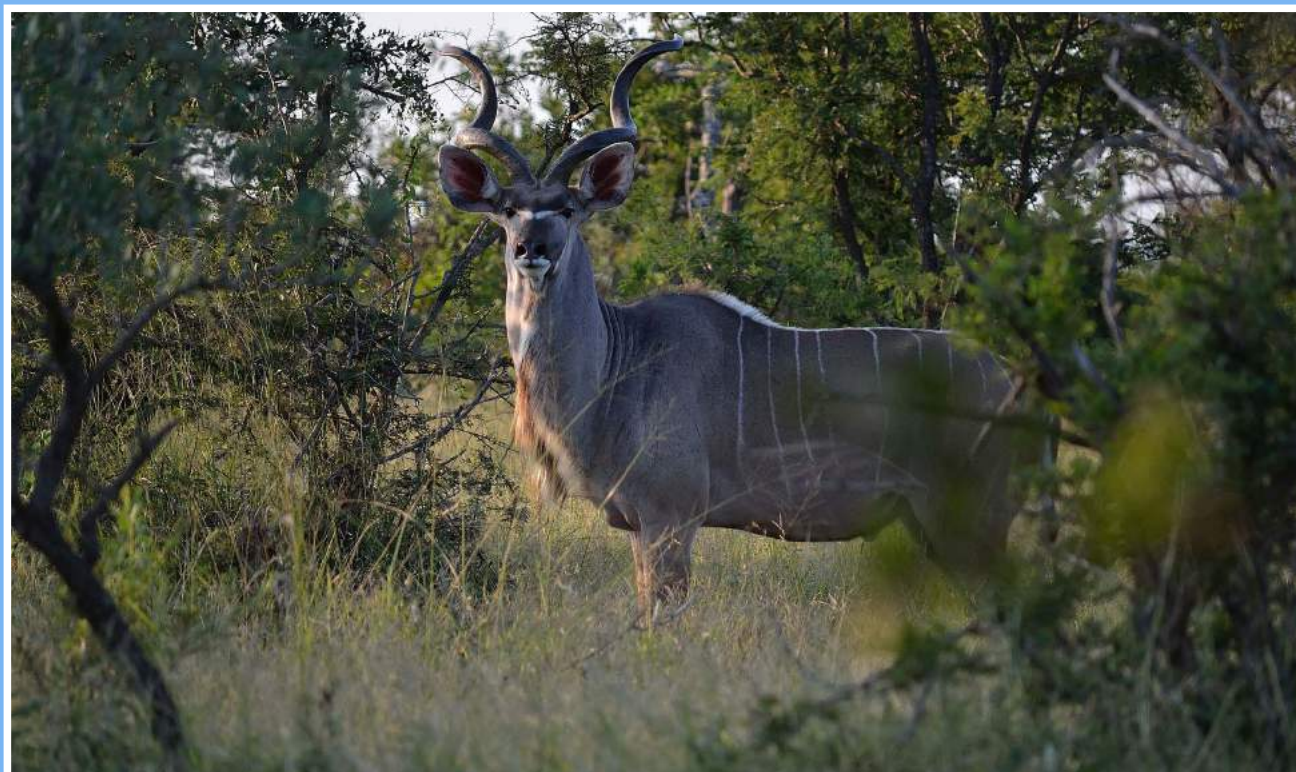


Figure 3: Kudu in typical habitat

usually born. For the first four to six weeks calves lie up in hiding and are visited by their mothers for nursing. Cows and their young form social groups of four to ten individuals.

No territorial spacing exists among bulls, but they do show age and hence size-graded dominance hierarchies. The male hierarchy is based on size and age. The male greater kudu is rarely aggressive in the wild, but sparring does occur between males of similar size and stature. After locking horns and shoving one another, dominance is established when one male stands sideways, making himself look as large as possible until the other is impressed and backs away.

Predators of kudu include wild dog, lion, leopard, and hyena. Cheetah also prey on kudu, but cannot bring down an adult bull. They will target younger animals. When a herd is threatened by danger or a predator an adult will give a deep, throaty bark as a warning to the rest of the herd. Despite being very nimble and agile, and able to clear obstacles 2.4 m (8 feet) in height, kudu are not fast enough, neither do they have the stamina to outrun predators over open terrain. They rely on leaping over shrubs and small trees to shake off their pursuers. Kudu have excellent eyesight and hearing and a relatively good sense of smell.

Greater kudu have a lifespan of seven to eight years in the wild. Herds disperse during the rainy season when food is plentiful.

Preferred habitat

Kudu prefer dense bush, the wooded foothills of mountain areas, open knob-thorn woodlands in the Kruger National Park and game farms in Mpumalanga, and the mopani and miombo woodlands of the Limpopo and North-West provinces (Figure 3). These animals also occur, although in far fewer numbers, in relatively populated rural farming areas – in scrub woodland and bush that have abandoned fields and degraded pastures, acacia, and mopani bush on lowlands, hills and mountains. They will occasionally venture onto plains, but normally keep away from such open areas to avoid becoming an easy target for their predators.

Food and water requirements

Kudu are browsers (Figure 4), feeding on a wide variety of tree and shrub leaves as well as on fruits, pods, forbs and creepers when they are available. They will also feed on succulents such as aloes and spekboom. Although kudu may be active at any time their preferred feeding and drinking times are early morning and late afternoon (Figure 5). They will lie up in dense cover or look for shade on hot days (Figure 6).

Kudu can survive for long periods without drinking, obtaining sufficient moisture from their food, but become water-dependent at times when the vegetation is very dry. They may travel long distances in search of water during times of drought. Although they may drink during the day they prefer to do so in the morning or late afternoon. They require about seven to nine litres of water a day.

HUNTING KUDU

Best time

Walk-and-stalk and spot-and-stalk hunting methods can work in the summer months when there is better stalking cover for the hunter. However, kudu herds tend to spread out during the sum-

mer months when food is abundant and more readily available, so the density of kudu per unit area will decline. Kudu are less water-dependent during this time and will visit waterholes less frequently. If hunting from hides/blinds is your preferred hunting method then the winter months would offer a greater chance of success since the animals become more water-dependent and will more readily frequent waterholes and make use of supplemental feeding sites and licks. Walk-and-stalk and spot-and-stalk hunting may also be used during the winter months if there is still enough

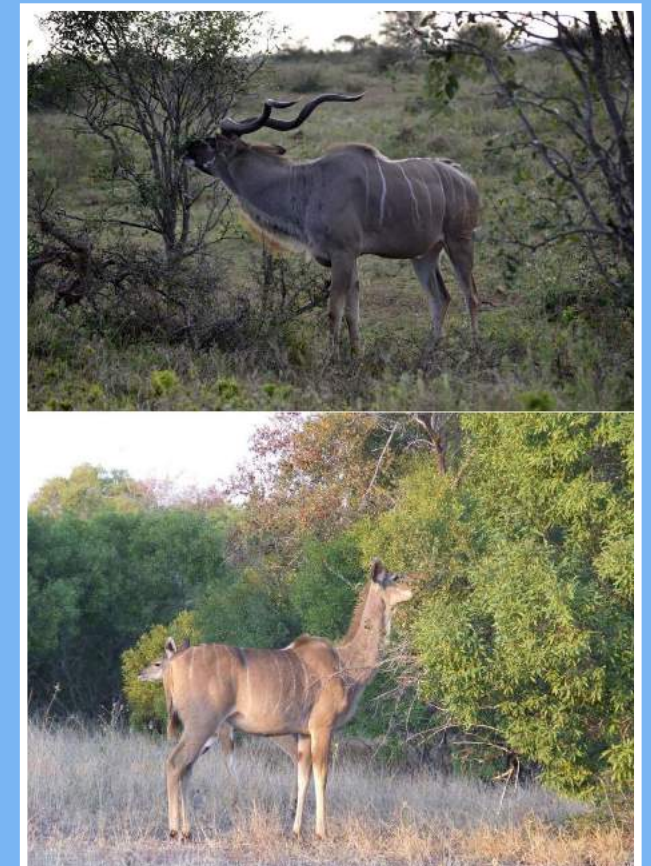


Figure 4: Kudu browsing



Figure 5: Kudu standing in the shade on a hot day



Figure 6: Kudu drinking



Figure 7: Kudu have split hooves

vegetation to provide cover for stalks and approaches. If the terrain becomes too open and devoid of cover it will be very challenging to approach to within shooting range.

Kudu sign

Tracks are a split hoof which is about 70 to 80 mm in length and about 45 to 55 mm broad in adults (Figure 7 and 8). They are longer and more pointed than those of the nyala, and similar in length to those of the blue wildebeest but not as splayed.

Scat consists of cylindrical pellets (20 mm long on average), deposited randomly, not in middens. It is olive-green to brown when fresh and darkens with age (Figure 9).

Males tend to vocalize more than females with a variety of clucks, gasps and grunts. Both males and females have a deep gut-

tural bark when giving warning or alarm.

Where there are good populations of kudu a browse line may become apparent, indicating the height to which the animals will feed in taller trees and shrubs.

Trophy criteria

Kudu horns vary in width and length (Figure 10). Horns have their first twist when the animal is around two years of age and show two and a half twists when the animal is about six years of age. Occasionally in exceptional animals the horns may achieve three full twists.

The average ear length of a kudu is 12 inches. See how many times you can fit this unit into the entire length of the horn to give you an estimate of the trophy size (Figure 11).

Rowland Ward method: To qualify for Rowland Ward a minimum horn length of $53\frac{7}{8}$ is required. The record to date is $73\frac{7}{8}$. Figure 11 shows how to measure a trophy for RW records.

SCI method: To qualify for SCI a minimum score of 121 is required. The record to date is $158\frac{3}{4}$. Figure 11 shows how to measure a trophy for SCI records.

Recommended equipment

Figure 12 summarizes recommended equipment to hunt impala.

Shot placement

Kudu do not have a thick skin and their bone structure is moderate and generally easily penetrated by a good broadhead. Recommended shots are heart-lung shots from a broadside and quartering away presentation (Figure 13 and 14). For ethical reasons avoid frontal or rear end shots. Shots from above, angling down into the heart-lung area or hitting the spine, are also very effective. The range at which shots should be attempted on kudu will depend on the hunter's competency and the speed of the arrow. Table 1 below recommends hunting yardages based on arrow speed using the appropriate arrow weight and broadhead and assuming the hunter is competent to shoot at the yardages suggested. Kudu have slower reflexes than antelope such as impala and animals such as warthog, so there is less inclination to "jump the string", allowing for further-range shots. The larger target area also allows for this.

Follow-up after shot

Kudu will bound off when hit by an arrow and head for the thickest cover they can find. Although they are timid and shy animals a wounded kudu bull should be regarded as potentially dangerous. In hilly country a recovery sled will be of great help in getting the animal down from high ground.

Heart/lung shot: Wait at least 30 minutes or until you see the animal go down and expire.

Liver hit: Wait 1 – 2 hours.

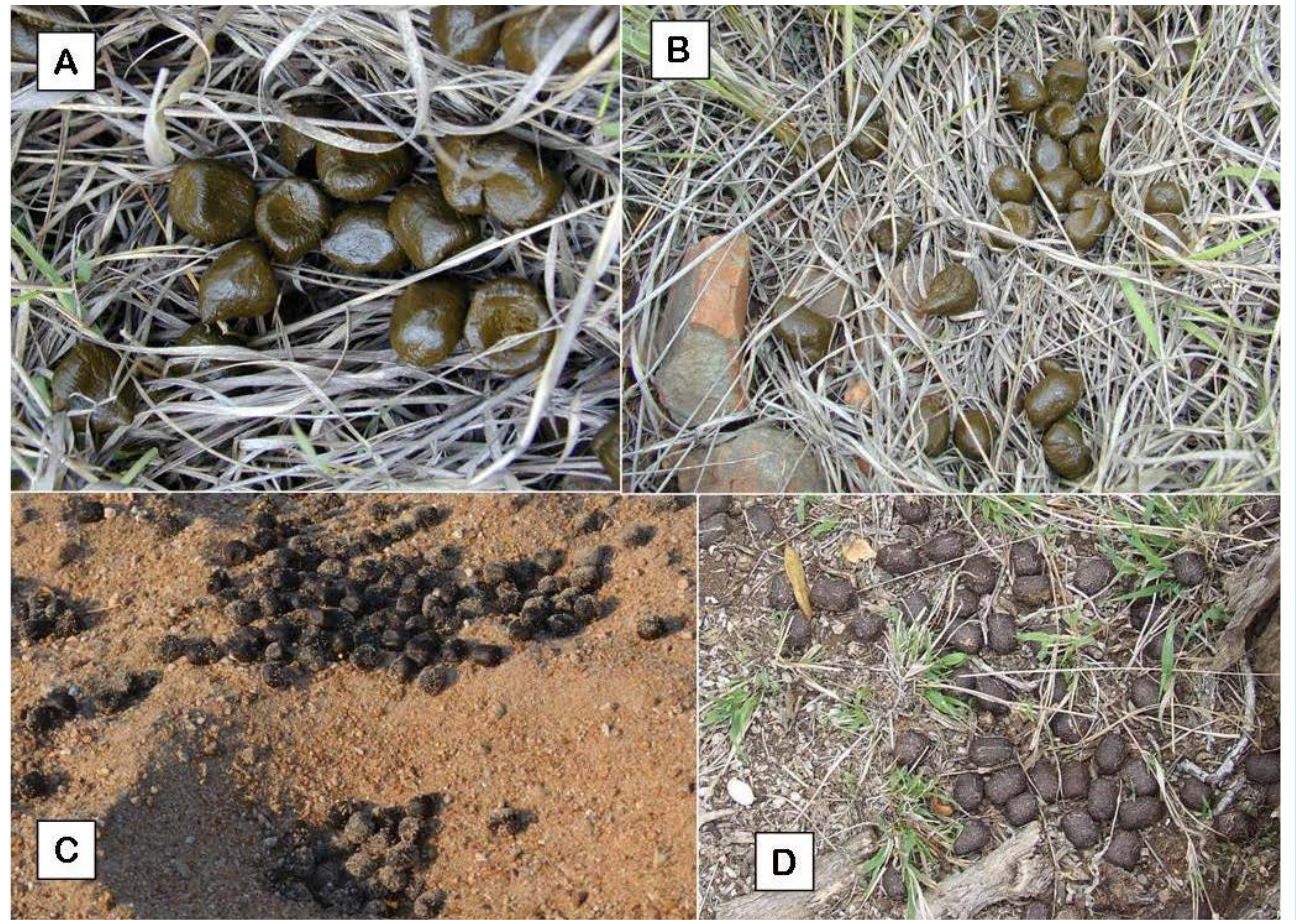
Gut shot: Wait 8 – 10 hours.

