9.3×62 Unbeatable Work Horse.

Burdensome task, writing an article about this sacred monster.

For over a century it has been carrying out his work silently, with a consistency and effectiveness that is almost impossible to match.

This fantastic cartridge was born from the indisputable genius of a Berlin gunsmith, Otto Bock.

Otto Bock

Owner of a small gunsmith shop, the good Otto was dedicated to the production of fine double rifles and bolt action rifles. As an expert of the Mauser action, he interpreted the growing demands of a certain part of the German clientele.

For year, the market had decreed action 98 as the absolute queen, reliable, robust beyond imagination, capable of handling any type of mistreatment without giving rise to problems of extraction or jamming. There was full availability of good carbines in the Teutonic prince caliber, the classic 8 × 57 JS.

The ammunition industry had over time given birth to a vast family of cartridges, intended for various uses, pushing the popularity of their manufactures far beyond the Prussian and Empire borders.

But as most people know, 8mm bullets have a number of merits and limits. Low sectional density and weight, in fact, greatly limit their effectiveness on very large and enormous animals. Even full metal jacket bullets, both spitzer and ruond nose, posed problems when used on African mega fauna.

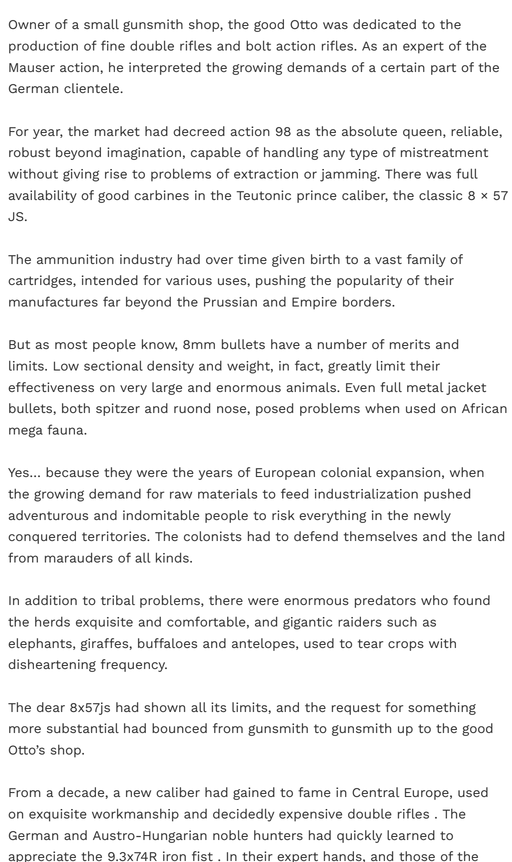
Yes… because they were the years of European colonial expansion, when the growing demand for raw materials to feed industrialization pushed adventurous and indomitable people to risk everything in the newly conquered territories. The colonists had had to defend themselves and the land from marauders of all kinds.

In addition to tribal problems, there were enormous predators who found the herds exquisite and comfortable, and gigantic raiders such as elephants, giraffes, buffaloes and antelopes, used to tear crops with disheartening frequency.

The dear 8x57js had shown all its limits, and the request for something more substantial had bounced from gunsmith to gunsmith up to the good Otto's shop.

From a decade, a new caliber had gained to fame in Central Europe, used on exquisite workmanship and decidedly expensive double rifles . The German and Austro-Hungarian noble hunters had quickly learned to appreciate the 9.3x74R iron fist . In their expert hands, and those of the lucky Jager Meisters who tended their immense reserves, these weapons were the best tools to put an end to squabbles with huge Carpathian bears and kapital deer during the short rut period.

9.3mm therefore, a measure that encompasses everything, esotericism, iron and steel knowledge, ballistic physics and a pinch of witchcraft.



Beautiful and rare Mauser in 9.3 × 62 produced to specifications for Heyer di Nairoby, 1930s.

70 cm barrel, express sights, simply splendid.

9mm bullets had already been used, the same Mauser had advocated its 9x57mm as the ideal caliber for big game, but without it meeting huge success. Inadequate sectional density, relatively high bullet weight for the capacity of the case but still insufficient on prey of size, limited range of action. Count Paul Pallffy draws an unflattering picture of the inefficient 9 × 57 in his book "Half a Century of Hunting", and history and time seem to have proved the Hungarian nobleman was right.

