WINGSHOOTER

Magazine of the SA Wingshooters Association

Vol. 25 No. 2 – June/July 2019



The Shotgun
Notes & Hints

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References:

1. Walther FM, Allan MJ, Roepke RKA, Nuernberger MC. 2014. Safety of fluralaner chewable tablets (BRAVECTO®, a novel systemic antiparasitic drug, in dogs after oral administration. Parasites & Vectors 7:87, pp 1-7.
2. Walther FM, Paul AJ, Allan MJ, Roepke RKA, Nuernberger MC. 2014. Safety of fluralaner, a novel systemic antiparasitic drug, in MDR1(-/-) Collies after oral administration. Parasites & Vectors 7:86, pp1-3.

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SA WINGSHOOTERS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 1097, Pinegowrie 2123
Tel 011-781 4762; or 011-781 3613
Fax to email: 086 211 5111
anel@wingshooters.co.za

NPO No 031-587-NPO • PM/0051/06/04
SAPS-CFR Accreditation Numbers: 1300080 & 1300136

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011-781 3613. eMail: anel@wingshooters.co.za
Financial Controler
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External Treasurer Peter Karsas
Financial Controllers
Anél van der Westhuizen and Barbara Bodenstein
Publisher "Wingshooter" Magazine
Advisory Bureau for Development (Pty) Ltd.
Tel. 011 781 3613. eMail: andre@wingshooters.co.za
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Image: FLYER Forums - Flyer Magazine

Everyone needs their own 'Mach Loop'

The Mach Loop (also known as the Machynlleth Loop) consists of a series of valleys in the United Kingdom in west-central Wales, notable for their use as low-level training areas for fast jet aircraft. The system of valleys lies 8 miles east of Barmouth and is nestled between the towns of Dolgellau to the north and Machynlleth to the south, from the latter of which it takes its name. The training area is within the Low Flying Area (LFA) LFA7, which covers most of Wales. Aircraft seen in the area include Royal Air Force Airbus A400M, Tornado, Typhoon, Hawk jets and C-130J and Short Tucano as well as U.S. Air Force F-15C Eagles, F-15E Strike Eagles, which are based at RAF Lakenheath in eastern England and MC-130 and V-22 Osprey from RAF Mildenhall. Go and view some videos of the Mach Loop on youtube.com to see what I am on about. The Americans have a similar flying area called "Star Wars Canyon".

For me, I have many "Mach Loop" moments in the various sports and activities I do throughout the year… that beautiful point, flush and perfect shot on the Swainson's, or that beautifully smooth Karoo gravel single track you ride with pace on your single speed, or that sub 3,5 second "Smoke and Hope" stage at steel challenge, where you actually surprise yourself, the 10m bow shot on the Impala ram you stalked all morning… or whatever you do that gives you the same feeling these pilots get, and that I get, even by just watching them fly the Mach Loop. Goose bumps! Thrilling!

You might think, what does the "Mach Loop" have to do with bird hunting, plains game hunting or sport shooting all sorts? Frankly, nothing much at all, other than that 'feeling', the need for speed so to say. To enjoy something to the extreme!

So make sure you get that 'feeling' this season when you are out hunting or sport shooting. Find that situation or favourite activity that gives you that same feeling and enjoy the rush of goose bumps that I get so often. It's what makes life worth it. I wish it upon each and every one of you this season!

Waidmannsheil ***André –***

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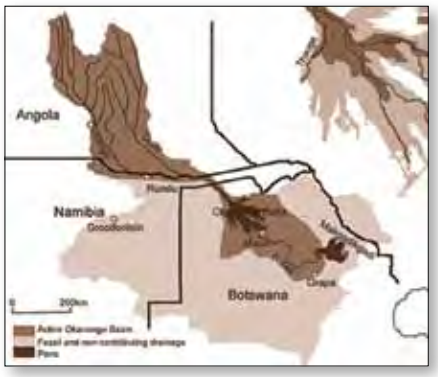


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e mail: amurray@entramarc.co.za
nharmse@entramarc.co.za
Contact: Peter Becker or Neil Harmse

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The Defending Economic Livelihoods and Threatened Animals (DELTA) Act H.R. 4819 passed with bipartisan support and was signed into law by President Trump.

Members of the International Conservation Caucus joined the Ambassadors of Botswana and Namibia, a parliamentary delegation from Angola, and institutional and private-sector stakeholders at an ICCF-hosted Dinner to celebrate its



passage and discussed continued efforts to promote conservation and sustainable economic growth in the region. The DELTA Act instructs the U.S. government to partner with regional governments and other stakeholders to develop plans for sustainable management of resources and wildlife in the Okavango Watershed Region. Now, the U.S. government will be able to effectively contribute to the long-term health of the Okavango ecosystem and create sustainable livelihoods for people living throughout the region

– conservationfrontlines.org

Hundreds of thousands of North American waterfowl hunters have disappeared since 1970.

This poses a threat for the future of hunting and conservation, said Tom Wiest in an article. We need more waterfowlers, and so do the ducks. Duck hunters buy federal duck stamps, an important funding source for waterfowl conservation. Delta Waterfowl published a special report in their magazine in the spring of 2017 that there were 2.03 million active U.S. waterfowlers in 1970, and only 998,600 in 2015.

The steepest declines have occurred since 1997, despite high duck populations, longer hunting seasons and liberal bag limits. Canada's waterfowler numbers have fallen even more drastically, peaking in 1978 at 505,681 and declining to fewer than 170,000 today.

– conservationfrontlines.org

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– SA Wingshooters

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Quinn online store, the number of retail outlets is expanding. McKenna Quinn is currently available in six stores including the Joshua Creek Ranch Pro Shop, Gordy & Sons Outfitters in Houston and Caliber Outfitters in Birmingham, Alabama.

Lady members, go have a look at their on-line shop and order now! They ship internationally so ordering is a breeze. Go to: https://shopmckennaquinn.com/

– SA Wingshooters



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Plastic Pollution



Every year, World Migratory Bird Day presents an annual theme aiming to raise awareness of issues affecting migratory birds and to inspire people and organizations around the world to take measures for their conservation. This year's theme – "Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!" – will put the spotlight on the negative impact of plastic pollution on migratory birds and their habitats.

With an annual production of more than 300m tons, plastic is one of the most widely used materials in the world. What often escapes one's attention is that the plastic is used for its main purpose for only a moment compared with its lifecycle of 20 to 500 years. Lightweight and designed to last, the discarded pieces are easily transported into ecosystems through the forces of nature causing serious threats to migratory species around the world.

Sadly, having wings does not help birds escape the threat of plastic. Birds with stomachs full of plastic entangled and smothered by plastic rings and nets are all too real consequences of the toll that plastic takes on wildlife.

The number of seabirds dying from the effects of plastic every year is currently 1 million and growing. Existing research pinpoints the urgency of the matter: not only do 90 per cent of seabirds have plastic in their guts, but this proportion will reach 99 per cent by 2050.

The international community needs to take urgent action to mitigate unnecessary injuries and mortality of migratory birds due to plastic pollution. Together we can help to curb the giant tide of plastic. World Migratory Bird Day 2019 is a unique chance to unite efforts in addressing this rapidly growing environmental problem.