Table 1

Arrow velocity	Slow arrow (<220 fps)	Moderate arrow (220 – 260 fps)	Fast arrow (260 – 300 fps)	Very fast arrow (>300 fps)
Recommended hunting range (yards)	0 – 25	0 – 30	0 – 35	0 – 40



Figure 8: Kudu tracks



Top: Figure 9: Kudu scat

Bellow: Figure 10: Horn shapes



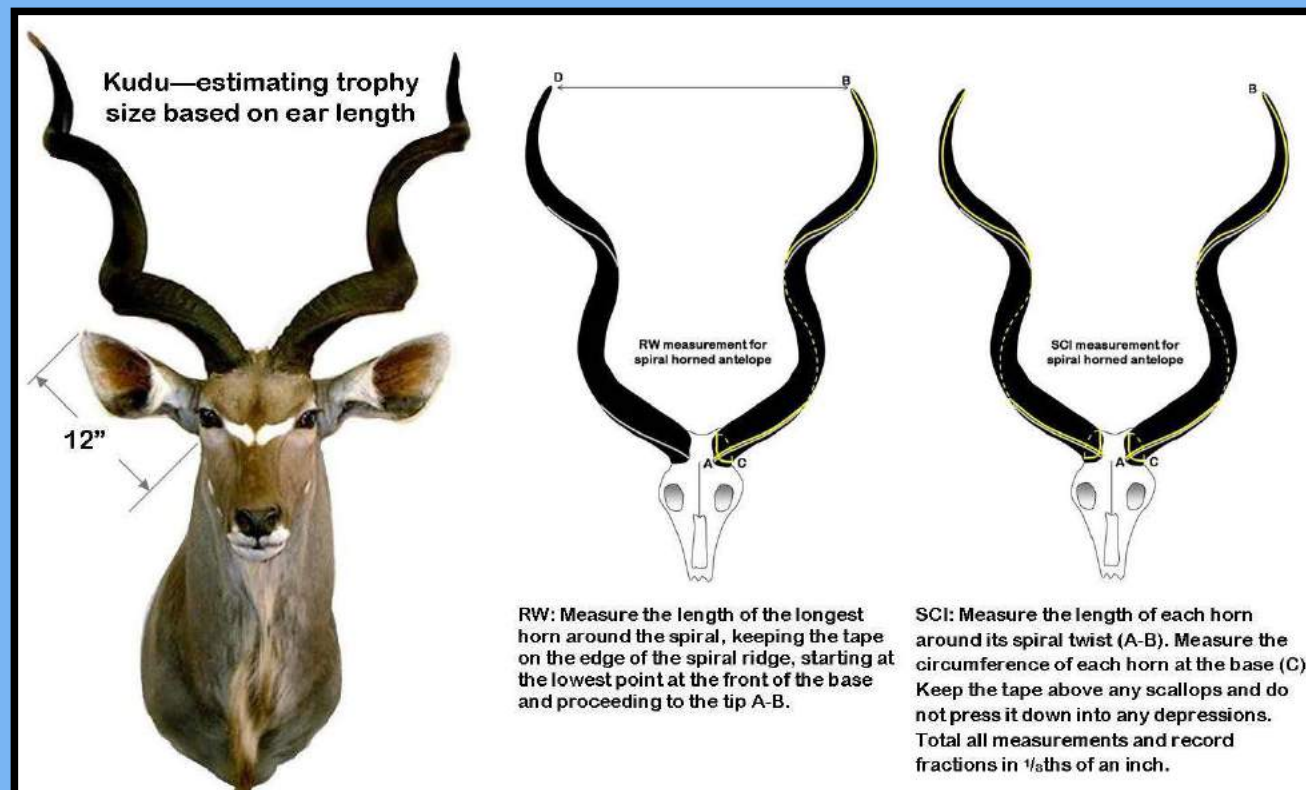
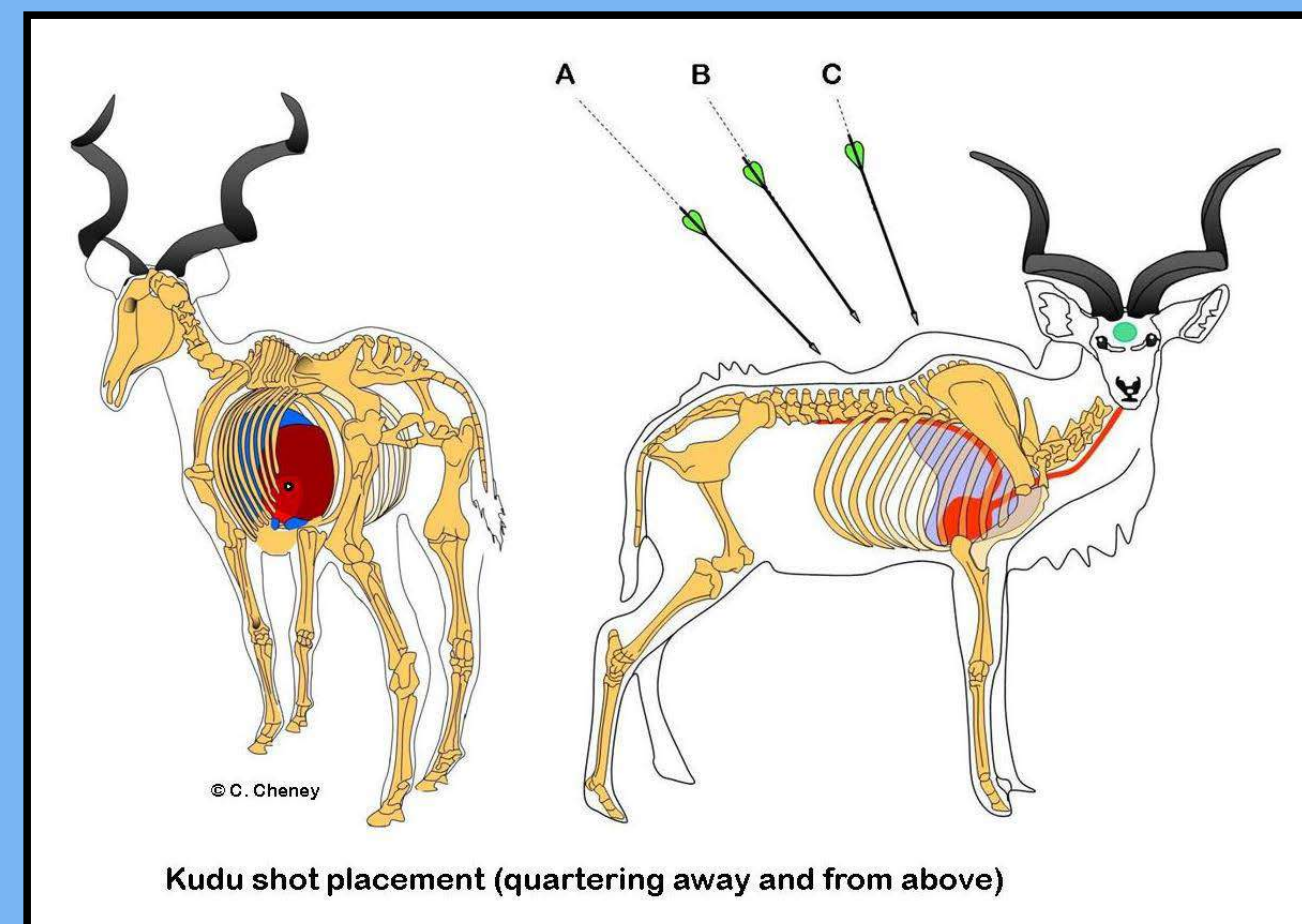
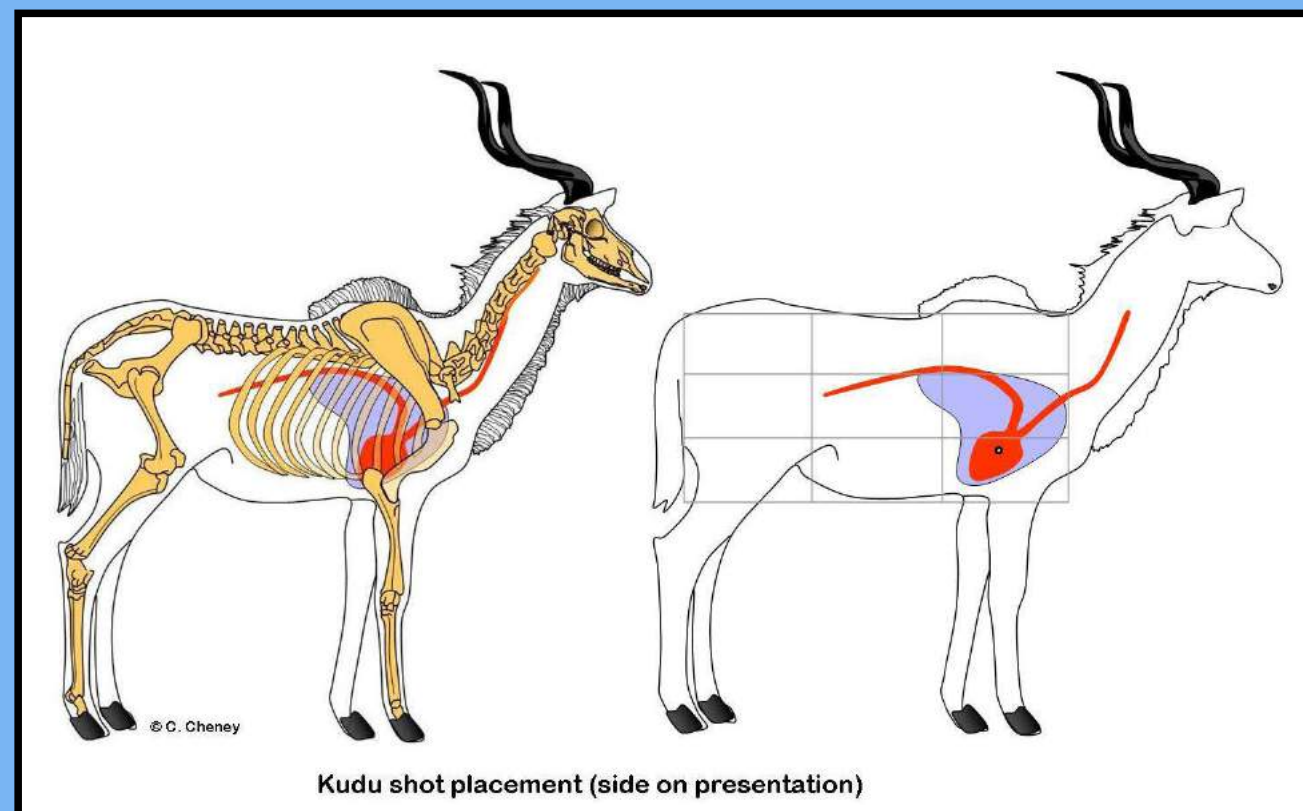


Figure 11: Recording the trophy



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Around The Spiral

By Engee Potgieter

The sight of a big old kudu bull will make any hunter's heart skip a beat.

There are few things in life that will make a man's heart skip a beat and his mouth run dry as much as his very first sighting of an old mature kudu bull. I've known hunters to go to the utmost of extremes in endurance and perseverance to bag a bull of a lifetime and many, many books can be filled with these quests to successfully take one of the most regal of antelope to grace the African continent.

I am no different when it comes to hunting kudu, as each hunter dreams of the day he or she would cross paths with the bull of their dreams, so did I.

I was fortunate to grow up in an honest and hard-working family where hunting wasn't a hobby but a way of life and as such was allowed to hunt kudu from a very young age, something that I will forever cherish and be grateful for. Through the years I learned a great deal about what it is that sets the kudu apart from other antelopes, what makes it such an incredible challenge to hunt (by means of fair chase of course).

As no two animals are alike, no two hunting situations will be the same, yet there are comparisons that a hunter can learn from. One which has stood out like a beacon to me is something which I have applied to all my hunting situations with great success, and that is to go slow and to use your binoculars. Aptly given monikers speak volumes to the kudu's

ability to seemingly evaporate into thin air when pursued; blending in so incredibly well with its surroundings that one cannot possibly fathom that such a large animal could use so little to vanish. Hunting them from a blind at the waterhole is truly a disservice, as one doesn't get to experience or appreciate the cunningness of a big bull. You simply owe it to yourself to at least once in your life hunt a mature bull on his terms.

Late in 2012, I was heading to a property on the outskirts of Mtubatuba to hunt a few impalas for the freezer, the furthest thing from my mind whilst driving through the gates of the privately-owned estate was hunting kudu. I arrived at the homestead owned by the Kirkland family to find resident professional hunter Jabu was already waiting to take me out and show me around. Hunting on the property was done using fair chase and chances of success good as there were very good numbers of impala, blue wildebeest, zebra, kudu,

giraffe, waterbuck, and nyala.

It wasn't long before we encountered herds of impala with many good-sized rams and I was quickly able to close the distance on one particular lone ram, taking it at 54 yards after a short stalk. After dropping the impala off at the main house to be skinned, we decided to continue driving around in hopes of finding another lone impala ram in a stalkable position, when Jabu happened to point out the big bull standing perfectly hidden amongst some foliage not 40 paces from the Landruizer. We didn't stop but slowly drove on by, but as soon as I laid eyes on him something deep within me stirred. He was everything I had ever imagined a trophy kudu bull should resemble – old and weathered with wide, deep symmetrical curls. I knew at first glance that this was the bull I wanted and immediately made plans with Jabu to come back and hunt the bull. We agreed on a suitable date and so my dance with the big old bull started.