On the other hand, the 9.3mm bullets have decidedly high sectional density, close to 7mm bullets one, notoriously very performing. Their typical weight is 18.5 grams, surely suitable for penetrating bones, flesh, muscles and tissues. 9,3x74R case is roomy, designed to work at low pressure and guarantee a safe extraction, little stress on the locks, and if the ammunition is used on 60/65 cm barrels, it produces energy values capable of killing the largest european beast instantly. The true queen of the great noblemen's drive hunts of that days.

Obviously, finely engraved craftsmanship weapons, whose barrels were carefully matched by expert gunsmiths, had prohibitive costs for the average bourgeoisie of the empire, and were absolutely unthinkable for a desperate looking for fortune, abandoning everything and leaving for Africa with the promise of a piece of land and an old K98 in the trunk. Good Otto Bock remedied this inconvenient situation with ingenious elegance.

It was essential to make the most of what was already there to reduce costs, and it can't a small feat: the venerable K98 and its stainless action.

Since that working the bolt face was a heavy task and prerogative of well-equipped gunsmiths, he decided not to modify anything. The bolt had shown on battlefields that it was capable of extracting, chambering, firing, anytime, from north pole to the equator. Then he start working on a completely new case, with the same identical 8x57js collar. The new cartridge would have worked at the same military cartridge's pressure, with a maximum value of 3900 bar, to always guarantee the same fluidity of loading, extraction, and ballistic efficiency. He chose a size never seen before, 62mm, a bulky, roomy case with a tipical bottleneck designed to ensure perfect detachment for safe extraction.

Brilliant intuition Herr Bock.

In practice, in any remote place of the black continent, a barely decent gunsmith would have had to remove the action from the rifle, unscrew the barrel and replace it with a 9.3mm one of same length, 60 cm of German steel, reassemble the barrel with the K98 action, zero the iron sight. In short, the ugly 8x57JS duckling could turn into a swan, the fabulous 9,3 × 62. With a few pennies a settler could have a very effective caliber for buffaloes, antelopes, lions, and even elephants, all on the same rifle he had used for years, with the exact same ergonomics, similar ballistics, same muscle memory.

Otto Bock was a genius, a century ahead.

Moderate operating pressure, well-manageable recoil especially for those who had received military training, solid wood and steel carbines, heavy bullets of traditional construction with energy close to 500 kilograms, and round nose fmj bullets capable of penetrating even an elephant skull. A star was born;

Everything you need and something more …

In a few years commercial success was such that even British ammunition companies, like Kynoch, put into production 9.2 × 62 ammunitions. Everywhere in Africa, Asia, and Europe, the result was always the same, devastating impact, great intra-body energy release, game on the ground. It was not certainly a longrange caliber, but rather a regulator of short-medium range accounts, typical of all African and Asian scenarios; whether it was used to fill the pot, or to protect herds and crops, its efficiency was such that it became the most popular caliber among the colonists of German and French territories. Even in the English colonies it was successful, to the point that Holland & Holland quickly churned out a competing caliber, the well-known .375 magnum,

.375 was only chambered in heavy and expensive guns, which required a bulky Magnum action, whose bolt length required some training to avoid re-closing the same without chambering a new cartridge. Nothing to do with the economy and simplicity of Otto Bock's godson.

The war ended its popularity: with the Mauser plants razed to the ground and the ammunition industries dismantled by allies, it soon fell into oblivion. In the following decades, the hunters who went to Africa for wonderfull Safaris that would be unthinkable today, were Americans who soon imposed new calibers.

It took decades for our 9.3 × 62 to hit the spotlight, and this time restarting from the old continent. A large plethora of loyal hunters helped keep the beast alive, and the epidemic spread of the wild boar did the rest.

The famous writer and ivory hunter John Taylor, in his pleasant work "African rifles and cartridges" dedicates a good paragraph to our 9,3 × 62 and concludes that "in general there is not much to say, it is so satisfactory that there wasn't anything to start a discussion. "

Today, the main users of the 9.3 × 62 in the old continent, are wild boar hunters who have learned to appreciate the remarkable stopping and terminal efficiency of the 9.3mm bullets. At first glance it may seem that the modern use for driven hunt has completely distorted Otto's inspiring concept. By the way, a lot of water has passed under bridges in 120 years, and if a ballistic system survives over the centuries, maybe only because its flexibility helps it to adapt to different scenarios and eras, while maintaining effectiveness and reliability. Today hunter employ 232-grain bullets in 50 cm barrels so to enhance stopping power and efficiency of semi-automatic rifles, only the few who hunt deer or moosee requires long barrels and heavy bullets. In Africa and North America, things are different. Where huge and dangerous games walki around, hunter appreciates ethernal 9.3×62 qualities. In particular, North America is now discovering the potential of this terrible old man.