Over 750 events – birdwatching hikes, festivals, movie screenings, talks and presentations – were organized in close to 80 countries across the globe to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day in 2018, including the first events registered from Bermuda, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada and Togo. This year, World Migratory Bird Day is hoping for an even greater success in terms of number of events and actions being taken by dedicated people around the world to spread the word to address the urgent threat of plastic pollution.

Local teams in a number of countries around the world, for example, are organizing beach cleaning events to clear plastic from the shorelines as their World Migratory Bird Day contribution. We are calling for your support in sharing this important environmental message for a better future for birds and people on our interconnected planet.

– aewa.org

Loss of weapons at SA National Defence Force (SANDF) disturbing

The theft and loss of weapons and ammunition at the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) remains worrying and it seems as if the defence force is unable to be proactive in addressing crime and the lack of discipline in its own ranks.

From 1 April 2016 up to date, 58 weapons, including 30 dangerous weapons like assault rifles, have either been lost or stolen. Nearly 8000 rounds of ammunition have been stolen, mainly for assault rifles, as well as 36 hand grenades.

This information was gleaned from the answer provided by the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans (Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula) in response to written parliamentary questions on the matter by the FF Plus. The defence force must pay serious attention to discipline and general crime within its ranks seeing as the public is increasingly losing faith in the SANDF.

It is shocking to think how much damage and bloodshed those stolen weapons could cause and how many of these weapons could land in the hands of criminals involved in organised crime, like transit heists. The SANDF cannot become a source of weapons and ammunition for criminals.

The poor discipline and poor management of the defence force is such that it contributes to the crime in South Africa and that seriously taints the reputation of the SANDF. This must be rectified urgently. A defence force simply cannot function without proper management and discipline.

– SA Wingshooters

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Bird distribution

Indigenous francolins in South Africa, Lesotho, and Swaziland

A study by Rion E Lerm – South African Environmental Observation Network, Phalaborwa, South Africa, Raymond Jansen – of the Department of Environmental Water and Earth Sciences, Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa, and Les G Underhill – Animal Demography Unit, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa

The objective of this series of papers on bird distribution dynamics in Biodiversity Observations is to report on the ranges of bird species as revealed by the Second Southern African Bird Atlas Project (SABAP2, 2007 onwards) and to describe how their ranges have changed since the first bird atlas (SABAP1, mainly 1987-1991), about two decades apart.

This series of papers is also made feasible by the development of two new standards for the presentation of maps, firstly pentad-scale distribution maps derived from SABAP2 data, and secondly range-change maps showing how distributions have changed between SABAP1 and SABAP2 (Underhill & Brooks 2016a, b). Because the papers in this series use these two new interpretations in the form of maps, the rules for interpretation are not provided in detail in each of the "bird distribution dynamics" paper series.

Here, we deal with some of the economically important species of cursorial gamebirds belonging to the order Galliformes (family Phasianidae), that occur in South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. For each species, four items of information are presented: the SABAP1 distribution map using quarter-degree grid cells, the SABAP2 distribution map, using pentads (five-minute grid cells; there are nine pentads per quarter-degree grid cell), the range-change map, showing estimated changes in relative abundance between SABAP1 and SABAP2, and a table which provides counts of the numbers of grid cells shaded each of the six colours in the range change map.

The six terrestrial gamebird species dealt with are divided under the genera: Peliperdix, Dendroperdix and Scleroptila. Unfortunately, most of these francolin species are cryptic and inconspicuous making field identification difficult however, since citizen scientists were the source of observers across both SABAPs, possible errors in reporting rates should be similar for both projects. We expect that at least the more important range-change maps depict accurate changes in bird distribution.

Additionally, and compared to previous papers in this series, the national land cover dataset (GeoTerraImage 2015), and biomes and bioregions according to Mucina and Rutherford (2006) were underlying the range-change data to get some insights into which habitats might have influenced decreases and increases in species distributions.

Introduction to the francolins

Of the global extant francolin species (n=14) belonging to the aforementioned genera, 21% (n=3) are in a global threat category: in this case all 'Near-threatened'. These Red-listed species belong to the Scleroptila genus and occur mostly in East Africa with sub-populations of one species remaining in Cameroon [West Africa; BirdLife International (2018) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from http://www.birdlife.org on 14/02/2018].

In South Africa, pressure humans, hunters and livestock grazing around the earlier 1900s caused certain populations of gamebirds in South Africa to survive where others did not, resulting in fragmented populations or local extinctions. However, species such as grey-winged francolin

dynamics

Scleroptila africanus, increased in the Eastern Cape grassland following the inland settlement by European farmers. Past introductions of foreign gamebirds have fortunately and, for some reason (possibly due to blood parasites) been unsuccessful (Little and Crowe 2011).

The assessment of changes in abundance for the species discussed here (from SABAP1 to SABAP2) is not further complicated by migratory habits, due to their mostly resident statuses. The species accounts are ordered in ascending Roberts number order as published by Hockey et al. (2005).

Coqui francolin (Peliperdix coqui). Afrikaans – Swempie patrys. Other name: Coqui Partridge.

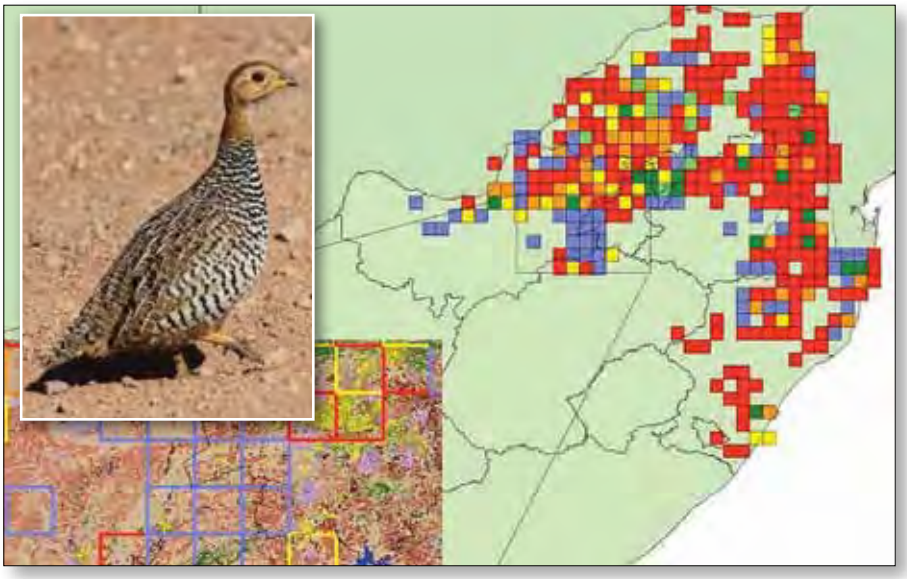
The range-change map of this highly localised gamebird raised concern due to very large and widespread decreases (57-60% of grid cells where it was recorded) across most of its core distribution range that falls broadly within South Africa's Savanna Biome (Mucina & Rutherford 2006). Since SABAP1, this species' distribution seemed to shift towards biomes containing habitats that are more diverse in vegetation structure and land-use compared to its favoured tall-grassed and open woodland habitats.