Weeks later the day finally dawned for my kudu hunt. However, as I stepped outside the front door that morning I was greeted with pretty miserable weather, blustering winds with overcast skies, and the occasional rain shower. But I wasn't going to let the bad weather put me off. An hour later I arrived on the property to find that the weather hadn't much cleared up but had taken a turn for the worst. Ever

determined, I decided to hope for the best and continue as planned. After a quick coffee and strategising Jabu and I set out.

One could immediately see the weather's effect on the animals as their whole demeanor had changed, they seemed on edge and generally skittish, keeping for the most part to thick cover. This would help me when stalking as the more cover there was to use the better chance I stood at slipping in for a shot at the old bull. As discussed, we headed straight for the stand of thick brush the bull and his cows had often been seen, and true enough that is where we saw him, or part of him that is. If it hadn't been for the two cows standing quite in the open we would never have stopped to scan the brush in the first place. We spotted the bull only after five minutes of carefully dissecting the bush with the binoculars. He was no further than 50 yards but one could scarcely make out a patch of skin here or a piece of horn there – undeniably the master of camouflage. There was absolutely no way of getting to the bull where he stood without making my presence known to him or his harem of cows. However, we knew he would prefer to staying within the tangled confines of the thick bush sneaking away via a hidden trail as opposed to breaking cover immediately. So I asked Jabu to drop me off some ways down the road while he made his way around the



I've been fortunate to take a hand full of good bulls through the years. This is my very first mature bull – also taken in Kwazulu Natal.



A mature 51" bull in his prime, its dressed carcass tipping the scales at 187kg.

other side of the herd of kudu to give them a good whiff of his scent whilst I took cover alongside a trail exiting the contour of bush. I had just taken up position alongside what I guessed would most likely be the kudu's escape route when rain broke out, completely soaking me to the bone where I huddled unsheltered next to the pathway. But confident in my plan, I sucked up the discomfort and concentrated on the area ahead of me, where I at any minute expected to see kudu filtering through. It was as a minute or so later I saw the first of the cows make their appearance, but to my dismay, right past the trail, I was guarding and off to my left.

I was still debating if I should move or sit tight when the big-bodied bull came into view, following closely on the heels of his females. There was absolutely no window for a shot through the tangled mess of acacia trees, so I decided to stand up in order to keep an eye on where the kudus were heading. I hadn't accounted for the cow, which quite unusually, was lingering behind the bull! Her loud, coarse bark startled me as I stood mere paces away with my back to her. A few tense seconds later the whole bush erupted with kudu seemingly peeling from every nook and cranny heading downwind as fast as they could. I stood defeated as I watched them disappear in single file, with the majestic bull now aptly at the rear of the herd, some 400 yards away.

When I later caught up with Jabu in the Land cruiser I shared my failed attempt, noting that together with the rather

unfavourable wind and recently close call we should allow the kudu some time to calm down before pursuing them again. Experience taught me not to take the chance of agitating the big bull any further, as it would not take much on a day like this to put the whole group on edge permanently. So we turned the vehicles toward the homestead where we hoped to find some respite from the weather and a warm lunch.

It was quite sometime later when well-rested and with full bellies we saddled back up and headed out after the kudu. Sadly, the weather was still dreadful with the wind and occasional rain coming on in strong flurries. It would certainly help mask my approach, but makes any shot with a bow tricky at best. We drove around for hours looking for the group without much luck. It seemed as if though they had taken cover for good when Jabu noted that there was one isolated part of the property we had not yet dissected. However, it was at the furthest end of where we first saw the kudu and the most unlikely place they would be. Seeing that we had not yet seen hide or hair of them anywhere else, we decided to check it out. It was already late in the day when we arrived at the place Jabu mentioned when as though on cue we spotted a few kudu females intermingled with a handful of zebra. Going on intuition we kept on driving – giving the area a wide berth. We drove well around the area to get the wind right.

Although we had not seen the bull amongst the kudu

females, we were optimistically hoping that it was his herd, since we had previously scouted each and every other location without any sign of them. Driving to the opposite side, we stopped at the base of the low hill, and with the wind now in our faces, we abandoned the vehicle and hurriedly headed up toward the area we saw the kudu. Cresting the plateau we slowed to walk while weaving through the palm stands and close-knit stands of brush. We had only covered the length of a football field when we caught sight of a zebra carelessly grazing off to our left. We knew we had to be close and tiptoed forward whilst keeping our eyes peeled for any other animals hidden from view.

For the first time that day fortune smiled on us as what slowly appeared ahead over some low brush was the unmistakable shape of dark kudu horns moving to and fro as the bull browsed on a stand of young saplings. The bull was close, almost too close. I nocked an arrow and took hold of my rangefinder, oozing forward at an absolute snail's pace, I soon caught sight of the bull as he stood feeding broadside, completely unaware of the camouflaged figure closing in on him. I was unable to shoot as there was a large stand of palm fronds between us and I had to clear that first for a clear shot. Crouching as low to the ground and praying that the ever-present strong wind and moving vegetation would cover my approach. Every step closer could betray me, every movement I made could be picked up by the bull. Yet, the closer I got until I finally reached the palm trees. Utilizing the very

last cover provided by the swaying of the palm leaves, I took a quick reading with the rangefinder. 36 yards away stood the bull of my dreams, with a deep breath I slowly brought the string back to my face as I slowly stepped out from the cover of the palm. As so many times before, everything came together as if on autopilot. The small bright red pin came to rest squarely in the vital triangle just as the bull looked my way. An instant later I was greeted by the distinctive "thwack" of the Muzzy tipped GoldTip arrow as it disappeared behind the shoulder of the old bull. He took off in long bounds across the wet ground as I stood watching in awe, knowing his fate was sealed.

It could not have gone any smoother had it been scripted. Taking in the day's events that led up to this moment, I casually made my way along the bull's trail, looking at each deep gouging footprint in the soft earth and the crimson drops of blood along the way which soon led to where the magnificent bull had gone down, regal even in death. I was filled with a sense of privilege at having been granted the opportunity to hunt the bull and was overwhelmed with joy. As I sat down beside him, I felt almost undeservingly lucky at having won at the age-old game of hunter and prey.

The old bull was perfect in every sense of the word, in his absolute prime his beautiful symmetrical curls sat atop of a thick and scarred neck. Without a shadow of a doubt, this was the bull of my dreams.



Author with the kudu bull which measured an even 56" on both sides.



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One for the Books

By Dennis Kamstra

Kudu have always been on the top of the list for my bow hunting clients and understandable so. Just looking at a mature kudu bull will get any hunters heart pumping. The kudu's long legs and majestic spiral horns makes it truly immense when up close and personal. Since bowhunting is a close up sport it adds to the adrenalin surge when a big bull walks into range (under 40 yards is my green light distance for clients to drop the string).

One particular bowhunt will forever be itched in my memory. I was taking a first time African bowhunter (Bill) from my home State of Washington. I had hunted elk with Bill in previous years, so I knew him to be a decent shot and committed to bowhunting. I have been trying for years to convert Bill to traditional equipment, but he was very confident



Dennis is a retired Professional Hunter, still living in South Africa. In over 60 years of bow hunting, he has hunted world-wide with his traditional bow and wooden arrows. One of the hi-lights of his career was seeing this kudu bull.

with his new compound bow and confidence is something you don't want to mess with.

The property I intended to hunt was called Zingela and it was situated in western Limpopo Province. This property was quite large (28,000 hectares or approximately 55,000 acres) and cherry on top was the fact that it had not been hunted for 8 years! My intention was to keep Zingela a bowhunting only property. This property was teeming with game. In fact, the owner had given me a quota that had to been taken each year or he would be forced to bring in a game capture team to thin out the numbers. The number of impala was over 1,000, gemsbok were there by the hundreds, and the sandy soil made for very impressive warthogs. Add to this over 200 head of eland, red hartebeest, blue wildebeest, nyala, and zebra and you have the makings for

a bowhunting paradise.

Two weeks before Bill's arrival I was busy digging pit blinds, and a few tree stands near the 12 water sources spread out around the property. When he arrived at O.R. Tambo International he had 32 hours of flying under his belt, so the first order was to get some rest and try to shake off the jet lag that all American clients have on arrival. Bill had booked an 18 day safari so we had plenty of time to approach this safari methodically and allow for some sight-seeing and big game photography. No better way to get the juices running than to sneak up on African game and take some memorable photos.

During our first day in the bush we jumped several duiker and some with exceptional horns. (Anything close to 2 inches is considered Record Book Duiker). Bill was fascinated with these small antelope and wanted to take a crack at one. I set him up in a pit blind near a well-used duiker trail and I took up a position on a small hill about 200 yards away where I could give Bill some prearranged hand signals. This way, he could remain well hidden below the ground level and keep his binoculars trained on me. We had chosen the last 2 hours of daylight for this first hunt. Short enough to keep things interesting and a good way to work out our hand signals for the duration of the safari.

We started to see action within the first 20 minutes when the guineafowl came by, then the impala, followed by warthogs. I related each specie by pre-arranged hand signals letting Bill know what was coming if he decided to try for one. But, he was content to wait for the duiker. It was just before dark when I saw a nice duiker buck approaching. If it continued on the same path, it would pass less than 10 yards from Bill's position. Everything was "green light" and Bill came to half draw. Then the unimaginable happened! Out of nowhere a leopard raced through the bush catching the duiker by the neck and carried him out of sight. It happened so fast that I had to explain to Bill what had happened since it was all a blur to him. What a way to start a safari!

The next day our hunt was to begin as all subsequent days – in our blind by daylight and stay with it for the entire day if needed. We had just settled in to a different pit blind when the parade of warthogs began to approach a muddy water hole 30 yards from our position. First came the sows and piglets then a few young males. Then the "Old Man" himself came in at a trot. It did not take me two seconds to realize this was a trophy to be proud of. I made Bill hold off until the boar was calmly drinking and standing broadside (warthogs are one of the fastest African game for the first 10 yards. If they are spooked, they will turn and be gone in a second). Bill made a super double-lung shot and the boar was gone in a puff of dust. After waiting 30 minutes (something I always stress) we found the boar down for the count about 60 yards

from our blind. I don't normally take my tape measure when an animal is down, because any animal taken with a bow is a trophy and I don't want discussions about "record books". But this was an exception.

A few days later, Bill collected a nice 36 inch gemsbok and mature blue wildebeest. The whole while we were looking and hoping to get a crack at one of the big kudu bulls I knew to be on this property. On the 10th day of the safari we found ourselves at yet a different pit blind (they were working so well, I didn't even suggest using the tree stands) watching a small herd of zebra approaching. I consider zebra to be one of the weariest of the African big game. All of their senses are acute and having them come in close is very difficult. So, we were very intent on watching the lone stallion. He was under 60 yards out when he stopped dead in his tracks with ears twitching. I knew the game was up, so I pulled Bill back to the bottom of the pit where I intended to wait him out. Then a shadow crossed over the pit. I looked behind us to see the tips of kudu horns. As he came closer, I saw one turn of a horn, then two turns and I had not yet seen his head. I grabbed Bill by the arm admonishing him not to move a muscle. The bull did not move for several minutes (which seemed like hours). Then he continued to walk past our position at no more than 8 yards. Let me tell you that when you are below ground level and an honest to goodness 60 inch Kudu bull walks that close, he looks like a 10 story building! As luck would have it the Kudu seemed intent on watching the Zebra, possibly for any early warning sign. I let the bull pass before urging Bill to slowly rise and shoot. The last instruction I gave him was to aim 3 ribs back as the bull was facing in a quartering away position. When something that big is that close, it's hard to miss, but we have a tendency to shoot at the whole animal instead of picking a small aiming spot. Bill had no problem and perfectly placed his shot. 45 minutes later we were holding the horns of a kudu that was a bowhunters dream.

Bill didn't have to ask if it was a big one. I still shake my head in wonderment when I look at our photo with this king of the Grey Ghosts.





How to kill a bear

Every hunter should have a hunting knife he can trust. One of the knives often used by hunters is a Ka-Bar. However, the name “Ka-Bar” has an interesting origin...

Ka-bar or KA-BAR, as trademarked, makes a wide variety of knives now used by many outdoorsmen and hunters. However, the company started with a combat knife that was adopted by the US Marine Corps in 1942. In the beginning, the company used another name and the current trademark was only adopted later.

The originator, the Union Cutlery Co. of Olean, New York, of the KA-BAR trademark, only began using the name on its knives and advertising in 1923 after Wallace Brown, Vice President of Sales, received a package and letter from an Alaskan hunter.

The story, as first published in a training manual written years later by ML Brown, reads as follows: "Years ago an Alaskan hunter had shot a bear who then attacked him and knocked his rifle from his hands. For the hunter to protect his life, he took a knife made by Union Cutlery company and successfully killed the bear, which was the Kodiak bear species. The hunter in appreciation of the knife having saved his life sent the bearskin to President Wallace Brown. The thought then occurred to the management of the company that if the Kodiak bear is the strongest of the bear species, and the word bear is pronounced "bar", and fur-

ther, if the cutlery produced by the Union Cutlery Company was the best and strongest of its kind, then it should be very significant that "Ka-bar" might truly represent the qualities of the company's products. Thus the Ka-Bar trademark was adopted."

According to company records, the letter was only partially legible; "ka bar" could be read, as fragments of the phrase "kill a bear". Killing a Kodiak is certainly not easy and the Alaskan hunter or "mountain man" who wrote the letter certainly no ordinary hunter.



Gene Moe (right) and son (left).



Hunter kills a Kodiak bear with a four inch Buck knife!

Imagine being attacked by a 340 kg animal with huge fangs and claws... and killing it with a four inch blade! That is nothing short of a miracle...

When you are charged by a huge bear and you have a rifle with you, you are in trouble. A Kodiak bear is a huge animal with big fangs and huge claws. It is a terribly strong and ferocious animal, that compares in strength to a lion or tiger. Imagine this animal attacking a 69-year-old man armed with only a four-inch blade – and coming off the worst for it!

This actually happened in 1999, when Alaskan hunter Gene Moe was attacked by a hungry bear while skinning a freshly killed deer.

Gene had just killed a blacktail deer and immediately started skinning the animal with his Buck knife since daylight was dwindling. Then the big bear suddenly appeared and attacked! Gene, who fortunately already



Gene Moe

had a knife in his hand, decided to shove his Buck knife down the bear's throat once it got close enough. When he did, the bear removed most of the muscle from his right arm as it thrashed its head around.