Handloading this sacred monster is truly child's play.

Not only all the available bullets will be terribly efficient and lethal on all European fauna, but due to case capacity, practically any kind of standard calibers powder will be suitable and will produce excellent grouping with small adjustments. Cases are readily available, from the cheap Prvi to the expensive Norma and Lapua, they can easily manage many refills and do not require special attention. Given the shoulder angle, passing shells in full dies is even satisfying. Standard primers are usually effective, while In some loads Magnum primers have proved to be useful to improve combustion of somewhat slow burning powders in stutzen's short barrels.

Bullets nowaday available on market are able to cover all hunting needs, with a flexibility that was unthinkable years ago. Bullet selection is always crucial, and should be carefully evaluated by the hunter.

For drive hunt lighter bullets are probably the wisest choice. On animals that rarely reach 140 kilograms, 225 or 232 grain bullets are amply capable of neatly bringing down prey at short to medium distances. Personally, I think the classic 250-grain ogives are optimal, being more efficient in terms of energy release and penetration in frontal shots, very frequent in boar hunting. Recoil with 232 and 247 grain bullets is well manageable, detection negligible, very pleasant on semi-automatic rifles.

Traditional 286-grain soft point can be used on drive hunt with some limitations, while they are absolutely fantastic on large animals at medium and short distances.

Bonded ogives, with praiseworthy exceptions, are intended for very large games. They guarantee incredible penetration, high weight retention and allow the good 9.3 × 62 to be successfully employed in African and Asian theaters.

Finally, FMJ and modern Solids, designed for Big Dangerous Game. We will talk about these in future, they are a fascinating chapter that deserves further study.

Handloading this purebred horse is the most satisfying: there are an infinite number of ogives, a multitude of powders can be used and surprising precision can be obtained. Virtually all manuals report loading data, so you only have to search. Norma, Vihtavuory, Nosler, Reload Swiss suggest excellent recipes on their webpages dedicated to handloading. This caliber works well in short barrels and very well in long and very long barrels. Few guns embody the Central European spirit like an elegant stutzen carbine, and perhaps nothing is more classic than a 9.3 × 62 stutzen. A wise choice of powder and bullet will generate ideal Cartridges for wooded areas.

As already mentioned, all the 9.3mm bullets work damn well at all ranges. However, bullet's choice is always a cause of great concern for the hunter: infinite hours of sleep have been lost and small fortunes have been squandered into primers and ogives, without finding the square of the circle.

Whoever reloads, you know, is a perfectionist obsessed with performance, being satisfied is not part of the perspective.

• **VULCAN & ORYX 232 grains** .

Always keep these bullets in high regard, as they are undoubtedly two of the best around. They have different characteristics and almost the same ballistic coefficient. Vulkan is designed to dump all energy intra-body producing highly disabling wounds even on adrenalin-fueled beasts. Its structure is quite fragile, and it doesn't like close shots or violent impacts at all. Over the years it has created a bad reputation among wild boar hunters, but only because it's often used incorrectly, causing abominable and superficial wounds not able to stop large adrenalized boars.

Norma remedied this nasty rumor by launching the evil twin, the 232-grain Oryx.

With small adjustments it is possible to create, with these two ogives, loads with identical points of impact with the same zeroing, at least at the typical drive hunt distance. Norma Manual indicates 80 mm as the optimum length of the cartridge.

In practice, an advanced hunter can use the Vulkan with satisfaction on slightly long shots and the Oryx on those at point-blank range on the same weapon, expanding the flexibility of the ballistic system.

The bonded structure of the oryx ensures very good weight retention, almost always total penetration and precision.

Test made by a Russian hunting magazine shows that Oryx can mushroom consistently up to 300 meters when fired in a 9,3×62 rifle.

Both on light and medium game these bullets are capable of clean kills If

used properly.

If you want to find a fault, low weight is sometimes limiting, especially on frontal shots, typical of drivehunting On games close to 100 kilograms you could witness lack of penetration, no egress hole without arresting the prey on the spot.

Anyway, modest recoil and gentle detection allow a comfortable use on semi-automatic rifles, with more than satisfactory precision.