Where this species historically avoided agricultural fields (Little 2005a), the GeoTerra Image (2015) land cover dataset of 2013-2014 showed Coqui francolin Peliperdix coqui might prefer a mix of low intensity, cultivated commercial fields interspersed with grassland. This increase was especially noticeable around the intersections between North-West, Free State and Gauteng provincial boundaries.

To read the entire study, go to: http://thebdi.org/

– Bear in mind that surveying gamebirds without good pointing dogs will result in lower perceived count numbers – Ed.

Photographer © I McCutcheon



Red, orange and yellow represent quarter-degree grid cells with very large, large, and small relative decreases and blue, dark green and light green represent grid cells with very large, large and small relative increases. A count of the number of grid cells in each category is provided in Table 1. Only grid cells with at least four checklists in both SABAP1 and SABAP2 are shown. More detailed information on the interpretation of this range-change map is provided in Underhill & Brooks (2016b). Inset map shows underlying land cover classes (GeoTerra Image 2015) of an area where widespread and large (greenbordered cells) to very large (blue-bordered cells) increases in Coqui francolin occurred. Sandcoloured areas are grassland, coral-coloured areas are low intensity, cultivated commercial fields, green areas are woodland and yellow is depicted as urban areas. The bright blue at the right of the inset map is the Vaal Dam with the Vredefort Dome visible immediately to the West. Table 1. Range-change summary for the Coqui francolin between SABAP1 and SABAP2. Numbers (and percentages) in each colour category of Figure 4, for which there are at least four checklists per quarter degree grid cell in both SABAP1 and SABAP2. Also shown are the same summaries when the analysis is restricted to grid cells with at least 30 checklists for both SABAP1 and SABAP2.

	4+ checklists		30+ checklists	
Status	**Count**	**%**	**Count**	**%**
Red (very large decrease)	208	57	129	60
Orange (large decrease)	37	10	25	12
Yellow (small decrease)	29	8	15	7
Light green (small increase)	10	3	6	3
Dark green (large increase)	17	5	10	5
Blue (very large increase)	66	18	29	14
Total	367	100	214	100

One association for all!



SA Wingshooters Association is truly the one association for all shooting disciplines. With us you can do it all. We offer shooting events and venues in all divisions, including shotgun, rifle, handgun, semi-auto rifle, long range target shooting and multi-gun sport shooting…

The SA Wingshooters Association has been accredited by the CFR as a Dedicated Hunting Association, since 2004. In fact, we are the second oldest accredited association in South Africa.

We have current members, many of whom regularly participate in the various sport shooting disciplines available and thus have a definite need to be able to grant such members the Dedicated Sport Shooting status, in order to enable them to fully participate in their chosen sport. So, we are now both an accredited sport shooting and hunting association, as we have members who want dedicated status, but who do not hunt.

We currently offer the following sport shooting disciplines to our members, either at our own facilities/ranges, or at any range country-wide and internationally.

PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) target shooting for handguns, rifles and self-loading rifles. Various target shooting tables/disciplines are offered, which can be practiced at any range world-wide. All our targets are available on our website.

Clay Target Shooting – all members have access to Clay Target Shooting using shotguns at any accredited clay target range or club (CTSASA, COMPAK, etc.) country-wide.

Long Range Rifle Shooting – we have our own dedicated long range rifle shooting range in Gauteng, where members compete over shooting distances ranging from 400m to 1708m.

This range also affords us the opportunity to offer a 2-gun sport shooting discipline (handgun & rifle combination shooting with movement and transitions), starting at 10m for handguns, to 100m and then up to 400m for self-loading rifles, with official division categories for calibres and types of rifles.

We are also in the process setting up a range in the Western Cape, near Piketberg.

Handgun Shooting – we offer handgun shooting, again at our LRSC range, or any other range world-wide via the PSP, on our 17 target steel pistol range with targets from 10m to 100m, and includes a 6-plate duelling tree.

The requirements for obtaining a Dedicated Sport Shooting status will be as follows:

All prospective applicants will have to complete a practical shooting qualification exercise, in either handgun, rifle or shotgun. A minimum final score of 50% must attained in order to qualify and must be signed off by a range officer or club official.

All qualified members must submit an annual report to us, in confirmation of their minimum dedicated sport shooting activities, as required. We propose a minimum of three sport shooting activities per year for members in order to retain such status.

Should you hold current dedicated sport shooter status elsewhere, we will accept that status, if it is indeed current, on the basis of RPL.

The Long Range Shooting Club (LRSC) and the PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) are part of SA Wingshooters and are subject to its constitution, disciplinary codes and rules of ethical conduct.

Lastly, as you know, the SA Wingshooters Association has R20-million liability insurance to cover the Association, with each individual member also having R20-million liability insurance as individual cover, for all shooting related activities.

We are proud to be an association that offers all forms of shooting and hunting to our members. Thanks for your support!



We offer all types of shooting and hunting… as well as coaching!











The Shotgun

Notes & Hints

There is always a good reason to brush up on our knowledge of shotguns and cartridges. Also, there are many new shooters being introduced to the sport who find the many terms and techniques rather confusing…



Fausti Class XLS Express


Fausti Class SL

by Niel Harmse

Shot-gunning is a rather complex sport, with words like "load", "bore", "gauge", "choke" and more, bandied about by long term shooters which just confuses newcomers to the sport.

Let us look at some of these terms in an attempt to clarify them.

Action Types

The sporting shotgun is usually of three types, namely double barrel, either side-by-side (SxS) or over and under (O/U). Then there is the single barrel single shot, and the multi shot slide action (pump), or semi-auto (self-loader).

Most sport shooting or hunting sports favour the double barrel, with over and under being more popular for clay-target and hunting. The side-by-side version is more traditional and there are many, especially the older generation of shooters, who still prefer the SxS. This type of gun usually has a slimmer and sleeker action, lighter to carry and use over long periods in the field.

The O/U has a deeper action to accommodate the barrel configuration, and is a bit more bulky in style, heavier and able to withstand heavier loads and more sustained shooting volumes such as with clay target shooting.

As far as actions on these go, there are two main types, namely the box-lock which appears more 'square' and which has the mechanism and springs fitted internally inside the action body. These are normally easier to manufacture and more robust. The side-lock is a more intricate and labour intensive action to manufacture, having the firing mechanism and springs neatly fitted to separate individual plates on the side of the action body.

The side-lock allows for finer and neater engraving, and is usually found on better quality guns. This by no means allows that the box lock is in any way inferior.

The semi-auto and pump actions are popular for waterfowl hunting but not readily accepted in general sport hunting circles. This is mainly for safety reasons among hunters, as a double barrel can be seen to be safe when the action is open, where the other actions are not readily visible.

Bear in mind that these types have a magazine which can take up to 5 cartridges, but by law are restricted to 2 shots. A magazine block must be fitted to limit capacity.

Barrels, Chokes, Bores and Chambers

Barrels and barrel length are always controversial. There is a common misconception that the longer the barrel, the further (or harder) the gun will shoot. This may have been the case in the early days of black powder loads, but with modern nitro powders loads, long barrels are not necessary. Barrel lengths are normally between 25" (63cm) and 30" (76cm) with 28" (71cm) being the most versatile for all round work. Dedicated clay target shooters normally opt for longer barrels. Interestingly, the longer barrels, say to 30"and 32"seem to have an upward flip to the barrel tubes and the shorter 25" barrels have a downward flip. The 28" barrels seem to be more stable with no significant barrel flip.

The distance that the shot travels and the spread are determined by the degree of choke on the barrel. Choke is a constriction within the last section of the muzzle resulting in the spread of the shot. A full choke will be a tighter restriction allowing for tighter patterns of shot for use at longer range. True Cylinder has no restriction at all and allows shot to spread widely on leaving the barrel. The most popular chokes for all round shooting is Improved Cylinder and Modified. Modern guns usually come with a set of 5 interchangeable chokes making your gun suitable for any type of shooting you would want to do.

A brief description of bore size is called for. The term 'bore' is derived from the English trade whereas 'gauge' is from the American term for the same. The bore or gauge was measured as the number of pure lead spherical balls of a fixed size would pass through the barrel, and which would weigh one pound. Therefore, 12 spherical balls of .729" weighing 1 pound would denote a 12 bore gun. 20 balls of .617" to the pound would be a 20 bore gun. This shows a 20 bore is a smaller calibre than a 12 bore. Common bore or gauges are 10

continued on page 14…



bore, 12 bore, 16 bore, 20 bore, and 28 bore. A .410" shotgun is not measured by this method, but actually by the barrel bore size in inches.

Another aspect of the barrels is the cartridge chamber length. Many older or vintage guns have chamber lengths of 2 ½ "(65mm), and longer cartridges must not be used in these guns (even though they may fit into the chamber). Most modern guns have chambers of 2 ¾" (70mm). Some guns will have chambers of 3" (76mm) suitable for magnum loads.

Cartridges and Shot

Let us now look at cartridges and loads. Today most shot cartridges are made from plastic with a brass base and rim and a fold crimp closure. Pellet size is usually numbered from 9 to about 3 or even1 for "bird shot", with the larger number such as 9 being the smaller size of shot. There are tables available showing recommended shot sizes for various shooting, 7 ½ or 7 is usually for clays and pigeons, and 4, 5 and 6 for game birds. 3 and 4 normally are good for waterfowl and geese. Number 5 or 6 is a good all round compromise.

The shot loads are normally shown as grams which is the weight or mass of pellets (of the shown size) in the cartridge. A 28gram (1oz) load of number 6 would be 28gr or average of 270 pellets. Most game loads are between 28g and 32g, with 34g being a heavier game load. The larger the shot size the less pellets in the load. it is generally recognised that pattern kills, and the more pellets striking a bird or target, the more chance of a kill. Larger pellets mean less dense patterns and more chance of a lost bird.

Most cartridges are loaded with plastic wads which effectively tighten up the shot pattern moderately. Game loads are frequently loaded with fibre wads which allow a more open pattern but also are more environmentally acceptable.

The shot loads are normally lead pellets but there is a move toward steel and bismuth shot for less pollution especially in waterfowl shooting. This trend has not reached South African shooters yet.

"The side-lock allows for finer and neater engraving, and is ***usually found on better quality guns.*** *This by no means allows that the box lock is in any way inferior"*



Fausti Boutique Senator sidelock

Gun Fit and Mount

A lot is always said about gun fit. Unless you are one of the fortunate and wealthy who can afford to have a bespoke gun made to fit your exact measurements, you would be like the rest of us who have to make do with an average gun off the shelf.

Fortunately most gun makers of note have done a lot of research into the measurements of the average person and their guns are manufactured by CNC process which will fit the average shooter without too much

alteration. Most problems can be corrected with good gun mounting and style. Muscle memory is wonderful and by continual practice of correct gun mount your shooting will dramatically improve. By 'fitting yourself to your gun' your shooting style will improve shoot by shoot.

A wise shooter once said: "Shooters will improve their shooting by using a gun with a shorter stock, more open chokes and a shorter barrel". Whatever gun you use, go to a shooting range and have an instructor check your hold, style and mount, and once you feel you know the right moves, stance and mount, go home, and practice over and over, but make sure your gun is not loaded!

Invest in a good set of snap-caps and keep practicing. These snap caps or dummy cartridges prevent the firing-pins from striking into an empty chamber when pulling the triggers and thus damaging the pins or strikers.

Gun Cleaning and Storage

As with any expensive piece of equipment a gun should be cleaned and oiled after use during the shooting season, and at least once during storage in the off-season. A good cleaning kit and gun oil are essential for the maintenance of your shotgun. The newest trend is to use a bore-snake and just pull it through the barrels after a shoot and then put the gun away. I prefer to use a rod, brush and wool mop to give the barrels a good clean and light oil.

The action and other metalwork require a wipe with a lightly oiled cloth. Do not spray a lot of oil into the action or into the barrels. A light oiling is all that is required. Use a cotton bud or small artist paint brush to get into the inner parts of the action and fore-end mechanism to remove grass seeds, dust and debris. Remember to oil under and around the safety catch. If sweat gets under this from hands, it can soon rust and seize the catch.

Wipe the wood with a good stock oil or stock wax once or twice a season, especially in wet weather, and again before long-term storage. A good idea is to wipe some petroleum jelly such as 'Vaseline' or similar along the joins between woodwork and metal to prevent rain or moisture entering into the action workings.

When storing my guns in a safe I enclose them in a good silicone-oil coated gun-sock such as "Sack-Up" or equivalent and store them muzzle-down to allow any excess oil to drain downwards towards the muzzles, and not soak into the wood. Never store guns in a gun bag, this may allow them to 'sweat' and rust.

By looking after your gun in this way you may be sure it will be trouble free and will last for your generation and the next. Many guns that are well over 100 years are still shooting as well today as the day they left the factory.

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Geese have the final say!

Egyptian Geese are widely distributed across sub-Saharan Africa. While their range has not increased in South Africa, their numbers have increased, particularly in the Western Cape, with burgeoning cereal production and dam construction.

by Dr Rob Little
FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, UCT





Opposite: Egyptian Geese have invaded many golf courses in the Western Cape in large numbers and have become a nuisance. Photo by: Richard Gie.

Above: Egyptian Geese irritate golfers, residents and green-keepers by obstructing play, being noisy and fouling greens and fairways. Photo by: Richard Gie.

Below: Falconry using Harris's Hawks was introduced to a golf course to manipulate the landscape of fear so that the geese no longer feel safe, and therefore choose to leave the property. Photo by: John Dickens.



Staff and students at the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology have been investigating the perceived problem of Egyptian Geese on golf courses in Cape Town. During 2012, we surveyed the residents and members of the Steenberg Golf Estate to assess their perceptions towards Egyptian Geese on the estate.

Most of the respondents (84%) considered that geese are a problem on the estate, suggesting that the problem is real and unless managed is unlikely to improve. The impacts of Egyptian Geese that were of most concern included mess in the form of excrement and harassment of other birds. People that indicated that there was a problem on the estate ranked the problem as minimal (15%), moderate (33%) and severe (52%). Most golfers (87%) felt that the goose population requires active management.

Following the perceptions survey, we investigated the social behaviour of Egyptian Geese at Steenberg and the attributes of various habitat features at 10 golf courses in the Western Cape to understand what makes them attractive to the geese. Hotspots, where geese aggregate, were defined by two predictable habitat features.

Firstly, areas close to water bodies to which the geese can flee if danger threatens them or their young. Secondly, large open patches of lawn where favoured patches were greater than 1.5 ha in size. The area sensitivity of the geese is driven by openness, i.e. how much of the bird's field of view is not obstructed by

continued on page 18…

visual barriers such as vegetation or man-made structures which reduce their ability to detect potential danger.

We therefore suggested that golf course management should shift from focusing on the birds themselves and rather to manipulating the habitat features which the bird's favour. The intention should be to reduce the number of favoured sites or to have favoured sites located in the non-playing areas of the course.

During 2014 and 2015 we took the process one step further by introducing falconry on the golf courses to further test the effects of the landscape of fear.

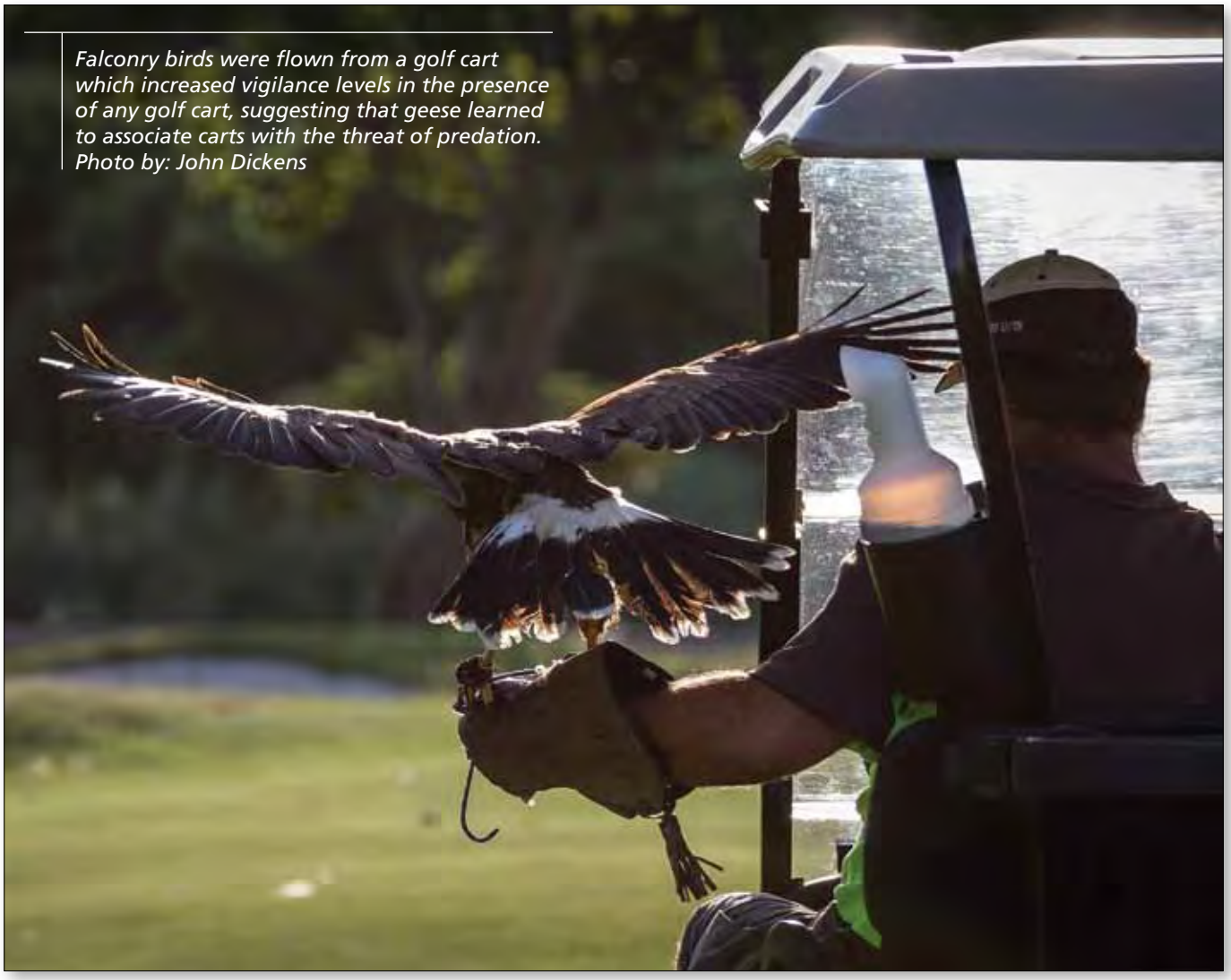
Using trained Harris's Hawks we discovered that it dramatically reduced the number of geese on the course by 73%. Furthermore, their vigilance levels almost doubled when the geese were exposed to a falconry hawk once a week, confirming that the decrease in abundance of geese was largely due to the fear of being preyed upon. Also, because the hawks were flown from a golf cart, vigilance levels increased most in the presence of a golf cart, even when no falconry was done, suggesting that geese learned to associate carts with the threat of predation.

Therefore, this increased level of risk on the golf course is maintained even when the falconers were not present since golf carts are in constant use which act to enhance the non-lethal aspect of the control programme.

The final say was from the geese themselves who displayed an unusual phenomenon of increasing vigilance even in larger groups when falconry was initiated. Vigilance is amongst the most universal of anti-predator strategies and commonly declines with increasing group size. We confirmed the typical reduction in vigilance with group size on control sites where no falconry took place and where the risk of predation is low.

However, on the courses where we introduced falconry and thus elevated the predation risk, a positive relationship between vigilance and group size was observed. We suggest that the mechanism for this relationship might be linked to social information transfer via copying behaviour and manipulation to induce vigilance. Thus, larger groups have a higher probability of containing individuals with experience of elevated predation risk and their increased vigilance behaviour is copied by naïve individuals.

This tells us that the geese agree that a tranquil golf course with open water and expansive fairways is highly attractive, but if you disrupt their safety and introduce predation risk they react accordingly and are happy to abandon this landscape of fear.



Falconry birds were flown from a golf cart which increased vigilance levels in the presence of any golf cart, suggesting that geese learned to associate carts with the threat of predation. Photo by: John Dickens

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The NATIONAL Gamebird Survey

SA Wingshooters launched our own Gamebird Research project in 2018 – to promote the conservation of indigenous gamebirds and their habitat through sustainable utilisation – SA Wingshooters is asking its members to participate in the National Gamebird Survey. This will not only provide us with valuable information as to the present status of the gamebirds but will also provide us with comparison numbers from 1996. Please do your part for the conservation of our gamebirds, and complete the survey…

by Dr P.J. (Slang) Viljoen
An SA Wingshooters initiative
photographs: André van der Westhuizen



MOTIVATION

On a year-to-year basis, there is a lack of knowledge regarding the national status and trends of our gamebirds populations on which effective policy decisions, legislation and management should be based.

Following a National Council decision, SA Wingshooters now has the task of building up a national network of field observers to cover at least each bio climatic zone in the country. This network, in collaboration with other surveys, will operate through a central data bank and will enable us to monitor population trends on a regional and national basis.

This will not only aid legislation and forecasts for the hunting season but will also identify problem areas pro-actively. It will also prevent unfounded assumptions from the anti hunting and animal rights brigade.

MODUS OPERANDI

Field observers can be any farmer, conservationist, birdwatcher, hunter, gundog owner, and falconer etc. who spends some time in the veld. It will be required of each field observer to complete a simple data sheet of his/her region once a year and send it through to Wingshooters. There will be two categories of field observers and each observer can choose in which he wants to be.

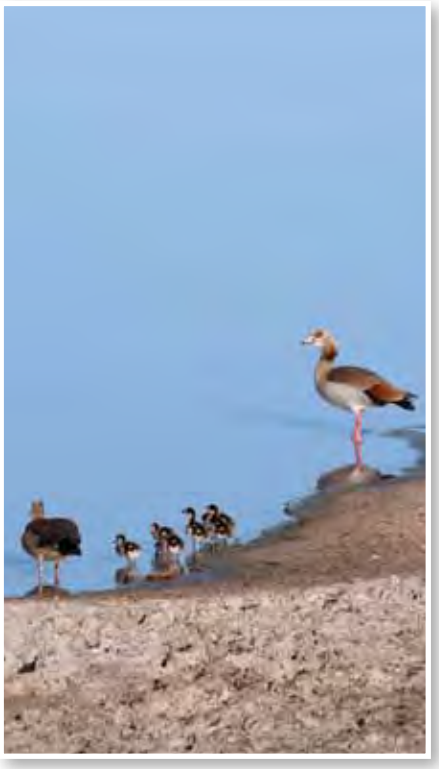
In the first category all observations can be done while hunting or working dogs. The observer simply lists the species of gamebirds encountered during the day in the region together with his/her impressions of whether the birds are scare or abundant and whether they had a good or bad breeding season.

This data will then be correlated with regional climatic conditions and existing research data to determine trends. From a scientific point of view it will still be far from accurate,

continued on page 22…


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Gun maintenance boxes / Hunting jackets



but will be one hundred percent more accurate than the system used this far.

The second category will be in coordination with other bird counting systems in South Africa and will be required to do an actual census of the gamebirds in his/her area.

Each observer will be advised of the appropriate census techniques applicable to the gamebird species and habitat in his/her region. By coordinating and standardising the census techniques and timing, we will be able to compile a database from which accurate long and short term trends can be determined.

POISON SURVEY

The alarming increase of reports on gamebird poisoning also compelled Wingshooters to investigate the matter. Linked to the survey of the gamebird trends and numbers, field observers will also be requested to report on cases of gamebird poisoning in their area.

In this way, SA Wingshooters plans to establish channels countrywide through which reports on gamebird poisoning can be consolidated and analysed.

The ultimate aim will be to find practical solutions to the problem, which will benefit conservation and agriculture alike.

INSTRUCTIONS: GAMEBIRD SURVEY DATA SHEET

Please read through the instructions and complete the data sheet as accurately as possible.

If you cannot provide all the information, please complete the sections you can, or contact us for further clarification. Remember, any information is better than none, and we can gain valuable knowledge even if you only list the gamebird species in order of abundance in your area.

We need all the data possible to make a meaningful assessment of the gamebird population trends in our country. To enable us to include your contribution in our initial database, please return the completed form within 30 days.

DEFINITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS –

LOCATION

Give the district and registered farm name or name of reserve or municipal area and/or coordinates

SIZE

Size of the observation area in hectares (If only a portion of a farm has been surveyed, please indicate the approximate size of that particular area).

PERIOD OF OBSERVATION

State month of observation. If possible, state time of day and duration of your survey. Preferably, observations should be made in a specific month within the optimum period for the species concerned.

E.g. April to July:
Guineafowl, Swainson's Francolin, Natal Francolin, Coqui Francolin, Redwing Francolin, Greywing Francolin.

December to April:
Crested Francolin, Rock pigeon.

October to December:
Quail

March to May:
Cape Francolin

Whole year:
Sandgrouse

May to July:
Waterfowl

GAMEBIRD SPECIES

Number all gamebird species in order of abundance relative to each other in your area, starting with the most abundant species.

TREND

Indicate with a cross in the relevant column whether the population has been stable or has increased or decreased in your area, compared to the previous year.

STATUS

Indicate with a cross in relevant column.

Rare – seldom seen or heard. Less than 10 birds seen or less than three groups heard per outing (francolin).

Common – often seen or heard. Between 10 and 100 birds seen or between 3 and ten groups heard per outing.

Abundant - Numerous, more than 10 groups or 100 birds in area.

ADDITIONAL

If you did a count of the gamebirds in your area, you can put in the actual numbers in the relevant columns instead of a cross.

With some species, such as greywing, redwing and coqui francolins a fair assessment of their numbers can be obtained by listening for different covies in the early morning or late afternoon. Total population size of the area is calculated by determining the mean covy size of some groups and multiply it by the number of groups heard in the observation area

REPRODUCTION SUCCESS

Bad – No or only few chicks seen;

Fair – Chicks often seen in breeding season;

Good – Virtually all adult groups with chicks.

POISONING

Indicate with a cross in relevant column. If affirmative, you will receive a poisoning report form, requesting information on location and number of birds involved etc. as well as instructions on handling and submitting specimens for toxicology analysis.

Please email your survey to Dr. P.J. (Slang) Viljoen and to André van der Westhuizen. The details are at the bottom of the survey form.

THE NATIONAL GAMEBIRD SURVEY 2018 REPORT FORM

Name:_____ Tel:_____

Address:_____ Email:_____

Location – Reg. Farm name:_____ District:_____ Province:_____ Size of Survey Area:_____

Period of Observation:_____ Coordinates:_____

GAMEBIRD SPECIES: Please note that the list include protected gamebird species.	Order of abundance	TREND			STATUS			REPRODUCTION SUCCESS			
		Decrease	Stable	Increase	Rare	Common	Abundant	Bad	Fair	Good	Unknown
GUINEAFOWL											
COMMON GUINEAFOWL *Numida meleagris*											
CRESTED GUINEAFOWL *Guttera pucherani*											
PARTRIDGES											
COQUI PARTIDGE *Peliperdix coqui*											
CRESTED FRANCOLIN *Dendroperdix sephaena*											
GREYWING FRANCOLIN *Scleroptila africanus*											
SHELLEY'S FRANCOLIN S. *shelleyi*											
REDWING FRANCOLIN S. *levaillanti*											
ORANGE RIVER *S. levaillantoides*											
FRANCOLINS											
REDBILLED FRANCOLIN *Pternistis adspersus*											
CAPE FRANCOLIN *P. capensis*											
SWAINSON'S FRANCOLIN *P. swainsonii*											
RED NECKED FRANCOLIN *P. afer*											
QUAIL											
COMMON QUAIL Cotornix coturnix											
HARLEQUIN QUAIL C. delegorguei											
SANDGROUSES											
NAMAQUA SANDGROUSE *Pterocles namaqua*											
YELLOWTHROATED S.GROUSE *P. gutturalis*											
DUBBELBANDED SANDGROUSE *P. bicinctus*											
BURCHELL'S SANDGROUSE *P. burchelli*											
PIGEONS AND DOVES											
ROCK PIGEON *Columba guinea*											
RAMERON PIGEON *C. arquatrix*											
DELEGORGUE'S PIGEON *C. delegorguei*											
REDEYED DOVE *Streptopelia semitorquata*											
LAUGHING DOVE S. senegalensis											
MOURNING DOVE *S. decipiens*											
CAPE TURTLE DOVE *S. capicola*											
DUCKS AND GEESE											
WHITEFACED DUCK *Dendrocygna viduata*											
FULVOUS DUCK *D. bicolor*											
WHITEBACKED *Thalassornis leuconotus*											
EGYPTIAN GOOSE *Alopochen aegyptiacus*											
S.A. SHELDUCK *Tadorna cana*											
YELLOWBILLED DUCK *Anas undulata*											
AFRICAN BLACK DUCK *Anas sparsa*											
CAPE TEAL *Anas capensis*											
HOTTENTO TEAL *Anas hottentota*											
REDBILLED TEAL *Anas erythrorhyncha*											
CAPE SHOVELLER *Anas smithi*											
SOUTHER POCHARD *Netta erythrophthalma*											
KNOBBILLED DUCK *Sarkidiornis melanotos*											
SPURWING GOOSE *Plectropterus gambensis*											
PYGMY GOOSE *Nettapus auritus*											
MACCOA DUCK *Oxyura punctata*											
REDKNOBBED COOT *Fulica cristata*											

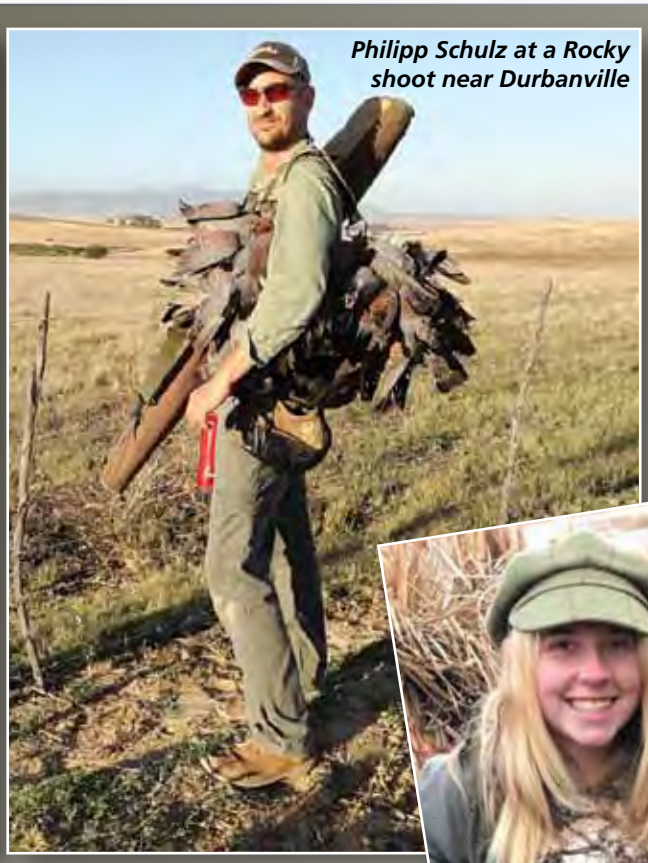
WERE THERE ANY REPORTS OF GAMEBIRD POISONING IN YOUR AREA?	**YES**	**NO**

Dr. P.J. (Slang) Viljoen. Tel. 084 202 0184. Email: slangvil@iafrica.com
André van der Westhuizen. Tel. 082 565 9654. Email: andre@wingshooters.co.za

Members in the Field



Leo van Vuuren at an official pigeon shoot.



Philipp Schulz at a Rocky shoot near Durbanville



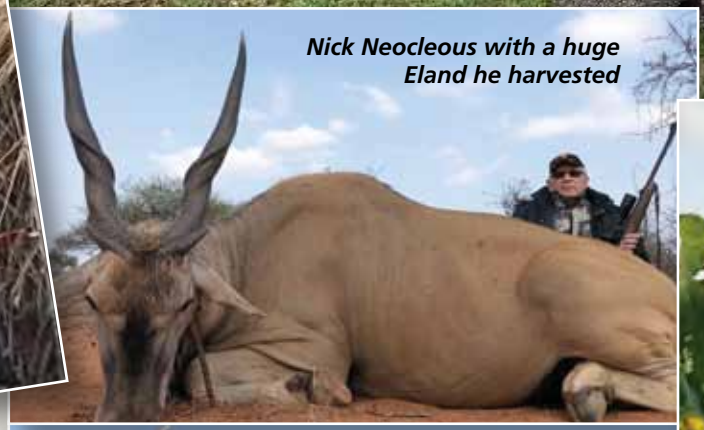
Right: Jemma Quin with a Yellow-bill in hand



James Quin and Robbie Stretton in Molteno



Wynand Visser & Philipp Schulz at the official Standveld venue.



Nick Neocleous with a huge Eland he harvested



Kenneth Atkinson in a Pigeon field



Dr. Mongezi Milela with a fine Kudu he hunted early May

Members on our Range



Fun on the slab! from back left to right: Bernard Cilliers, Konrad Grabe, Johan Jansen, Warren Britnell and Tony Ernst on all fours.



Barend Venter at one of the LRSC coaching sessions



The 6.5 Division under way!



Johan Maree & Johan Jansen



Marius Gericke shooting a ZeroDelta 'Zulu' rifle on the 3-gun range and competing in the F-SL .223 Division



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12Ga MIROKU 29" ST, EJ F/F	R14 500-00
12Ga BERETTA SS6E 30" EJ F & ½	R13 500.00
12Ga SILMA 28" EJ	R16 750-00
12Ga SKB 28" EJ	R14 500-00
20Ga ORBIT 26" DT	R8 500-00

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Abbreviations – MC Multi Choke, C Cylinder, ST Single Trigger, EJ Eject, NJ Non Eject, BL Box Lock, SL Side Lock, Var Choke Variable Choke

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AUCTION 65 – 3 AUGUST 2018 War Museum Saxonwold JHB

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The Etiquette of Hunting Over Someone Else's Bird Dog

Think about these rules to get invited back to hunting over someone else's bird dog…

Written by A.J. DeRosa
projectupland.com

I will say it up front: I am far from being an expert on bird dogs. But if there is one thing I have become certain of over the past five years of filming over them, it is that there is not enough information out there for new people to understand the proper etiquette of hunting (or filming) over someone else's bird dog. Now more than ever, the influx of mentoring in the upland community coupled with a real thirst for knowledge from novices begs for some helpful guidance on the etiquette of hunting over someone else's dog.

I may say this even stronger now that I own a bird dog and have had a few bad experiences which I credit to my lack of communication rather than the error of the mentee. These things exist for two main reasons: first and foremost, for the dog's safety; and second, so that you the hunter actually get invited back.

Here are seven essential rules to follow, unless the owner tells you otherwise.



Thou Shall Not Command Another's Bird Dog

Just as we would not discipline another person's child or bark orders

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at them, the same principle is true with a bird dog. Sure, jumping up on us is one thing. But when a bird dog is working, we must stay out of that person's vibe (even if it's a bad vibe). In some cases, a handler may ask you to call a dog your way, or maybe help contain their dog for some reason. All that is fine given that we were actually requested in our actions.

A few years ago, I experienced what was a long day when a novice hunter proactively took it upon themself to command a handler's dogs. Every time he opened his mouth, I wanted to crawl out of my skin, it was so awkward. Not only did this person not understand the process of bird dog work, it is bad for both a dog's training and the opportunity to get future invitations. Over the years I have now made it a point to say something to novices before a dog hits the ground when filming whether it's my dog or not. This can save what can be a painful day in the field and a real tension I am not interested in filming.

Thou Shall Not Shoot a Bird on the Ground or a Low Flush

This is the fastest way to end a hunt. Yes, this has happened to me. Honestly, it was my own fault 'cause I did not set the groundwork before we started the hunt. Never shoot anything (even a rabbit) on the ground over someone's bird dog unless they tell you otherwise. The same is true for low flying birds. Many dogs including my own are only steady to flush, which means a dog hot on its tail. If a dog can jump that high, do not shoot.

One thing I have learned is that the human thought processes and body are very capable of split second decisions like these — as long as you are conscious of them. This is all so important to the safety of a bird dog that is most likely like a child to the handler. I know.

Thou Shall Not Give Another Advice on their Bird Dog Unless Solicited — Even If You are a Pro

Past the world of novices, even veteran handlers are tempted to command another's bird dog. There are moments of painful dog work that seem to scream "Help!" But truth be told, we must let people develop at their pace and via their moments of learning. Patience is mandatory. When people are ready for advice, they will ask if they feel comfortable. But let them get there first; if not, it just makes for an awkward day afield rather than a potential future opportunity for learning and teaching.

Novices must be even more wary of this. Maybe some people are just overbearing, but I have seen a novice give advice on bird dog handling that has been everything from irrelevant to lunacy. Save those thoughts for your own dog in the future and keep note of what you personally would do.

Thou Shall Not Judge Another's Bird Dog 'Cause It's Just Complicated

Recently I was subjected to a novice giving proactive criticism by comparing a Wirehaired Pointing Griffon work to English Setter work. For anyone who knows a little bit about bird dogs, we can easily point out that this is like comparing apples and oranges. If you hunt over a dog and do not like its style, understand that it is probably related to a breed's style (or to the way the dog was trained). Don't want to chase a dog through the woods and rush to a point because slow is a good pace for you? Then do not buy a setter. That has nothing to do with a dog being

continued on page 30…

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trained wrong or a handler letting the dog do things it should not.

Until you are knowledgeable on what you want in a bird dog and understand how different they all are, restrain yourself from jumping to conclusions. Even once we achieve a better understanding, it's still best to keep our personal preferences to ourselves.

Keep in mind that the conditions alone can dictate a good or bad day in the field. If the conditions just aren't right, there is nothing the handler or the dog can do to make them ideal. Like a good or bad hair day, so goes the world of a bird dog.



Thou Shall Not Judge a Whole Breed by One Dog

I have done this. More than once. I was wrong every time. Just like we all like different styles of bird dogs (hence the variation of breeds in the world), we also cannot judge a whole breed based on one dog. Why? 'Cause a million reasons. Maybe they were trained poorly (still keep that to yourself). Maybe they had a bad day like I mentioned above. The reality is that bird dogs are complicated creatures and everything from good breeding (or bad), training and even daily conditions can go into the art and science of how a dog works.

I have seen good quail dogs tank on their first day of grouse. I have seen it in reverse. I have seen good grouse dogs fail on woodcock. I have seen my own dog be a rock star one day and an asshole the next. Frankly, I have seen more bad Griffon work than good, but I still love the breed.

Thou Shall Ask the Rules of the Dog Before the Hunt

Asking goes a long way. Most people that want only pointed birds shot will tell you. If people say things like "stop to flush," ask what it means. In the North Woods many of us will say pointed woodcock only but wild flush grouse are okay. Some of us will say if you are new, shoot it whether it's a wild flush or not to get your first bird. Just open the lines of communication. Most of the time we will end up learning a wealth of information about what dog work actually is, looks like, and shouldn't be with starting these conversations.

Even something like approaching a point is not just a learning experience but a moment of varying habits and styles. Do not be afraid to ask "Where should I go?" "What should I do?" and even "What the hell do I do now?!" Once the communication starts, you will understand all these rules of etiquette and hopefully be invited again.

Thou Shall Ask Questions — and Listen

If you are fortunate enough to experience bird dog work for your first time, you will be exposed to different breeds, training styles and game. Ask questions. Learn. You will be amazed by the accelerated knowledge you will gain over time being in the field with different people and dogs. Then someday, you can judge your own dog to the standards you want to achieve.

There is always something to learn with a bird dog on the ground. Be a good mentor, mentee, friend and communicator.

– Article courtesy of: https://projectupland.com/novice-bird-hunter/the-etiquette-of-hunting-over-someone-elses-bird-dog/

> *"Keep in mind that the conditions alone can dictate a good or bad day in the field. If the* ***conditions just aren't right****, there is nothing the handler or the dog can do to make them ideal"*


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SHOOTING TIPS

Some tips and hints from shotgun shooting pros and authors…

The side by side or over/under, for safety reasons, is the shotgun of choice for quail hunting in South Georgia. Semi-autos are frowned on. There's dogs around you, guides, friends, and so a break-open gun is safer for everyone.

– This tip came from Kevin Kelly who is a foremost expert in the art of bobwhite quail hunting.

The shot column cloud disperses into a string stretching approximately five to eleven feet long. This shot-string is what gives us the margin of error in shooting moving targets. If our focus is on the rear of the target, this margin is considerably reduced because the target is moving away from the shot string.

Even with the correct lead, you will always be hitting the back of the target. If we learn to centre on the leading edge of the target, we achieve two important benefits: first, the target will appear slower and second is now traveling into the shot-string, maximizing our chances of success and increasing margin of error.

– This tip came from the book "Breaking Clays – Target Tactics, Tips & Techniques" by Chris Batha.

Dog and hunter are a team and unless you learn to work together you're in for a long, fruitless day in the woods.

– This tip came from the book "The L.L. Bean Upland Bird Hunting Handbook" by Tom Huggler..

On breaking rabbit targets…

It is the only target where we recommend you look at the center, because the front edge is always changing. The center is always the center. Focus on the center circle before moving your gun, and the rabbit will be much easier to break consistently.

– This tip came from the book "If It Ain't Broke, Fix It!" by Gil & Vicki Ash."

Trying harder means to try harder to see the target, not physically pushing or swinging the gun with undue force or being tense. It's a mental aggression.

– This tip came from the book "Precision Shooting – The Trapshooter's Bible – The Next Step and Beyond" by James Russell.

Robert Churchill developed a system for interpreting the results of a patterning a shotgun. His method requires you to be exactly sixteen yards from the patterning board. No less. No more. Churchill's approach also presumes that "the eye is thirty-six inches from the gun muzzle, [and] that the gun shoots with true elevation and the two barrels are in the same line." If all this is not perfect, don't worry. You can still get a good read on the fit of your gun by patterning it.

– This tip came from the book "The Orvis Guide to Gunfitting – Techniques to Improve Your Wingshooting, and the Fundamentals of Gunfit" by Tom Deck.

Driven targets create a tendency to lift your head to keep eye contact with the target especially if it gets obscured by the barrels. Moving the head and leaving the gun behind is a miss behind! Accentuate keeping your head firmly 'spot welded' to the stock on incomers and always take the straight bird first.

– This tip came from the book by Chris Batha, "Breaking Clays – Target Tactics, Tips & