

## Fast and Furious

The regularly scheduled fall hunting seasons in our great state are beginning and as quickly as they are upon us the first game up are built for speed. Dove and teal offer as fast paced a hunting challenge as most of us will ever encounter. With dove passing at 70 to 100 feet per second and teal scorching at 100 to 130 feet per second we need fast handling shotguns, high velocity ammunition and our reflexes tuned to perfection from hours of practice. Of course the later is not usually the case.

I have long been a fan of side-by-side double guns due to their balance, quick handling, good looks and more. The history of the use of the British doubles more than proves the capability of the design.

The glowing example of the success of a well fitted side-by-side is a portly fellow by the name of Frederick Oliver Robinson, the 2nd Marquess of Ripon who passed away in 1923. He is considered the greatest game shot in history backed by the facts of legions of witnesses to his prowess and his precise record keeping showing his bird total was 556,000 including 241,000 pheasants.

One of my personal favorite dove guns is the CZ-USA Bobwhite side-by-side that was discontinued last year, but still available. This handy lightweight is made by Huglu in Turkey and they do it right.

It has a dual trigger system and a straight grip Turkish walnut stock that allows my short fingers and easy transition between triggers.

The CZ Bobwhite evolved to their popular Ringneck which has further progressed to the current Sharp-Tail with an entirely new action. Much smaller overall, it now features coil springs instead of leaf springs with a single selectable mechanical

trigger and a pistol grip that most shooters are used to.

Updated with new technology, the one-piece CNCed receiver has independent floating firing pins, coil spring operated hammers, a single extractor, newly designed sears and a good looking engraved color case-hardened finish on the frame and sideplates and a Turkish walnut stock.

This is appropriate as these guns are still made by the Turks. The Sharp-Tail is available in 12, 20, 28, and .410 with 28-inch barrel and come with 5 flush choke tubes (except .410, which has fixed IC/Mod), all inside a plastic case.

Unlike some manufacturers that mount 28 gauge barrels on a 20 gauge frame and call it good enough, CZ's 28 gauge quail guns are built on a 28 gauge frame for proportion and balance as all frames are proportionate to their specific gauge.

The 28 and .410 gauge weigh a feather light 5lbs. 14oz., the 20ga. is 6lbs. 5oz. and the 12 is 7lbs. 5oz. and great value in the \$1,000.00 range. The CZ full line of value-for-the-dollar doubles, pump and autos may be seen at [czusa.com](http://czusa.com).

Versatility may be why Remington

calls their award winning 12 gauge auto the V3 Field Sport. The heart of the machine is the Versa Port gas operating system.

A series of small portholes in the chamber allows gas to escape behind the accelerating shot charge. The length of the shell controls how many ports come in to play.

Whether lightweight 2¾" target loads or pounding 3-inch magnums the design cycles all consistently. No matter what load, the gas operation of the V3 combined with their Super Cell recoil pad makes for comfort.

The synthetic stock can be had in black or Mossy Oak blades, or Break Up Country camo. Shims are provided for adjusting length of pull and three Rem-Chokes complete the package. The V3 Field Sport stickers for under \$ 1,000.00.

A hunting tip: Unless you are hunting with someone's good dogs do not try to take more than one bird per pass. Focus on that bird's head, follow through and shoot. If you miss go for shot two on the same bird. If hit follow that bird to the ground and walk straight to that spot. They can be hard to find in the brush and obviously all safety rules apply.



The CZ Bobwhite 20 gauge.



Remington's V3 Field Sport in camo.

Federal's Game-Shok Upland-Game loads are a solid choice for dove hunters. Going back to the fast handling 20 gauge, their 2¾ inch shell has a 7/8 once load of size 7.5 lead leaving the barrel at 1210f.p.s. Remember those thousands of birds taken by Lord Ripon? Those were with gentle recoiling 7/8 once loads. Again I mention practice makes for a full skillet.

New in 2014, but still as good as it gets for waterfowl, is Winchester's Blind Side shotshells. The steel shot is cube shaped. They call it Hex Shot because the technical name for the shape is hexahedron with corners, edges and 6 flat sides. The ability to stack the shot in the cup adds up to 15% more pellets per shell. The wad is described as a diamond-shaped air-brake petal design delivering a 25% increased pattern. The shot acts like



Winchester's unique Blind Side Hex Shot shell.

high-velocity tumbling bricks creating bigger wound channels, less penetration and maximizing the energy on target with trauma increased by an estimated 250%. The Winchester Blind Side shot shells are available in 20 gauge 3-inch shells and 12 gauge 2¾ to 3½-inch in a variety of shot sizes at super speeds running from 1400f.p.s. to 1675f.p.s.

You will appreciate nothing more in the field than a good chair, especially one with a back rest. Hunter's Specialties Camo DoveChair is just that. Constructed with durable steel tubes, is ideal for hunting in a blind or under a tree. It is lightweight and collapsible with a carry strap for its 4.6lbs. and features a Realtree®

Xtra Green polyester seat and seatback with a storage pouch underneath. Check your scales as the maximum load it will hold is 225lbs.

Their Backpacker Blind provides excellent concealment for dove, waterfowl, deer, and turkey hunting. Very portable and easy to set up, this height-adjustable blind stands 54" tall and can stretch up to 12' long.

It is light weight in its carry bag and comes in your favorite colors of n Realtree Advantage Max-4 or Realtree Xtra. These and other accessories may be found at [hunterspec.com](http://hunterspec.com).

Now, get in some practice and be safe out there. **T&J**

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on the Coastal Bend...

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