"I didn't want to look at my arm. I thought it was gone. It's a funny feeling, you know. I was a pretty tough guy staying in shape for hunting and fishing my whole life, but this was bad," says Gene.

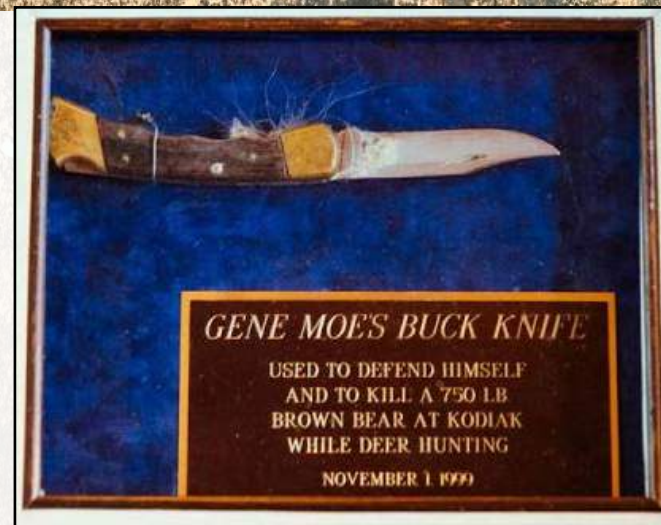
He switched the knife to his other hand and gave the bear a few left-handed stabs with the knife. Instead of playing dead, Gene sparred for three or four rounds as the bear charged him. During one charge, Gene “bulldogged” the bear – a move he learned in his younger years wrangling cattle. He wrapped his arm around the bear’s neck and literally wrestled it until it sent him sailing eight feet through the air.

Charge after charge, Gene tried to evade the animal and kept on giving the animal as many stabs with the knife as he could. However, the huge claws of the animal did much damage and Gene’s right thigh soon had skin and gore dangling on his calf.

Fortunately, with one of the many stabs, Gene had somehow managed to nick an artery and probably the spine as well. The bear’s head was starting to hang to one side and he began to weaken.

“Come on!” Gene shouted. “The Lord’s on my side!” It was a last battle call. Though he was literally torn to pieces, Gene drew on his experience as a combat engineer in the Korean War to carry on. As the bear charged again, Gene threw his best left-hook and hit the animal on his snout. Somehow he knocked the animal out, although he broke his knuckle. When he kicked the bear off from his body, it was dead!

After killing the bear, Gene had to tend to his injuries as best as he could and then he headed toward the beach nearly two kilometers away. When Gene reached a river,



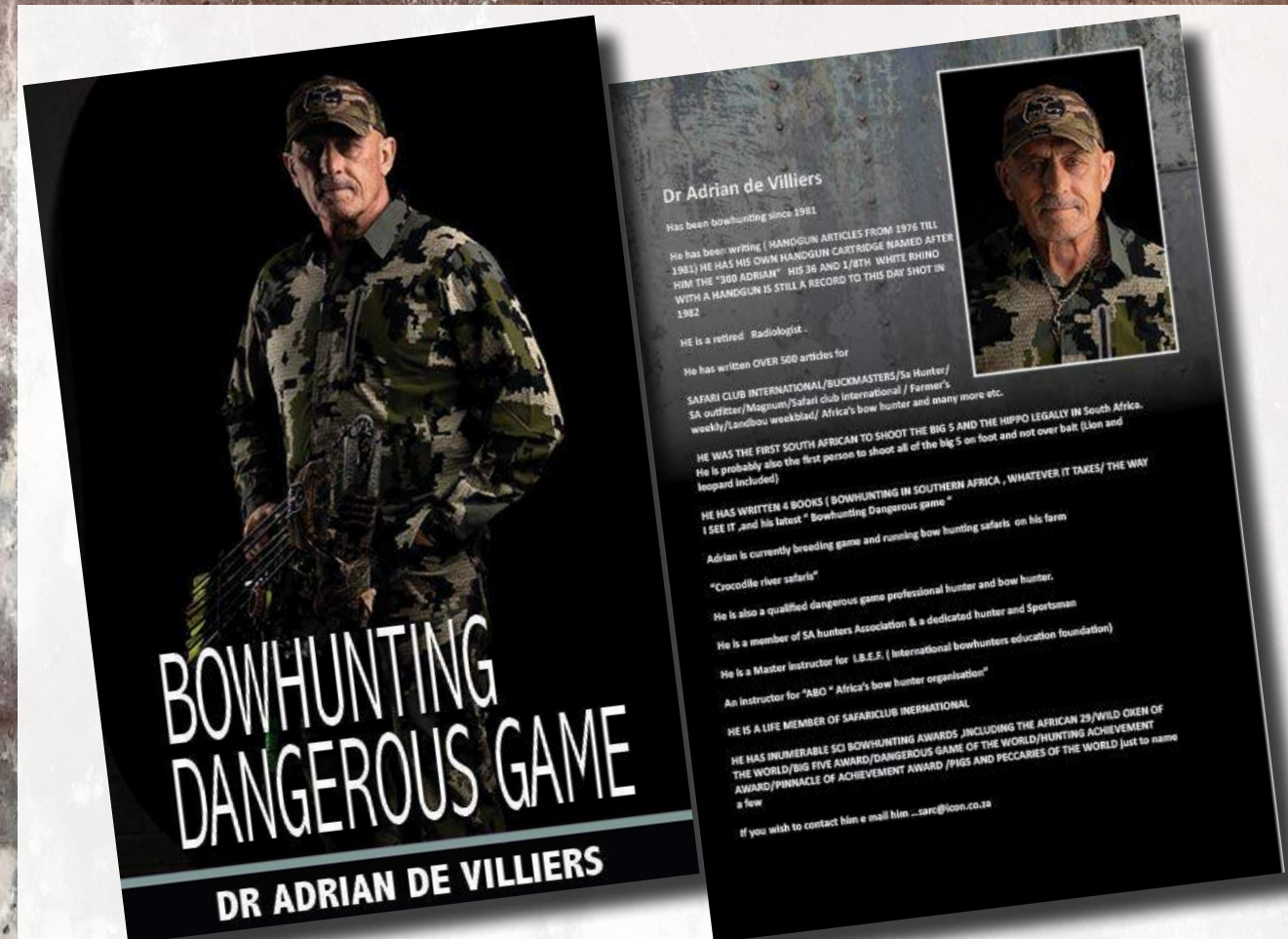
he was at his last. He shouted and two hunting parents heard him and came to the rescue.

It took a long time for Gene’s wound to heal. His scars remained but he healed completely. Gene’s story soon spread and media calls came from all around the world. He was even offered ten thousand dollars for his Buck knife, but he declined.

<https://shouldersofgiants.com/2016/07/24/ultimate-bear-story/>



The scar on Gene's arm made by the bear.



BOWHUNTING DANGEROUS GAME

by Dr Adrian de Villiers is now available!

The well-known bowhunter, dr Adrian de Villiers or "Dr Death" has published a new book titled "Bowhunting Dangerous Game" in which he writes about all the big game he has hunted in South Africa and elsewhere in the world.

In his new book he writes about his experiences hunting animals such as lion, buffalo, hippo, rhino, elephant bear, crocodiles, leopard, mountain lion, musk ox and more – giving advice to other hunters on how to prepare hunting each of these animal and what problems to look out for.

Dr Adrian de Villiers has been bowhunting since 1981. He has been writing handgun articles from 1976 till 1981 and he has his own handgun cartridge named after him, namely the “300 Adrian”. His 36 1/8 inch white rhino shot in 1982 with a handgun is still a record to this day. He is a retired radiologist. Adrian has written over 500 articles for Safari Club International, Buckmasters, SA Hunter, SA Outfitter, Magnum, Farmer’s weekly, Landbou Weekblad, Bowhunter Gear and many other publications

Adrian was the first South African to shoot the Big 5 and the hippo legally with a bow in South Africa. He is probably also the first person to shoot all of the Big 5 on foot and not over bait (lion and leopard included). He has written four books: "Bowhunting in Southern Africa", "Whatever it takes", "The way I see it", and his latest “Bowhunting Dangerous Game”.

Contact dr Adrian de Villiers or Bowhunter Gear to order your copy!

Adrian de Villiers - 082 885-2281 or sarc@icon.co.za



SOLO HUNTER

By Dr Adrian de Villiers

Hunting alone with a bow and arrow on foot is the epitome of the "walk-and-stalk" solo bow hunter. I love watching Remi Warren on all the Solo Hunter series on "YouTube". I guess his spin on Solo Hunter is that he videos all his hunts alone and films each hunt himself.

Imagine trying to stalk an animal with a bow while videoing the whole hunt yourself. It is at least ten times harder than not videoing the hunt. He has to set up the camera with him and the animal in the visual field, then get really close, go back re-do the stalk, re-position the camera and eventually get him shooting the animal with the both of them in the visual field and both in focus! I'm not that good or that patient. I've seen him go after one species for 8 days in open terrain. I am certainly not that patient. I have tried the video route and failed miserably. I train hard and hunt easy. I have Leica Geovid range finding binoculars. My modus operandi is simple... I wear a full camo leafy suite, gloves, face mask, and 8 arrows spare broadheads in a pouch attached to my powder-puff wind finder. Specialized silent bowhunting shoes are very important.

When I arrive at a new farm, I take GPS coordinates of the house or lodge, if there is a cellphone signal, I can also mark the house on Google maps and save where I parked my car (at the house) – so I have two ways to find my way back.

I only hunt farms where I can hunt on foot. Occasionally the farmer will not let me walk alone. This used to irritate me, but then I realized that the black trackers in SA have

better eyes in the bush than I have. However, they usually have bright coloured clothes and a white hat (faded due to aging).

I let them walk in front to spot the game. Once spotted they must lag behind by at least 50 m. They rarely have the correct soft-soled shoes. They usually smell of smoke or deodorant, but that doesn't matter, since animals noses are so acute that they will smell you no matter what if the wind is wrong. Just like you when you hit the smell of an old carcass in the bush, that's how strong we smell to them.

I leave the lodge and walk into the wind, if possible. Occasionally, I'll drive with my quad bike downwind as far as I can and then GPS its position and walk into the wind. If the wind changes direction, I just carry on relentlessly into the wind. As soon as I spot something suspicious, I check it out with the Geovid's. If it's a shooter, I take a range on it immediately. If it is within my most comfortable shooting range of 70 yards or less, I stop right there and set the sights. I use a single pin CBE sight. The advantage is that I can set it exactly on 56 m for example. With multiple pins, I would need to hold the 60 above and the 50 below to get the 56 in the middle. I'd much rather just have one fibre optic pin glowing with neat cross-hair, vertical cross-hair down

the leg horizontal crosshair through the middle of the body.

I do not believe in deliberately shooting heart shots as the heart is low down and a 2-inch drop in a medium-sized animal could break an elbow or hit brisket. No matter how big the animal, a double lung shot will do the job.

Why not get closer? My answer is: "Why get closer?" If you can hit a tennis ball at 60 m why do you need to get closer? A calm relaxed animal at 60 m is a much easier shot than a rushed 30 m shot. If the wind and shade are correct, just wait patiently and watch, many African species are hardly ever alone. Trying to get closer will often spook other animals that you have not yet seen."

Max, an aspiring walk and stalker was hunting with me on a farm called "De Ja Vu". He had not killed anything walk and stalk with his bow yet. Having won his category in the world champs in England around the time of the hunt, I knew he could shoot.

I said: "Max, I'll take you on a walk and stalk on one condition!"

"What's that?", he replied.

"If I get you within bow range, and I know what your range is and I point out a perfect shot, you must promise me you'll shoot the shot. I'm not walking hours and then you turn down the shot! Are we clear?", I said.

"Yes, we clear", he replied. But we weren't!

It took about two, three hours of hard walking when I spotted the perfect opportunity. A huge gemsbok stood at 34 yards, broadside with its head in a gwarrie bush. By now the sun was pumping down but we, fortunately, were in thick cover in the shadows. One more step we would be exposed by the sun.

It went more or less like this:

"Max 34 yards. Gemsbok! Draw your bow immediately. If he looks up we will bust. Hurry! "

Nothing happened!

"Wat are you doing? Why aren't you shooting?"

"We can get closer, there is good cover!"

"Max, I'll kill you, shoot already. Gemsbok are herd animals. It's unlikely this one is alone. Shoot it already!"

Well, he didn't! As he tried to get closer, he spooked a huge herd and I never took him hunting on foot again

What lesson did he learn? When the shot presents, don't phone home, check your WhatsApp messages or e-mails. Shoot, shoot, shoot! Then phone home!

Being solo means being alert, super alert. You need to become one with the bush, blend in, stay low stay in the shadows, and walk very slowly. Then halve the pace and keep repeating the following words – "You

walking too fast! Slow down!"

Time permitting, if you spot something suspicious or obvious, time permitting sit down and get low. Most animals will not run if you're low to the ground. Don't move even a muscle if you've been spotted. Don't nock an arrow unless you can do it out of sight of the quarry.

Do not look at the animal's face or into its eyes or at the back of their heads if you not wearing a full-face mask. Close your eyes into slits and look at their feet or hindquarters, Herbivores have been hunted for thousands of years and they have developed a 6th sense that often alerts them.

The threat of land redistribution without compensation has unceremoniously destroyed a billion US Dollar game industry that none of us saw coming. That and the Corona virus, as well as the travel shut down, has destroyed the game farm industry. But the good news for hunters is the price of the so-called fancy game has fallen through the floor.

I recently took advantage of the price drop harvesting a nice golden wildebeest and lechwe.

The lechwe rams were fighting in a patch of long thatch grass while standing eyeing each other out. I stayed hunkered down in the grass. As they put their heads down to fight, I sneaked in. Sounds easy, but they were fighting each other frantically. The dominant ram pushing and pushing. Almost every time I got a range and drew my bow, they would hammer each other and run another ten yards and start fighting again. Sounds easy but it's very frustrating. I hate letting down and re-ranging and re-setting sights. Some would say this was the perfect place for a Garmin sight which ranges and sets the sights while at full-draw.

Well, it would not have worked at all as the long grass was making ranging difficult. After about the fifth re-draw I managed to get off a shaky shot. Drawing and re-drawing was getting my "bokkoors" going, but I managed an





almost perfect low chest shot – tight behind the shoulder and angling forwards on the bigger of the two rams.

The shot hit just as the two ram's heads clashed, my ram or bull thought the other one had hurt him since neither of them heard the shot. My ram charged after the challenger who ran flat out and dived into a deep dam nearby to escape the attack. They both jumped in and I re-nocked an arrow, set sights on twenty metres and peeked over the edge. My ram was lying in ten inches of water, but still alive. The whole dam was crimson red from all his arterial blood. The "coup de grace" wasn't necessary, but it got him out the dam where he passed away. The whole incident was less than a few minutes. He measured 26.5 inches with 8-inch bases.

Warthog bonanza

There is nothing I love more than walking in Big 5 country amongst the hippo and elephants looking for lesser game to bowhunt. It puts a new spin on being careful. In Africa, you're not the top of the food chain, especially if you're walking alone with no backup.

That day I awoke with excruciating hip pain. Getting old is not for sissies. Every contact sport you did as a young man comes back to bite you. One positive spin-off of severe hip pain is you can hardly move, especially difficult are the big downhill steps. Needless to say, that whole day I walked very little and sat a lot. There were a lot of areas with meter high kikuyu grass that the pigs loved.

I sat in many vantage points trying to see where the best pigs were. I was in such pain, I decided to go back to the lodge and get an Arcoxia anti-inflammatory tablet. I had about an hour of sunlight left. As you all know, the firsts hour of the day and last hour of the day are the "Golden

hours of bowhunting"

I decided to bite the bullet and find a comfortable spot to sit. Not minutes after I sat, I saw a monster pig at 35 m – standing dead still looking my way but not seeing me. It should have been a perfect opportunity, but for a few little frail branches in the line of sight. There was no time to procrastinate and I took the shot. To my horror the pig walked off slowly unscathed with his buddy, which I hadn't seen. I found the arrow but it was clean. I tried to find the brute but they had vanished into the lush green grass.

I was truly disappointed since that was my only good shot of the afternoon. Still with 45 minutes left, I spooked a sounder of at least 12 pigs by

being too noisy. As they ran in all directions, not knowing what spooked them, I immediately sat down against a rock and nocked an arrow. Taking ranges around me, I set my sights not expecting any action. However, not ten minutes later I spotted a monster pig walking on a collision course straight at me.

My bow was lying with a nocked arrow on my left. The pig was on my right and closing. I had to just freeze and hope for the best. Sitting down with leafy suite, face mask and gloves – the pig never game me a second look. Lucky for me he chose to walk around me not 20 m away. As I drew he started to walk faster, but unfortunately for him not fast enough. I needed Alex to drag him out. The arcovia look three hours to kick in!

According to Alex that was the biggest pig shot on the farm to date. I am not sure if he was just making me feel good, but it worked.

I am looking for cattle or game farms with warthog problems to cull warthogs with a bow. If warthogs are eating all your feed and pellets for your expensive game or cattle, I can shoot them silently without disturbing the cattle or game. Please WhatsApp me on 082 885 2281 or email me at sarc@icon.co.za – Adrian de Villiers

Dr Adrian de Villiers has written four books. Three are still available

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Tiny Ten - blue duiker with bow and arrow

By Frank Berbuir

Though often overshadowed by the Big 5, or much attention is focused on hunting the large and glamorous African species, like kudu, gemsbok or wildebeest, hunting the tiny 10 species of pygmy antelope in Africa can be an extremely challenging and fulfilling experience.

The Tiny Ten Species are the Damara dik-dik, blue duiker, common duiker (also called grey duiker or bush duiker), red forest duiker (also called red duiker, Natal duiker or Natal red duiker), Cape grysbok (also called southern grysbok), Sharp's grysbok (also called Northern Grysbok), klipspringer, oribi, steenbok (also known as Steinbuck or Steinbok), and Suni.

All of these antelope are extremely small (the largest is the common duiker that weighs less than 50 pounds) and therefore it is very demanding to get close enough for a shot on such a small target. Luckily, a couple of years ago, I managed to bag a common duiker and a steenbok successfully during bowhunts in Namibia and South Africa.

This time my professional hunter, Izak Vos from Vos Safaris, and I took on the challenge to go for a blue duiker with the bow and arrow. The blue duiker (*Philantomba monticola*) is a small antelope found in western, southern and eastern Africa. It is the smallest duiker and the smallest antelope in South Africa.

The Swedish naturalist, Carl Peter Thunberg, described the species first 1789. The blue duiker reaches 30 to 40 centimetres or 12 or 16 inches at the shoulder and weighs 3.5 to 5 kilograms respectively (7.7 to 12 lb). The females are slightly larger than the males. It has short, spiky horns, around 5 centimetres, round about 2.0 inches long, and hidden in hair tufts. The blue duiker feeds on fallen fruits, foliage, flowers, and pieces of bark.

When you get into a blue duiker hunt, you will be pursuing

South Africa's smallest antelope. As we reached the hunting place and spoke with the farmer, he told us that there are about five of these pygmy antelopes around that he usually sees on his property. He stated that when he drives around and spotted them, they would mostly try to hide in dense bushes. It was up to us to accept the challenge to find them.

We started early in the morning when it was still a bit brisk – which it usually is in August during South African wintertime. The farmer dropped us off close to the area where these pygmies usually roam.

We walked very slowly, paused many times to glassing the bushes with our binoculars. It is not that easy to find such a small animal with its slate grey to grey-brown coat (sometimes with a bluish sheen on the back) that blends in perfectly in the dense bush.

We did not find any duiker during the morning, except for some springbok that we spooked when they saw us sneaking out of our ambush. By then it was quite warm and we took off our jackets and hanged on an acacia tree –where we spent our lunch break in the shade.

After a refreshing nap, we continued slowly but surely with our endeavour. After quite a while, Izak suddenly potted a blue duiker under a bush about 100 meters in front of us.

"My goodness they are small", I whispered when I finally also saw him through the binoculars. "That's what I told you", he answered. "You can have the impression they are like a rat on ster-

oids", he mumbled.

We quickly planned how we would approach this little critter without chasing him away. Slowly and in a bent-over position, we moved backwards. We decided to take a bigger loop around him so that the wind is in our favour and he will not see us directly.

We walked uphill and then back to sneak up from behind where he was not looking. I could feel that my blood pressure was rising as we closed the distance.

After what felt like an eternity. We reached a spot where we could see him again through the binoculars. He was still standing under the bush in the shade and did not realize us. The distance was about 25 meters and the shooting window was small due to some twigs hanging downwards. Tiptoeing, I crept to the right to get into a quartering away position. In slow-motion, I pulled the bow to full draw and settled the pin on his vitals. I released the arrow and... hit a hanging twig. The arrow deflected and flew upward out of the bush. "Damned!" I was whispering.

The blue duiker was obviously surprised and started running out of his hideout. When I saw him running it honestly looked like a rat on steroids. Izak followed the route the duiker was running and said: "Calm down and relax, he is not going far."

Indeed, the blue duiker only ran and stopped in a bush about

30 m from us. After a five minutes break and some deep breaths we sneaked to the left and made our way behind some bushes to draw nearer to our quarry. Luck was on our side since we managed to creep up to a 27 meters distance from it. The little mammal was standing slightly quartering away and facing to the other side when I sent the arrow on its mission.

This time it hit the spot and after a short cat-like meow it was quite dead. What exciting hunt. It took a load of my mind. Izak shook my hand firm, gave me pat on the back and said: "Congrats, well done my friend. You got a blue duiker!"

When we arrived at the place where he expired, I knelt down, looked and examined this specific gorgeous specimen of the pygmy antelopes. Again, it was an awesome and challenging experience with bow and arrow and finally I could harvest this awesome tiny blue duiker. After some nice pictures, we radioed the farmer to pick us up and then we all enjoyed the success with a cold beer.

Once again I had an unforgettable experience and memorable hunt with my friend and PH Izak Vos from Vos Safaris in South Africa.

Shoot straight, take care, always good hunting, "Waidmannsheil" and "Alles van die beste".



Left: Rough dense terrain

Bellow: Magnificent blue duiker and a happy hunter.



Equipment:

- Bow: Mathews 27x @ 70 lbs
- Ararow: Carbon Express Maxima Hunter 350
- Broadhead: G5 Dead Meat @ 125 grain
- Optics: Zeiss Victory Binocular & Nikon Rangefinder
- Release: Scott
- Camo: Sniper Africa

Die verlore bloubok op 'n wildveiling?

Dink jou net in watter opskudding dit sou veroorsaak indien daar onverwags by 'n veiling aangekondig word dat 'n bloubok-paartjie te koop is. Watter ongekende prys sou dié twee bokke haal?

Die bloubok (*Hippotragus leucophaeus*) is 'n uitgestorwe boksoort en die eerste groot Afrika-soogdier wat in historiese tye uitgesterf het. Dit was verwant aan die bastergemsbok en swartwitpens, hoewel die bloubok 'n kleiner liggaamsbou gehad het. Hierdie bokke het in die suid-westelike kusgebied van Suid-Afrika voorgekom en hulle was endemies aan die renosterveld.

Europeërs het in die 17de eeu met die bloubok in aanraking gekom, alhoewel dit teen hierdie tyd reeds 'n skaars dier was. Teen ongeveer 1800 het die dier uitgesterf. Daar is vier opgestopte bloubokke wat vandag bestaan – in museums in Wenen, Stockholm, Parys en Leiden. Beendere en horings word ook op ander plekke gestoor.

Die bloubok is beskryf as 'n groot bok wat soos 'n Engelse perd gebou is, met ore soos 'n donkie en met 'n sterk lang nek sonder enige maanhare. Hoewel die bok meestal 'n blou-grys kleur was, was die bene van die bloubok lank en wit – in teenstelling met die dier se lang swart stert.

Die bloubokke se voorkeur-habitat was grasveld en vleie, waarskynlik omdat dat die boksoort gereeld moes water drink. Water was 'n belangrike noodsaaklikheid vir die bloubok. Anders as ander antilope wat sonder water kan leef deur vog van plantmateriaal in te neem, moes die bloubok elke dag water drink om te oorleef.

Hul dratydperk het waarskynlik 268 tot 281 dae geduur en 'n bloubok-kalf het tussen 12, tot 14 kg by geboorte geweeg. Net soos by baie ander boksoorte was die mannetjies groter as die wyfies met 'n gewig van meer as 160 kg. Die bulle was toegerus met indrukwekkende horings wat agtertoe gekrom het en wat tydens die paring-seisoen gebruik is om met ander



bulle mee te ding. In sy algehele voorkoms en gedrag was die bloubok (*Hippotragus leucophaeus*) baie soortgelyk aan twee bestaande antilope wat nog steeds aan die kus van Suid-Afrika gevind kan word, naamlik die bastergemsbok (*H. equinus*) en die swartwitpens (*H. niger*). Die bloubok was aanvanklik as 'n subspesie van die bastergemsbok beskou en het eers later 'n volle spesiestatus gekry.

Die eerste afname in hul bevolking was ongeveer 3000 jaar gelede. Die oorsaak hiervoor was waarskynlik as gevolg van die tropiese klimaat van Afrika wat geleidelik warmer en warmer word en veroorsaak het dat groener grassoorte, wat die diere se stapelvoedsel was, geleidelik begin verdwyn het.

Die spesie se volgende terugslag was waarskynlik ongeveer 400 VC, toe die mense in Suid-Afrika vee begin aanhou het, wat baie van die weiveld uitgeput het. Die bloubok is moontlik ook deur dié inheemse mense geteiken vir sy vleis en vel.

Daar word geglo dat die spesie reeds baie verminder het voor die koms van Europeërs wat die blokbok baie gejag het en sy habitat in landbougrond verander het. Die bloubok het vermoedelik teen die draai van die 18de eeu heeltemal uitgesterf.

Daar is tans suksesvolle teelprogramme waarmee gepoog word om die uitgestorwe kwagga weer terug te bring. 'n Mens wonder wanneer gaan daar ook probeer word om die bloubok te laat herleef.

<https://thewebsiteofeverything.com/animals/mammals/Artiodactyla/Bovidae/Hippotragus/Hippotragus-leucophaeus.html>

<https://www.thoughtco.com/bluebuck-1093056>

<https://itsnature.org/rip/bluebuck/>

<https://www.extinctanimals.org/bluebuck.htm>



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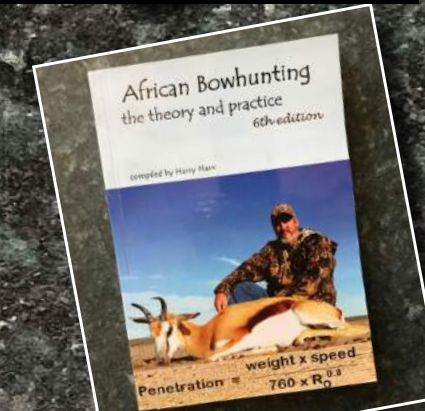
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TER GEAR



R200 – Dr Adrian de Villiers' second book **Whatever it takes**. Adrian started bowhunting in 1983 after having hunted with a handgun for nearly ten years. He has bowhunted well over 1 800 documented animals, plus many more not documented. He was the first South African to legally hunted the Big Six with bow and arrow and he shot 26 buffalo of six different species on three continents. In this book he writes about many of the exciting bowhunts he did during his bowhunting career and the effort necessary to bag these animals with a bow.



R200 – **African Bowhunting - the theory and practise** by Harry Marx. Harry has been hunting for nearly two decades and written numerous articles on the theory of bowhunting. The information captured in this bundle comes from months and sometimes years of research, tests and practical experience by scientists, mathematicians, hunters and specialists. This is the most insightful summary of practical information available, to prepare new and Professional bowhunters psychologically and physically to experience the "Sport of Princes" bowhunting in South Africa.



R150 – In **Bows, arrows and Africa**, the author, Rean Steenkamp – editor of Africa's Bowhunter magazine, writes about the African plains game he has hunted over nearly two decades with traditional bows. In this book the author explains why he prefers hunting with a traditional bow and what he deems to be the advantages of the longbow and recurve. The book is aimed at the ordinary traditional bowhunter interested in hunting game with a wooden bow in Africa. It is about the animals hunted by the average bowhunter, hunted as the average hunter hunts with his or her bow and arrow. It is about the mistakes bow hunters make and the things all hunters experience during this journey.



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What's in a nock point?

What is the influence of the nocking position on how a bow performs?

By Harry Marx

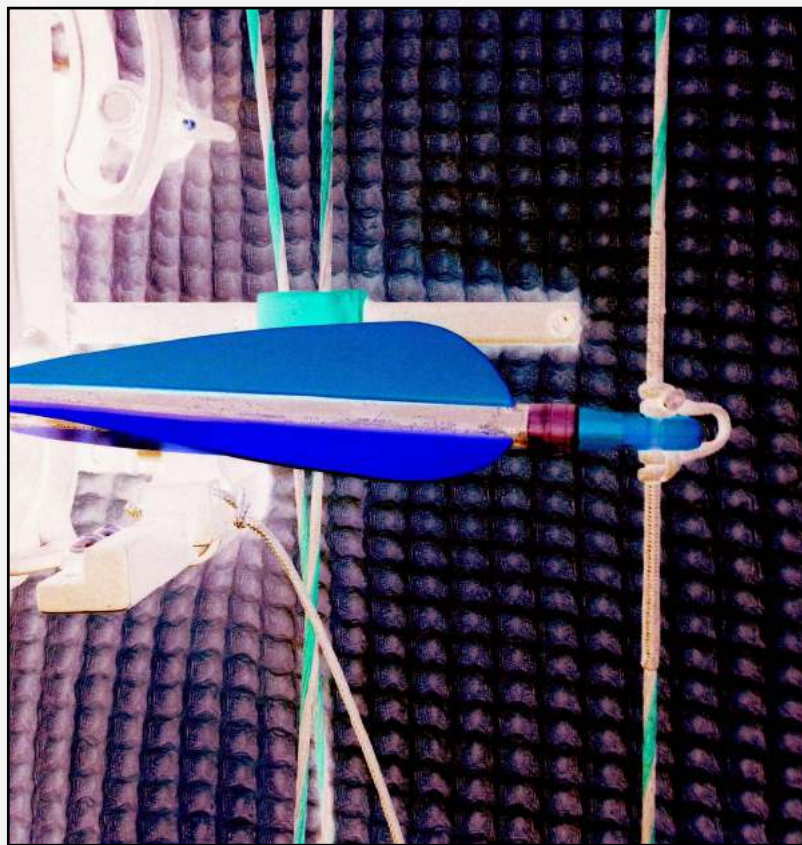
Nico was looking at photos of a recent shoot we had at their club, and he asked when last did I do some paper tuning? He said it looked as if the nocking point of my bow was slightly high. This question led to a quick mathematical investigation into what influence the exact nocking position has on the shot. Please take note that I'm not speaking of an anchor point – where you hold the nock to shoot, but where the nock is held on the string. I remember also that sometimes during a 3D shoot, someone would suddenly start shooting high or low, and frequently the blame fell on “my peep moved”, or “my D-loop shifted”. The peep we can all understand – it's part of the sighting mechanism, but the D-loop? So I wondered, what influence would a slight move have?

As part of the bow tests we frequently do for this magazine, we have talked a lot about nock travel. I made statements like one mm “nock travel” is very good, and it's an indication of how tolerant the bow will be for dynamic spine. A “bad” nock travel would typically be five millimetres. This is basically the furthest distance the nock is lifted or lowered during it being accelerated by the bow. The less this deviation is from a straight line relative to where the arrow tip lies, the less the arrow bends being pushed from behind.

For the nock travel tests, I measured the distance from the axles to the centre of the neck of the nock, that is there where the sting fits into the nock. I also measured the exact axle-to-axle distance as the bow is drawn in a shooting machine. So I usually have five measurements of the top string length, the bottom string length, and the axle-to-axle length. I do this for about every four inches the bow is drawn.

From these measurements, accurate to at least 0,5 mm, I can calculate the exact height of the nock relative to the centre line between the axles. An interesting observation I've made for the 50-plus bows I've tested so far, is that all (except one) had a nock travel that ended at full draw, lifting the tail of the arrow. I could see a slight relationship between how well the bow shot with this, and in general the shot “felt” better, the straighter the travel was.

But the nocking point is something that is set up in the bow shop, and this is done according to factory specifications which usually states “about a quarter of an inch above



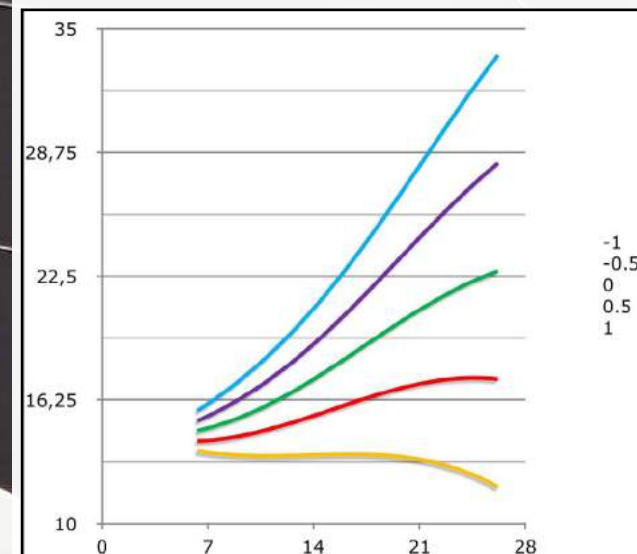
the centre line”. But I've seen many liberal use of a bow square, and myself have estimated it purely with “the eye”. But how critical is this setting?

We also know from experience that at the other end of the arrow, the arrow rest, we require some precision tuning to get the best arrow flight from the bow. In fact we adjust the rest by 1/32 inches, which is about 0,75 mm. We also know that not only does this setting influence where the arrow hits, but also how it travels. So why would the nocking position be so imprecise?

With the calculations (standard trigonometry) I can easily do a thorough experiment to test this. First I tested my calculations by allowing our imaginary bow to have its nock point at the exact centre line. I also gave this bow perfectly matching cams, and behold, I got a perfectly straight nock travel. This meant my sums were fine.

Of course bows are not perfect or imaginary, so I took some old results I had from an old friend, the Elite Answer. This bow had a “decent” nock travel of 0,4 to 0,5 millimetres. My question simply was, what would the graphs look like if the top half of the string were say one mm shorter, and the bottom half one mm longer. In all schemes of things, this sounds like a trivial deviation.

In Graph 1 you can see the result.



Graph 1: Nock travel after moving the nock up(+) or down(-).

The green line was as the original measurement. The nock went from 22,5 mm down to 14,5 mm above the centre line, which is very typical for bows. The deviation from a straight line drawn from the full drawn to relaxed position, is about 0,5 mm. So even if the nock is traveling at a down slope, it's still a “straightish” slope. What really bowled me over was the effect even a 0,5 mm change in nock position had. The purple line indicates the nock travel after lifting the nocking point a mere 0,5 mm. Now the nock lifts up to 28 mm at full draw. Lifting the nock a mere one mm higher than the “factory height”, lifted it to 34,5 mm at full draw. A one-millimetre lift caused an 11-mm difference at full draw! (Nico – you have sharp eyes.) Exactly the same happened if I lowered the nocking point by one mm. Now you must realize that these changes not just adjust the nock height it full draw, it changes the optimal position for the arrow rest dramatically.

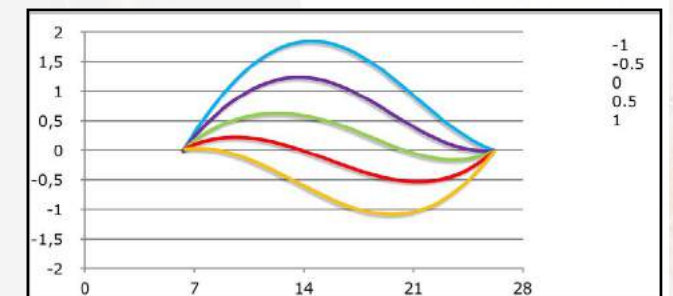
The horizontal axis of Graph 1 is inches drawn, while the vertical axis is millimetres above the centre line. Since the arrow rest is at zero inches drawn, you can extend the general direction of the nock with a pencil, and see where it will cross the zero-inch point. For the yellow line (one mm low) it will fly over the shelf at about 14 mm, whereas at one mm high (the light blue), its being pushed on a line below the shelf!

If the nock is pushed to a point below the arrow tip at full draw (where the rest holds it), the arrow will be bent upwards in the stroke causing the fletches to lift up over the rest on the next oscillation, for a well-spined arrow. That is why almost all the bows I tested did this by design. On straighter nock travel, the bend will be less, and you may get fletch contact. For an incorrectly spined arrow the bend may be enough, but at the wrong time – again fletching contact. That is why some clever guy invented a drop-away rest. Of course, if you have straight nock travel, and a drop-away rest, you have a very spine tolerant set-

up...

But I think we are not really seeing the drastic effect these nock movements have yet.

In Graph 2 we drew a straight line from full draw to escape, and plotted the nocks *relative* movements against the inches drawn. You will notice that the higher nock, plus one mm, the light blue line, deviates almost two mm at the max. The green line (our factory setting) deviated about 0,6 mm. Now have a look at the minus 0,5-mm line, the red one. Just moving the mock 0,5 mm down, caused an initial negative deviation, and then follows the arrow's natural tendency to lift the tail in the last part of the cycle. My postulate is simple – the bow will shoot best somewhere between the green and red line.



Graph 2: By how much does the nock deviate from a straight line?

Does the bow shoot best at any of these settings? Indeed it does. I have played a bit with my current bow, and moving the nock had a huge effect.

Since the D-loop is usually done over serving, the serving can act as a thread on which you “screw” the D-loop up or down. This also makes for “fine tuning”, since the serving thread is typically less than 0,5 mm. So you have a fairly fine thread on which to rotate the D-loop.

On rotation my Elite Hunter's D-Loop once, that is lowering it by the thickness of a serving thread, the bow shot six inches high on 40 yards. This may not only be due to the change in height, but also due to a slight better flight. This is difficult to measure, and all I can tell you is “the arrows are traveling much straighter”. I'm getting much less “whow, where did that one go to”.

My final remark, in summary, is then simply, the exact position of the D-loop has a huge effect on how a bow will feel, and how it will shoot. The difficulty of adjusting it to the “perfect” optimal position is that you will have to do a precise nock travel measurement, a bit of maths, and some fine tuning. Or, you can change and shoot, till it works. The message here being, do not take the nocking position for granted – test and tune it!





Die groot kruishoring-koedoe

Deur Ivan Smit

Dit is 5 am Vrydagoggend en my gedagtes flits willekeurig terug na die uitsonderlike koedebul wat iewers op die plaas Woestalleen rondswerf. Ek, my pa en vriend JP gesels deurlopend oor dié jag wat voorlê terwyl die N1 stelselmatig afgelê word op pad Sterkrivier toe.

Dis was 'n mooi Sondagoggend gewees – nog vroeg in die winter. Ons was op ons eerste jag van die seisoen en ek, my pa en oom Henk van Woestalleen, was oppad om my vriend JP te gaan oplaai by die skuiling waar hy die middag deurgebring het. Dit was die eerste keer wat ek hierdie uitsonderlike koedebul gesien het. Op daardie oomblik het ek geweet dat ek die een moes wees wat hom skiet... kom wat wil. Oom Henk het al vertel van die koedoe met horings wat na binne toe draai en nie buitentoe nie. Mens kan jou dit nie

indink nie, maar wat 'n mooi gesig as jy die voorreg het om dit te kan sien. Daardie naweek was daar nie kans om hom te skiet nie, maar ek het myself voorgeneem dat ek terug sal wees net vir hom.

Die vooruitbespreekte jagte wat gevolg het en die rugby het ons besig gehou deur die seisoen. Hoewel ek elke jag geniet het, kon ek die gedagte om daardie bul te gaan skiet nie laat gaan nie. Ek het aanmekeer vir my pa gevra om nog 'n jag op Woestalleen te reël. (My pa sal natuurlik vertel dat ek die hele tyd geneul het om te gaan.)

Om een of ander rede was my pa maar traag om dit te reël.

Hoe meer tyd verloop het, hoe meer het ek gestres, want wat as iemand anders nou my koedoe gaan plattrek? Net voor my 15de verjaarsdag in Augustus roep my ma en pa my nader en vra wat ek vir my verjaardag wil hê en natuurlik was my antwoord niks anders as daardie koedoe nie asseblief. Só word daar toe 'n gesinsnaweek op Woestalleen gereël – die naweek net na my verjaarsdag. Ek kon nie wag vir die naweek om aan te breek nie. Ek was al die vorige dag klaar gepak. Ek het besluit dat ek hierdie besonderse koedoe met die boog wil skiet wat my pa vir my gebou het. 'n 55 pond-take down. My pyl – 'n Goldtip Heritage en jagpunt 'n 145 grein-Snuffer.

Dit was 7:30 die 9de Augustus toe ons volle verwagting op die plaas Woestalleen stop. Vol opgewondenheid is ek en JP soos blits uit die kar en laai eerste die boë uit. Gou 'n paar oefenskote skiet voor oom Henk opdaag om ons elk na 'n skuiling te neem. Op pad skuiling toe moes ek myself omtrent inhou en bid vir rustigheid in my gemoed. Nadat ons JP by 'n skuiling afgelaai het, is ons in 'n teenoorgestelde rigting na my skuiling vir die dag. Daar aangekom het die wind woes begin waai en nog in die verkeerde rigting ook. My moed was in my skoene. Die hoop beskaam nie soos my ma sou sê en ek het my skuiling betrek. Nou is dit net wag.

Na 'n uur en 'n half het ek die eerste keer lewe om die skuiling begin sien. Dit was 'n pragtige koedoebul gewees, maar nie die een waarvoor ek gekom het nie. Hy het reguit op die skuiling afgestap en skielik omgedraai en weggedraf. Dit was die wind, dit het van die verkeerde kant af gekom en hy kon my ruik. Moedeloos het ek geweet my kanse is maar skraal die dag. Nie te lank daarna nie het dieselfde gebeur met 'n knypkop en rooibokooi. Ek het geweet as die wind nie gaan bedaar nie, lê daar heel waarskynlik 'n onsuksesvolle jagnaweek voor. Ek het nie baie hoop gehad nie.

Meteens stop oom Henk en my pa by die skuiling. Hulle laat my weet dat hulle die uitsonderlike koedoe by die ander skuiling agter die berg gesien het. Na ons ons opsies bespreek het, besluit ons toe om wel die kans te vat en te skuif na die alternatiewe skuiling. Natuurlik het hy hom uit die voete gemaak nadat hulle daar verby is.

My ma, sussie en boetie was op pad en ons moes nog kamp gaan opslaan. Die middag was besig om

aan te stap, maar ons het tog besluit dat ek 'n rukkies by daardie skuiling sal gaan sit. By die skuiling aangekom, was daar nie eens 'n insek wat geroer het nie. My pa-hulle is weg en ek het stelling ingeneem – nie met baie moed nie bygesê. Binne 15 minute was daar egter drie jong koedoebulle wat ingekom het en omtrent 'n half uur later het daar 'n trop rooibokke ingekom. Daar was hoop!

Uiteindelik het ek 'n paar groot koedoebulle sien aankom. Myne het egter weggebly. Ek het my kamera uitgehaal om 'n paar foto's te neem om later vir my pa te wys hoe mooi die koedoebulle was. 'n Bobbejaan wat naby was het die kamera gesien en 'n lawaai opgeskop. Dit was soos blits toe is al die diere weg. Al wat jy kon hoor was die geraas van die bobbejaan in die agtergrond. Ek was kwaad, maar kon niks daaraan doen nie. Nou gaan ek voorwaar niks skiet nie.

'n Ander halfuur later sien ek iets beweeg in die rigting van die skuiling. 'n Vinnige skietgebedjie en asem ophou en daar staan hy, die koedoe met my naam op. Die een waarvoor ek gekom het. Hy was so uniek. My hart het vinniger begin klop en toe tref die bokkoors my soos koue water in die gesig.

Ek het my asemhaling geregleer om rustiger te word en toe die koedoe my 'n goeie skoot bied het ek my boog getrek en 'n baie mooi middel longskoot geskiet! Ek kan nie vir jou vertel die blydschap toe ek hom hoor val het nie en hoe lekker dit was om my pa en oom Henk te laat weet dat hulle kan kom nie!

Hulle het daar opgedaag met my sussie en klein boetie wat wou kom deel in my opgewondenheid. Ons het die koedoe maklik gekry. En die bonus! Sy horings het 60 duim gemeet. Verseker gaan hierdie een teen my muur hang. Dankie Here vir die voorreg om dit te kon doen. ●



Ivan, sy pa, Johan Smit en Henk du Plessis van Woestalleen.



In sy boek *Hunting the hard way* skryf die bekende boogjagter, Howard Hill van sy jagwedervaringe met sy langboog. Howard Hill is die eerste man wat 'n olifant met 'n langboog kon plattrek en ook verskeie ander grootwild met sy pyl en boog laat sneuwel het. Dit is egter duidelik dat om 'n bok met die sogenaamde stok-en-snaar plat te trek nie in elke man se broek sit nie, veral indien dit tevoet gedoen word.

'n Jaar of wat gelede het ek 'n aanhaling in die nuwe *Archer's Digest* gelees wat my aandag getrek het: "The hunter who carries a recurve or a longbow typically is an experienced archer who has mastered the modern compound and is looking for an additional challenge." Dit mag moontlik wees dat baie kragboogjagters vir jare lank al vrylik met hul kragboë jag en nou op die uitkyk is vir 'n nuwe uitdaging.

Aan die ander kant – baie van die tradisionele boë wat gekoop word, word deur nuwelinge gekoop, met ander woorde mense wat nuut is in die boogskiet-sport. Daar is tenminste twee redes waarom nuwelinge 'n tradisionele boog koop. Die mense het miskien nog nie van 'n kragboog (compound) gehoor nie, of hulle word bekoor deur die romantiek van die houtboog – dieselfde soort boog waarmee Robin Hood, die Thompson brothers, Howard Hill, Fred Bear en die ander bekendes in die verlede mee geskiet en gejag het.

Die uitvinding van die kragboog het natuurlik sake heeltemal verander. In die 1970's het die gebruik van die tradisionele boog bykans heeltemal verdwyn – net soos wat gebeur het met die verskillende musiekstyle toe Elvis Presley en *Rock 'n Roll* in die 1950's die musiekwêreld getref het. Gedurende die hippie-era is *folk* musiek herontdek en dieselfde het 'n dekade later met tradisionele boogskiet gebeur. Beide *folk* musiek en tradisionele boogskiet het vandag 'n redelike groot aanhang, hoewel dit steeds 'n klein deel uitmaak van die musiek- of boogskiet-populasie.

Boogskiet met 'n langboog of gekurfde boog is gewis nie vir almal nie. Die kragboog sal altyd meer gewild wees. Die meeste mense word deur modes en die nuutste tegnologie aangetrek. Net die individualiste, wat bereid is om harder te werk om die teiken te tref,

sal die tradisionele paadjie volg.

Om met 'n tradisionele boog te skiet verg harde werk. Geen visiere word gebruik nie en die boog het nie 'n *let-off* of 'n trekkrag-vermindering soos 'n kragboog nie. Wanneer 'n mens 'n kragboog trek en die nokke swaai oor, hou die skut net 20 tot 30 persent van die trekponde van die boog vas. Dus, indien 'n boog 'n trekkrag van 60 pond het, hou die skut net ongeveer 12 tot 24 ponde vas terwyl hy of sy korrel. Met 'n langboog of gekurfde boog word die ponde-trekkrag wat vasgehou word al hoe meer wanneer die boog gespan word en dus hou die skut hoë ponde vas net voor die snaar gelos word. Daarom is dit nie prakties om 'n visier te gebruik nie, want die skut sal waarskynlik nie die boog lank genoeg gespan kan hou om met die visier te korrel wanneer daar gejag word nie. Jagboë se ponde-trekkrag moet hoog wees om genoeg kinetiese energie te genereer om 'n bok te kan plattrek.

'n Tradisionele boogskut moet elke dag oefen om 'n sesduim teiken op 15 tot 20 tree te tref. Die beste jagafstand vir jagters wat dié boë gebruik, is 20 tree of minder.



Marlice Kühn met 'n wildbees wat sy met 'n krom- of gekurfde boog platgetrek het. Indien die skootplasing reg gedoen word, die regte pygewig gebruik word en die jagpunt flymskerp is, is 'n tradisionele boog 'n dodelike wapen.



'n Koedoe wat met 'n tradisionele boog geskiet is.

Dit beteken die jagter moet baie nader aan sy of haar prooi kom as 'n kragboogskut. Die pyl trek ook stadiger – wat snaarspring by bokke 'n groter probleem maak.

Baie skuts los hulle stokboë mettertyd inruil vir 'n kragboog wat baie makliker is om te bemeester. Jagters wat net opsoek is na nog 'n wapen om mee te jag moet eerder 'n kragboog aanskaf. Dit is 'n wonderlike jag-

wapen en 'n baie goeie keuse om te doen. 'n Kragboog is gewis 'n baie akkurate en effektiewe wapen. 'n Jagter kan wild maklik oor 20, 30 of 40 meter afhaal en baie vaardige kragboogskuts skiet wild selfs oor baie langer afstande. Skote na wild oor afstande verder as 40 tree word egter nie aanbeveel nie. Die kragboog is 'n stil wapen. Wild is gewoonlik baie mak en rustig op jagplase waar daar net met boë gejag word.

Die langboog en gekurfd boog is net vir die mense wie se hartsnare deur die romantiek van die houtboog geroer word. 'n Tradisionele boogskut weet sommer van die begin af met watter soort boog hy of sy wil skiet. Vir dié mense is die besluit nie moeilik om te neem nie. Hulle is gewoonlik redelik passievol oor hulle sport en die gedagte daaraan om met so 'n ou wapen te

skiet en bokke plat te trek is gewoonlik die motivering vir hul keuse.

Skuts wat die tradisionele boog opneem moet weet dat hulle waarskynlik die eerste keer wanneer hulle na 'n teiken skiet die teiken heeltemal gaan mis. En dieselfde gaan waarskynlik gebeur tydens die volgende 30 skote.

Daar is ook min hulp beskikbaar vir tradisionele boogskuts. Ander skuts gaan aanbeveel dat jy net soos 'n kragboogskut staan, dan die snaar met drie vingers vashou en

dit na jou mondhoek toe trek totdat jy jou mondhoek met jou middelvinger raak. Jy sal baie raad ontvang oor jou skietvorm, maar geen raad oor hoe om te mik nie. Dit word deur die brein gedoen. Jy fokus op 'n kolletjie op jou teiken en jy skiet. Mettertyd sal jy vind jy skiet al hoe nader aan die kol.

Dit is nie die maklikste roete om te neem nie – gewis die smal pad. Indien jy egter die roep van die langboog in jou hart voel, jy aanhou om daarmee te skiet, al lyk sake hopeloos, en jy die die saak deursien tot jy die teiken wonderbaarlik begin tref – dan sal jou houtboog vir jou soos jou tweede vrou word. Pasop, houtboogskiet word 'n obsessie!

Een van die tradisionele boog se voordele is dat jy nie aan 'n tegnologie-wedloop deelneem nie. 'n Tradisionele boog kan in dié opsig met 'n geweer vergelyk word. Jy koop jou geweer en jy hou dit vir die res van jou lewe. Jy koop miskien later ander kalibers by, maar jou .308 of 30.06 bly *modern* – dit is nie nodig om dit 'n paar jaar later met 'n nuwe, vinniger model te vervang nie. Jou geweer kan deur jou seun en daarna deur sy seun geerf word.

'n Kragboog is in seker opsigte soos 'n nuwe bakkie. Wanneer jy die bakkie by die motorwinkel uitry is jy heeltemal verlief daarop. 'n Paar jaar later is daar egter 'n nuwe model op die mark. Dan vervang jy baie maklik dieselfde bakkie vir die nuwe model. Dit is ook meestal die geval met kragboogeienaars. Wanneer jy jou nuwe kragboog koop glo jy dit is die



Daar is altyd 'n opgeruimde atmosfeer by tradisionele byeenkomste en dit is duidelik dat dié sport sorg vir groot vermaak en 'n besonderse gevoel van samehorigheid onder die skuts. Hoewel die skuts teen mekaar meeding, voel dit nie asof hulle kompetisies met soveel erns aanpak as kragboog skuts nie.



Berede boogskiet word al hoe meer gewild in die land. Hierdie skuts skiet na teikens terwyl hulle op die rug van 'n perd ry.





Howel my drie dogters al almal 'n bok met die kompakte boog of kruisboog platgetrek het, geniet hulle dit om met hulle tradisionele boë in die veld te loop en na rubber 3D-teikens te skiet.



Baie tradisionele boogskut verskies om hulle eie boë te bou. Henk du Plessis is 'n ervare boogbouer wat al verskeie bokke platgetrek het met boë wat hy self gebou het. Daar moet onderskei word tussen die algemene tradisionele boë wat van hout en veselglas gebou word en die egte houtboë, wat net uit natuurlike materiale gebou word, soos hout en bamboes. Henk is hier besig om die bamboes-laminasie vir só 'n egte houtboog uit te meet.



beste, die vinnigste, die akkuraatste en die stilste boog op die mark. Twee of drie jaar later lees jy egter die spesifikasies van 'n nuwe model en probeer jy so gou moontlik die ou boog te smous om die nuwe model aan te skaf.

Die gemiddelde tradisionele skut verkoop egter nie maklik enige boog nie. Nee, hy of sy hou dit en skaf net nog ander boë aan. Ek het verkeie tradisionele boë en ek hou selfs die boë wat gebreek het.

Min tradisionele boogskuts in Suid-Afrika jag egter met hulle houtboë. Die grootste gros skiet met 'n lang- of gekurde boog in tradisionele kompetisies, maar jag met hulle kragboë. Dietmar Vorderegger was vir jare lank die wêreldkampioen met die langboog. Hy besoek Suid-Afrika soms twee keer per jaar om te jag en trek bykans altyd sy bokke met 'n kragboog plat.

Ek wil egter nie die indruk skep dat 'n tradisionele boog nie 'n goeie jagwapen is nie – en dit is gewis nie waar nie. 'n Goedgeplaasde pylskoot op 'n bok vanuit 'n langboog of gekurde boog is nêr so dodelik soos 'n pylskoot met 'n kompakte boog. Die gemiddelde tradisionele boogskut moet egter baie nader as die kragboogskut aan sy prooi wees wanneer die pyl losgelaat word. Die tradisionele skut moet ook baie meer oefen en veral in die jagseisoen elke dag 'n klomp pyle met die boog skiet. Die regte jagpunt moet gekies word, dit moet bangskerp wees en dit moet 'n vaste lem wees. Die kans dat 'n meganiese jagpunt wat uit 'n tradisionele boog geskiet word nie behoorlik gaan ontplooi nie is té groot.

Vir die manne wat dus wil ervaar wat jagters vir duisende jare op aarde in die jagveld beleef het, kan die tradisionele boog nuwe uitdagings bied en 'n nuwe lus gee om die jagveld te betree.

Nelius Mostert het dié blouwilbees platgetrek met 'n boog wat ek net van hickory hout gebou het. Die soort boog word is die eenvoudigste tiepe boog wat 'n mens kan maak en bestaan net uit 'n enkele soort eenstuk-hout en 'n snaar. Dié boog het 'n trekkrag van 70 pond en Nelius het 'n swaar houtpyl en vlymskerp tweelem-jagpunt gebruik.

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- ABO (African Bowhunting Org) and 3Di Tournament Archery
- Futurama Online store
- SABA www.sabowhunting.co.za admin@sabowhunting.co.za
- SANAA (South African National Archery Association)
- SANIFAA
- NASP (National Archery in the schools Programme) www.nasp.co.za
- Carbon Core Arrows, Stephan van Wyk, 072 607 3442 info@ccarrows.com

Gauteng

- Action Archery Indoor Range, Kempton Park
- Archers of Zoo Lake Club
- Archery in Action, Centurion
- Archer's Edge, Moreleta Park, Pretoria East, Redge 082 378 0539, Nico 071 603 2677
- Archery Addiction, Waterval Estate
- Archery Advancer, Derdepoort, PTA
- Archery Africa, Roodepoort
- Arrow Reapers Archery, West Rand
- Bandit Archery, Montana PTA
- Bella Vista School Club
- Blazing Fletches
- Boesman Archery club, Meyerton
- Centurion Boogskiet Klub (NASP Home)
- Cosira Archery club
- Club Wildcrete, Tswane
- Crazy Warthog Bow Hunting Club, 14 Thomas Jackson, Street, Oatlands, Krugersdorp. Tel: Peter Stockhammer 082 371 9738 / 011 660 4577 / 8
- Website: www.crazywarthogbowclub.co.za
- Die Blou Meul, Van Riebeeck Ave, Alberton North, 011 907 1107/8 - Lukas
- East Archers (Combat Archery) Midrand
- Emfuleni Primary
- East Rand Archery Club
- Everything Archery, Randpark Ridge,
- 082 906 6146, everythingarcherysa@gmail.com; www.facebook.com/everythingarcherysa

- Evolution Archery Club
- Full Draw, Doornpoort, PTA + Robin Hoodies club for kids
- Gauteng Target Archery Association
- Guthries Shooting Range, Midrand
- Guthries Archery Club (Recurve)
- Grays Archery
- Hunting and Tactical Supplies, Woodmead (crossbows)
- Jonkershoek Boogskiet Avonture
- Kill Shot Archery, Pta
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- Magaliesberg Boogklub
- Magnum Archery Eastdale Pavilion Centre, Garsfontein, Pretoria 082 900 5598, Brandon 083 610 0582
- Magnum Archery Parklands Drive Esther Park, Kempton Park 083 610 0630 Dale
- Mandeville Archery Club, Bez Valley
- Marks Park archery club
- Nock & Roll archery Club
- Oosrand boogskiet belange groep
- Potshot/Kolskoot, Randburg 011 791 0475,
- Parktown Stores, Pretoria
- Rand Archery Club
- RECO Schools Archery
- Sherwood Archery club Boksburg
- Springs Archery Club
- South African Kyudo Renmei (Japanese Archery) Boskruin
- Sentient Archery (Recurve, Zoo lake)
- Sharp Edge Sharp Shooter, Sandton
- Stealth Adventures, Vereeniging
- The 4 Archers
- Tuks Sport Archery
- Quattro Archery and Stabilizers, Pretoria
- Used Archery Equipment

- West Rand Archery Club
- Wildebees Outdoor Shop, Bredell, Kempton Park 011 979 3060 of 082 442 4506
- Zero Bow Strings, Folkers Herholdt 083962 2328

Limpopo

- AFA Archers Club
- Arms For Africa / Legally Armed bow shop, Polokwane
- Curro Heuwelkruin Club
- Dead Center Bow Hunting, Tzaneen
- Dreys Archery, Polokwane
- Elands Archery Club
- Hoërskool Pietersburg
- Merensky (High School) Boogskiet klub
- Mongol Nyala Archery Club
- Mopani Archery Club
- Thabazimbi Boogklub
- Thaba Boog en Hengel, Thabazimbi. 014 772 1905, 014 777 2084, 071 696 1366.
- Waterberg Archery/ Boogklub

North West

- Arrow Rest, R512, Hartebeespoortdam Wilna 082 078 9380, 012 205 1485
- Archer's Tech and Bow support, Hartebeespoortdam
- HPC Archery Club
- Hunter's Warehouse, Klerksdorp
- Larries Boogskiet (NASP) Rustenburg
- Marksman Archery, Potchefstroom
- Slayer Archery, Oliver Tambo Drive Rustenburg. 082 369 0847, 014 592 9943

Mpumalanga

- Angling & Outdoor World, Nelspruit
- Emhlangeni Archery Range, Sundra
- Madikelo Archery club
- Nelspruit Archery
- Nock & Load
- Olifantsrivier Boogskiet Klub
- Onderberg Archery club
- Red Feathers Archery Club, Belfast
- Rudamans Archery club
- Sabie Archery Club
- Secunda Archery Club
- Slingervel, gun shop, Secunda 017 631 3656
- Witbank Corr Services Club

Free State

- Centre Shot club, Kroonstad, affiliated with NASP, 083 306 6155
- Free State Archery Association
- Free State Archery Confederation
- Flatland Archery shop and range, Bainsvlei, Bloemfontein Mielie du Toit 078 940 3558
- Maluti Boogskietklub
- New Dimension Club
- Parys Boogskiet klub
- TEMPE Arcery club, Tempe University
- Watuni club, Sasolburg

KZN

- Ant Archery (kids crossbows)
- Bernies Bow Shop, Camperdown
- Definition Archery, Pietermaritzburg
- Drakensberg Archery, Himeville
- Kingspark Archery Club
- Performance Archery, Pinetown
- Pietermaritzburg Archery Club
- Pongola Bowhunters
- Take to Target Archery, Durban North
- Wesley Gates Archery
- Zululand Ammo & Outdoor, Mtubatuba

Western Cape

- 24 Rivers Archery Club
- Bellville Archery Club

- Bow Pro, De Doorns
- Bow Time Archery, Brackenfell
- CPut-Paarl Valley Archery Club (Paarl Archery)
- Fun Forest Archery, George
- George Bow Club
- Helderberg Target Archery, Somerset College
- Hermanus Field Archery Club
- Guns and Bows, Bellville
- Inner Ten Archery, Da Gama
- Italian Indoor Archery Club
- KOAC (Knysna Outdoor Archery Circuit)
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- South African Kyudo Renmei (Japanese Archery) Brackenfell
- Southern Bass Culture, Monta Vista - 081 498 6688 or ryan@southernbasa.co.za.
- Stellenbosch Field Archery Club
- Stormsvlei 3D Archery
- Thali Thali Game Lodge, Langebaan, Second Hand Bow equipment and more, 083 275 2825.
- True Flight Archery, Durbanville, Wessel Potgieter, 082 374 1799

- Hunters Archery Club at Alttygedacht Wine Estate in
- TOXON Archery
- UCT Archery-
- Wild Clover Archery Club
- Winelands Archery club

Eastern Cape

- East Londen Archery club
- East Cape Bowhunting Association
- Londt Park club, PE
- Nyati Archery Club, East Londen
- PE Bow shop
- Rhodes University Archery Club, Grahamstown
- The Bushman's Bow Shop \$ Outdoors, Grahamstown
- Zingela Archery club, Jeffreys Bay, 072 325 3208

Northern Cape

- Adventure Archery Club

Other African Countries

- 3D Archery, Harare, Zimbabwe
- Archery Association of Namibia
- Archer's Land, Namibia
- Botswana Bowbenders
- Leisure X-Treme, Zambia
- Your Butt Archery Supply, Windhoek Namibia

Traditional Archery

- Combretum Bows, Pretoria, Johan van der Merwe, 083 544 7042.
- Cupido Bows, Marble Hall, Pierre de Wet 073 151 1992
- Derek Norse, Norsemen Archery Equipment, KZN
- Elgro Traditional Archers club, Potchefstroom
- Heartwood Bows, Johnny Snyman, Sedgefield 0845342863
- Horsebows, Anton de Wit
- Johan Smit Bows, 079 874 7207
- Pumba Bows, Louwtjie, Johannesburg
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- Harvey Archery, Recurves and longbows 078 114 0002

Mounted Archery

- Griffins Mounted Archery, Bredasdorp
- Mounted Archery Namibia
- Paarl Mounted Archery
- Pretoria Mounted Archery
- Blue Moon Riding School Jhb

A quick guide to bow hunting kudu

Cleve Cheney presents condensed versions of his earlier full-length articles on bow hunting various species.

Hunting techniques

Concentrate your efforts in typical habitat and look for relevant sign. It is usually easier to hunt lone bulls, since there are not as many collective senses to monitor surroundings. The best hunting techniques are where the animal comes to you whilst you await in ambush. Stalking up to within bow range can be difficult.

The hunter must be well camouflaged, always stay downwind and move as little as possible. The spot-and-stalk technique involves sitting on a high vantage point and glassing a wide area. Once kudu are spotted, a careful stalk can be planned. Signs such as fresh and abundant spoor and scat along well-utilised game paths (especially in the vicinity of a waterhole) are promising indications and hunting from a platform or hide then becomes a viable option. Find suitable cover or erect a blind/tree stand downwind and within 10 to 25 metres of your expected ambush point. If a kudu approaches, wait until the correct shot presents itself before loosing off an arrow.

Walk-and-stalk techniques can be successfully employed in dense bush or woodland, providing the hunter does more observing and waiting in good cover than walking or moving about.

Suggested equipment

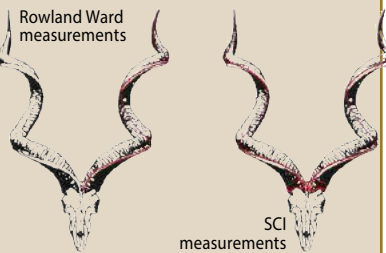
- Minimum suggested bow draw weight: 60 to 75 pounds.
- Minimum suggested arrow momentum: 0,4 slugs.
- Minimum suggested arrow kinetic energy: 60 to 70 pounds.
- Minimum suggested arrow weight: 500 grains plus.
- Suggested hunting point: Use a well-constructed two or three-blade broadhead.
- Minimum cutting width: 25 millimetres

Trophy

The first turns of the spiral horns are completed at about the age of 21 months and the second at about 30 months. The horns grow throughout life and begin the third turn at about the age of 8 years. A bull with three turns is generally past breeding prime.

For SCI records: Measure the length of each horn along the curve and measure the circumference of each horn at its base. Total all measurements. The minimum score required for inclusion in record books is 121.

For RW records: Measure the length of the longest horn on the front curve from the lowest edge of the base to the tip. The minimum length required for inclusion in record books is 53⁷/₈ inches.



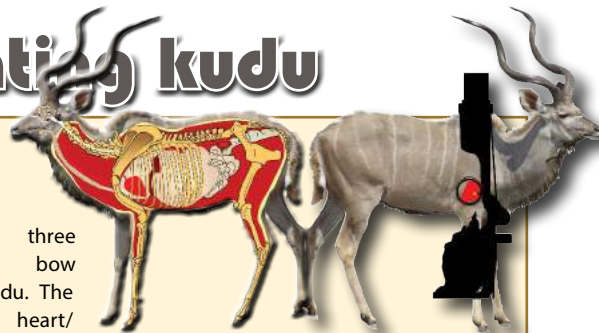
SHOT PLACEMENT

Anatomy and shot placement

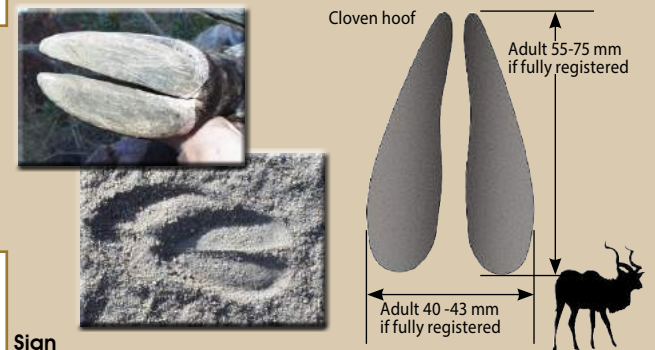
There are three acceptable bow shots for kudu. The broadside heart/lung shot is the safest and offers the greatest margin of error for shot placement. A quartering-away shot with the arrow entering between the ribs and pelvis is very effective and will penetrate the liver (likely), spleen (possibly), diaphragm, lungs (one or perhaps both), heart, major blood vessels and gut. The hunter must aim for the opposite front leg at the right elevation.

A third possibility, a little tricky, is from an elevated hide or stand. Here the hunter must aim slightly back (with the animal facing away) and next to the spine so that the arrow is angled forward to end up in the vitals. Do not attempt shots when the animal is looking at you. Shoot only when the animal is looking away or its vision is obscured. Do not attempt frontal, quartering-on, or tail-end shots.

Arrows generally penetrate easily into kudu with quartering-away shots and frequently pass right through on broadside shots. The ribs are not very thick and arrows pass through them with relative ease. Kudu are not very tough and will go down quickly with a well-placed heart/lung shot. When hit, kudu will bound off and head for the nearest cover. Wait at least 30 minutes before following up.



SIGN



Sign

Tracks: Split hoof. Kudu tracks are longer and more pointed than nyala and similar in length to blue wildebeest, but not as splayed. Length up to 80 millimetres.

Scat: Fresh kudu dung pellets are about 20 millimetres in length and are cylindrical with a pinched-off end.

Debarking: During periods of shortage kudu will use bark as a source of food, using the incisors of the lower jaw to scrape it off.

Horning: Kudu bulls use their horns to break off branches to gain access to leaves normally out of reach.

Ground horning, when the horns and face are rubbed in mud or dry ground, is a form of territorial behaviour found in kudu as well as in nyala, bushbuck and wildebeest.

Browse lines: In areas where there are large populations of kudu and/or other browsers, a distinct "browse line" becomes evident in the tree foliage. This is the vertical distance from ground level to which animals can extend their necks to reach and utilise food.

Vocal sign: The bow hunter must listen for the guttural alarm bark of kudu as an indication of their whereabouts.

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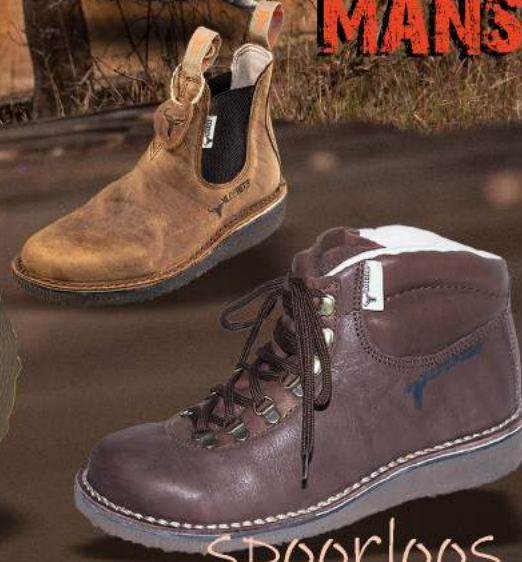


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