On light game, Oryx are always a little too hard, failing to drop the animal on the spot.

You can push them as much as you like, the Oryx will not generate separation or detachment between core and mantle. I sent them at something over 850ms, and hitting a boar they practically became a coffee saucer, without disintegrating… but we'll talk about that in another article.

• **Kegelspitz 247 grains.**

The standard to beat, certainly for driven hunts but also for still hunting, seen absolute precision.

100 meters, Stutzen with 51 cm barrel.

Once again, the Teutonic knowledge of metallurgical art makes the difference. This incredible bullet can handle a wide range of speeds producing the most spectacular kill ever seen. Rws once proposed it for the 9.3 × 64 Brenneke boosted to 850ms, and it was lethal on all major game. Inevitably it will produce a myriad of secondary bullets if impacting bones and joints, while hitting the boiling room will enhance its terrible stopping power.

Found behind the knee of a large boar, ball entered from the neck.

Only point-blank shots are critics, but even in case of core and mantle separation, penetration will be effective and productive.

In still hunting it's superlative, accurate and capable even at great distance, it generates strong damage especially if placed in cardiopulmonary area, with abundant and usually short blood trace. It generally performs well on both light and heavy game, as long as you take care on shot placement. Absolutely one of my favorites, a bullet you can always release on. I found the new RS60 is unbeatable, capable of squeezing many meters of a second, with always full combustion even in relatively short barrels.

I wouldn't use it for huge deer, or for African digressions on the gigantic Eland, but for everything below two tons of weight I would have no doubts.

The commercial ammos currently produced by rws achieve lower speeds than those of a few years ago, so in order to exploit their great stopping power they must be correctly handloaded. There is no need to risk dangerous pressures, but objectively they work better above 750ms. In the past they produced devastating damage, but over the years RWS has probably modified the core making it harder; today they have a very balanced behavior, able to save a few pounds of meat even with bad shots.

KS found under the skin in the sternum area, entry hole in the right ham.

I still have an old Kegelspitz box from the 80s, and they are softer than the current ones even at the mild speeds of the 9.3x74R they produce exorbitant stopping but sometimes unwanted damage. The RWS Manual indicates the optimum length of the cartridge is 80.5mm.

• **Woodleigh Round Nose SP 250 grains** .

Great nice balls.

When I started using them I had a couple of bad experiences. I employed them for a boar hunt, properly loaded in a 9.3x74R express rifle.

Woodleigh 250 RNSP

Despite correct placement, a couple of medium-sized animals runned over 100 meters. Blood trail was clearly visible and dogs were soon on them, but expectations were enormously disappointed. This was because, stupidly, I had misinterpreted the nature of the Australian roundnose bullets.

On their website they are descrive as soft points, but they are excellent bonded bullets, able to expand perfectly even at moderate speeds, and penetrate deeply. Shot placement is almost never perfect in drive hunt, and a soft ball helps enormously to forgive small mistakes. Woodleighs perfectly did theyr job, only my expectations were disappointed. I put them aside for a couple of seasons, then finally I destined them to stalking, and the results were striking. Like all bullets whose core is welded to the coat, best results are achieved on large animals, aiming to shoulders or spine. Impacting on bone structures, bullet causes them to deflagrate, and gose trough creating a permanent straight and passing cavity.

The only flaw I can find is the high cost and the difficulty of finding it. For the rest they are really good.

Weidmannsheil!

Woodleigh also produces Round Nose in 286 and 320 grains. The latter are able to cleanly kill Cape buffalo and all the major African game.

On European soils, 250 grain ogive is probably the most flexible of the three.

There is Protected Point line too, designed to withstand very high speeds. The only one that could have a profitable use, the 232-grain one, seems to have been discontinued.

• **H Mantel 258 grains.**

It's no longer in production, after 8 generations it has been retired and replaced by speed tip bullet, same construction philosophy with higher ballistic coefficient and modern design. Like all H Mantels, the 9.3mm one was a hard and well-structured bullet, capable of outstanding knockdowns only at high speeds, releasing energy on impact and devastating the tissues in depth.

It works well on large and very large animals, guaranteeing a small but well punched egress hole; on small prey it struggles to produce insant killing unless hitting the shoulder or the nervous system. The RWS Manual indicates the optimal length of the cartridge 81.7 mm. Pay maniacal attention to overpressure symptoms, since the hard rear core is prone to playing tricks

• **GECO Teilmantel 255 grains.**

Soft point bullets with a classic structure, and a significant lead portino exposed. Ballistic performance is poor but terminal effect brutal. It's not intended to being pushed at high speeds, and in semi-automatic weapons it often jams in the rearmament phase, with lead that easily impacts blocking the process. On the milder 9,3x74R, however, free from rearming problems , is a good choice for drive hunt, especially for those suffering recoil. The RWS Manual indicates the optimum cartridge length is 79.4 mm.

• **Geco Plus 255 grains.**

A dear friend's favorite, he would also soak it in milk. It's a bonded but very soft ogive, in practice it produces excellent deformation even at low speed, guaranteeing very deep penetration and excellent terminal effects. Having a modern design, it is well suited for semi-automatic rifles, not generating jamming, works well even in short barrels and is very constant. We could define it as an optimal evolution of lighter Oryx for drive hunts. I think it will soon become a bad competitor for Norma. As all bonded bullets, let them run and if possible aim for massive structures. So you will have spectacular killing.

• **Speer Hot Core 270 grains**

For those who demand a high performance bullet at popular prices. There really isn't much to write about these ogives: the weight, one of a kind, puts them somewhere between heavyweight and lightweight.

It has a decent ballistic coefficient, which suggests shots over 200 meters without embarrassment, an interesting structure, with a welded core and mantle but not as tenaciously as one would expect: it will lose part of its weight while dumping energy, producing disabling and deep wounds. One of the very best for wild boar hunts. The tapered shape makes it ideal for semi-automatic guns, and is accurate enough. Let her run and the terminal ballistics will be striking. For those wishing to use it for still hunting, certainly a 60 or better 65 cm barrel could express excellent ballistic qualities and extend the effectiveness of this economical bullet by several meters. A good all-rounder, never remain without.

• **Rws Teilmantel 286 grains.**

A pill that look something out of a western comic, but by far one of the deadliest ball you can ever use on corpulent animals. Pushed at typical speed, produces very disabling wounds, marked neurogenic shock and strong bleeding even with shots in Boiling room. Being quite fragile, meat damage will always be conspicuous. But if it's imperative to end the matter in an instant at short to medium distances, you have a very good reason to use it.

A great classic.

It's easy to obtain extremely accurate loads, at 100 meters they produce a hole in the other. The RWS Manual indicates 82.1 mm as the optimum cartridge length.

We must always keep in mind that this is a very soft bullet, and its penetration is only guaranteed by the striking weight, 18.5 grams. A real power House.

A little vintage, but damn deadly. For the lucky few who can practice deer and wild boar hunting in woods, perhaps with a precious Stutzen, it's an evergreen, not to be left at home.

• **HORNADY INTERLOCK 286 grains** .

Honest and cheap.

For the price at which they are sold, very effective ogives for practice and hunting. The extremely fragile structure and the heavy weight mean that they often produce unbridled separations between mantle and core, with dramatic terminal effects. The only recommendation is to avoid exorbitant speeds. At 680 ms they get the job done well, with excellent penetration even on massive game. In addition, horrible superficial wounds can occur, so disabling to anchor the game in place but certainly not desirable. In order to let them work well you must not abuse of speed, and understand that at moderate velocity they are a death sentence even with badly placed shots.

I've seen photos of elands, antelopes and even buffaloes shot down with this bullet, but frankly I wouldn't use it on anything bigger than a deer or wild boar. For larger animals, even soft skinhead ones, is plenty of much more trustworthy balls.

• **Alaska 286 grains.**

A classic soft point bullet, with a tenacious mantle and a simply perfect core. Compared to Teilmantel, it has a modest meplat exposed, but will mushroom immediately after impact, with violent energy transfert and, seen the high weight, a deep penetration towards vitals. The design allows the use on semi-automatic firearms if over all length is limited.

Probably the best semi-rounded bullet in this caliber.

Long shots aren't to be contemplated, but for everything else it is more than worthy of utmost confidence. Among heavy soft points it is probably the most constant and precise of those I have tested. It struggles to release energy on small and medium-sized animals, but on everything else it's unmatched. Just excellent.

The Norma Manual indicates the optimum length of the cartridge is 80 mm.

• **RWS UNI CLASSIC 293 grains** .

The myth.

I don't really know where start describing this living fossil. Born from Brenneke's brilliant mind, it has been around for more than a century. Among the 9.3 mm bullets it is perhaps the one with higher ballistic coefficient, able to work across a wide range of speeds, guaranteeing quick and clean knockdowns. It has high stopping power and usually very deep penetration.

Penetration and stopping power.

Many criticize its outdated design and performance, but if it has been on the market for over a century, virtually unchanged, and can still count on a plethora of aficionados, there must be valid reasons. When I started using TUG, I didn't have a clear idea of what to expect. Talking to other hunters, I felt flattering or totally negative reviews. Once again, 'difference between expectations and reality must be mediated by knowledge and direct experience on the field.

He waited....

In the early twentieth century there were no bonded ogives, bullets were basically of two types, soft point, or full jacketed. The first one on huge animals failed to penetrate unless using exorbitant ball weights, other was suitable only on megafauna, only It hitting bone structures or brain.

Good Willhelm sensed that there was a third way, and he gave the world his amazing TUG, Torpedo Universal Geschosse.

High Lander

A relatively soft front core that deforms like a soft point at mild velocity, but if launched at very high speeds fragmen at impact , generating many secondary bullets and causing drammstic energy Dump. Non-deformable rear core is intend to penetrate organs, tissues and splitting bones to bring destruction where needed, to vital organs. In over a century of honored career, it is reasonable to assume that no other bullet in the world has shot down more heavy game than our TUG. Over the years it has been modified just a little, to adapt it to new hunting needs and make it work properly in semi-automatic weapons, but original design wasn't distorted.

On the left, directly from the 1970s, on the right today's production: more advanced crimping to facilitate use on semi-automatic weapons.

You can call it TUG, Uni Classic, it will continue doing its job with indecent relentless effectiveness.

It's one of the best bullet for medium and short distances. Exuberant stopping power, always complete penetration, doesn't fear vegetation, not even trunks of generous section can stop it. Its main purpouse are frontal shots at short and very short distances, I have seen several times wild boars weighing a ton fall as if struck by lightning, even if the bullet had hit chest or shoulder. To make the most of this bullet potential, we suggest rather long barrels, and to push it as fast as you can safely. It doesn' fear exorbitant speeds, RWS charges it in 9.3 × 64, and if you can find a hunter that used that in Africa in this caliber you can be told what it is really capable of.

At long distances, where shot placement becomes crucial, it is still capable of producing excellent results thanks to high mass. A bullet you can trust. In the past, RWS indicated this projectile as suitable for hunting large dangerous game such as Cape Buffalo, and it was the only commercial load to exceed, not surprisingly, the 500 kgm of energy at the muzzle. Today there are better performing ogives on gigantic prey, but undermining an animal called "Black Death" with our still valid 9.3 × 62 remains a questionable idea: If it is true that it is capable of mortally wound a huge buffalo, forget that it could stop a furious charge.

As the best PHs suggest, use enough gun.

Boar over 100kg stopped by a TUG.

RWS in its valid manual suggests a cartridge length of 82 mm.

I couldn't find a powder that would make this steel masterpiece work badly.

In my opinion, its main use should be for hunting deer, or large antelope. With 65cm barrels it is capable of producing speed and energy values capable of killing gigantic ungulates up to 250 300 meters. Surely Effective even on moose and bear, ensuring better penetration than a classic soft point. Far from retiring, we will see this super classic on hunting fields for many years to come.

The legend continues.

• **SWIFT A-FRAME 300 grains.**

To be used only and exclusively on huge animals, from 500 kg upwards.

I admit, I bought them just for fun, only to see the effect they could have. Like all A Frames they are bonded dual core, with front core being softer and the rear core being very hard but still partially deformable. Unlike the other calibers I used before, the 9.3mm are counted among Heavy Rifle Bullets, so they have a thicker coat and are really tough. It is easy to obtain good precision, taking care to carefully observe handloading manuals recipes: they are strongly prone to generate high pressures, so maximum dose will be considerably lower than a classic bullet of equal weight one.

A very expensive alternative.

Unless you are planning a safari or North American huge plantigrade's hunt, in my humble opinion it makes little sense to use it for hunting. Nevertheless, I wanted to try on wild boar, with tipical bonded bullet results, but at a higher cost. Given the weight and the stubbornness with which they keep their original weight, I see them much more inclined to be used in the big brother, the 9.3 × 64 Brenneke.

I would see it possible and fruitful to use the same ogive in 250 grains, if you are able to find. The same warning remains, aim straight, at important bones or deliberately at the skull and spine. Reports from African soil tell us that this is one of the top performers on megafauna, and is also effective on Cape buffalo, great antelopes, Zebra, and the hippopotamus.

Dreaming of the Savannah ..

In addition to overpressure, reloaders must maniacally take care to loading fluidity , and carefully avoid using poor cases or cheap primers. These cartridges, if you ever want to set them up, will be destined to dangerous animals, and life could depend on the goodness of their functioning, never economize in these situations. Not surprisingly, some PHs prefer their customers to use commercial ammunition, even for insurance issues.

For a couple of years Swift has been producing top quality ammunition, and among loads offered in 9.3 × 62 we find 286 grain A Frame and the brand new Break Away Solid; Norma also offers 286 grain A Frame ammunition.

Just in case you are curious, it's surely easier to try a box of these before venturing into lengthy experiments.

Obviously, given the prey in question, it would be a good idea a 60 or better 65 centimeters barrel, in order to exploit the most of the potential of these incredible ogives.

Without any doubt the most disturbing bullets ever tried.

• **ORYX 325 grains.**

This bullet deserves a few lines and some more explanation.

When I started reloading the 9.3mm I was blown away by these stubby pencil-like bullets. I admit, I am a heavyweight lover, and these could not be missing. Not knowing what to do with the heavy Oryx, I started looking for datas. Inevitably, I found myself exchanging several emails with Norma to understand how to use them.

Short shots on giant animals?

So I discovered that the Swedish technicians had given birth to this portentous bullet for hunting moose. Traditionally in Sweden it is hunted with dogs, even in battute, and usually hunting ends with short distance shots in thick vegetation. This ogive has been designed to work at mild speeds typicsl of 9.3 × 62, providing very deep penetration into the corpulent ungulate. Slow and damn heavy, it's practically unstoppable.

Curiosity by that point had grown exponentially, so a field test was a must. I used Norma's data from their page, and I immediately started on the difficult: creating a good cartridge for my express rifle in 9.3x74R. Now, consider that difficulty is threefold with double rifle, because in addition to creating an accurate cartridge, the handloader must also cure that bullets trajectories intersect at 50/60 meters; as a friend always says, it's like walking into the brambles wearing your underwear. Leaving aside tedious details, I tried a usually anomalous for the caliber powder, Norma MRP, and with unprecedented luck, I hit the perfect recipe on the first try.

The use of Quickload is fundamental when searching particular loads, it helps you to create extremely realistic models, saving money, time and headaches.

Infinite satisfaction.

My recipe, thanks to barrels length and very slow burning powder, is able to achieve something more than 5000 joules, with ideal collimation of impact points.

I have used these ogives for some time, always with striking results.

Perfect fatness and weight retention.

The most spectacular kill was on a large boar hitted on the run while trying to escape from the beat after injuring two dogs. I aimed at the end of the left ribs, and saw it fall as if struck by lightning. The ball had gone through it for a long path, ending the run in the second vertebra and disintegrating it.

The weight retention was close to 90%, while the boar was 120 kg.

Reproducing these performances in our 9.3 × 62 is quite simple with 60 centimeters barrels. So if you want to target the moose, bear, deer or large African ungulate, the 325 grain Oryx is a great option.

A true heavyweight champion, the heaviest you will find on the market.

• **SWIFT BREAK AWAY SOLID.**

I admit it before I start writing.

It's a waste of money, unless you really intend to plan a safari, with the intent of hunting dangerous game of gigantic size. Swift developed this bullet in the wake of success of solid bullets born in the past decades. The design is vaguely reminiscent of Woodleigh's "Hidrostatically stabilized" bullets, but Swift preferred to continue on lead rather than move to monolithic structures. The main advantage is the lower rifling "saturation", lower tendency to generate high pressures, and having the same Bearing surface, an external ballistics almost identical to 286 grains A-Frames, at least up to Dangerous Game usual engagement distance.

Penetration and more penetration.

The manufacturer intent is to let the hunter to use, at average Dangerous Big Game distances, one or the other projectile with the same zeroing. Great flexibility, and the possibility of using the A Frame as first choice to exploit the best energy transfer and the Break Away as second and third to guarantee two devastating and piercing permanent cavities.

For Very Large Dangerous games, Break Away Solid are probably the best choice, true game changer.

The shape of the bullet has been studied for a long time and Swift technicians ensure that it's a real revolution.

Spectacular!

This bullet, in the near future, will be the subject of a very interesting and, in some ways, never seen before test. Stay tuned, you will see some good ones.

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ROMANTIC APPENDIX, THE NOBLE 9,3X74R

What we have said for the venerable 9.3 × 62 is applicable in a mirror way to the beautiful and noble 9.3x74R.

Born a decade earlier, destined to breaking action guns, as suggested by R (Rand , stay for rimmed) it has always been the queen of nobles battues in old Europe. Maximum working pressure is considerably lower, just 3400 bar. Modest pressure means little stress on the receiver and locks, no problems in the ejection phase and pasty recoil, never hysterical.

If we look at the case we can see a slightly hinted shoulder, there is no need for a bottleneck, and this makes it one of the tastiest cases to recalibrate. And again, being generally chambered in very agile express juxtaposed or superimposed, it is possible to use it both for stalking and drivehunt with maximum satisfaction. Countin on a second decisive shot when you stalking elks in p very dense vegetation is an indisputable advantage.

Although it is generally believed that the 9.3x74R has about 15% less speed and energy than its bolt action rifle counterpart, given today's trend to use semi-automatic rifles with 50/53 cm barrels, it is fair to assume that a classic express with 60 cm barrel is ballistically equivalent.

Autumn...

If you too consider the modern and ultra-light plastic rifles to be soulless, and you you belong to the evanescent group of fair play and big game's gold age nostalgic, then you will have no doubt about the weapon to choose.

Simple and damn reliable things.

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Caricamento...

Correlati

AVEUL, The Lord of War.
3 dicembre 2020
in "Senza categoria"

7X66 Super Express Vom Hofe The Chimera.
30 settembre 2020
in "Senza categoria"

9.3X64 Brenneke. Steel flat in a velvet glove
30 ottobre 2020
in "Senza categoria"

Enrico Andreoli 20 settembre 2020 Senza categoria

Articolo precedente
9,3×62 infaticabile cavallo da lavoro.

Articolo successivo
7X66 Super Express Vom Hofe La Chimera

4 pensieri riguardo "9.3×62 Unbeatable Work Horse."

Filippo Putignano Giordano 25 novembre 2021 alle 0:31

Il mio commento non può che essere entusiasta, e Le faccio i complimenti da appassionato, e ricaricatore, per la Sua conoscenza e piacevole forma con cui la condivide. Ammetto di non usare (ancora) palle RWS e Brenneke, e mi propongo di farlo. Mi chiedo : sono abituato a togliere i residui rameici dalla canna con gli appositi, usuali solventi – ma come potrò levare i residui del tombacco che costituisce il mantello tante ogive teutoniche? La ringrazio, saluti. Filippo

★ "Mi piace"

Rispondi

dotchicco 25 novembre 2021 alle 8:44

Buongiorno. Lieto di sapere che le sia piaciuto l'articolo. Solitamente utilizzo la schiuma milfoam forrest per la pulizia delle canne. Un ottimo prodotto che elimina ogni residuo.

★ "Mi piace"

Rispondi

Oscar Rios 4 luglio 2023 alle 16:27

Por favor, incluyan opción idioma español! Gracias, saludos

★ "Mi piace"

Rispondi

Luis A. Ortega 4 agosto 2023 alle 19:49

This is an excellent article. Thank you.
I am a user of th 9.3×62 in a Blaser R8 in Spain. I use it on driven hunts for boar, as well as stalks at roe deer. I started using 285 gr Norma Oryx. As you say, they did not match my expectations. Then I turned to the 290 gr RWS Evo. I love them, for everything. Reduced meat bruising, fast killing, deep penetrating. The now discontinued (very expensive) Silver Selection Edition, with nickel-plated cases, loaded faster by RWS, with an improved powder, yielded very high speed from my 52 cm barrel. (The same as from a 60 cm barrel) 686 m/s. I still have 5 boxes…
Lately, I am trying the old 293 gr UNI for driven boar. Thinking about the soon-to-come lead ammo ban.
I started using the tin-filled "Evo Green" at a dazzling 870 m/s from my stubby 52 cm barrel for roe stalking. I use a different scope for it. It is far more damaging to the meat, especially at the entrance point, than my beloved, bonded EVO, but, as every load I used… an enphatic killer.

★ "Mi piace"

Rispondi

Lascia un commento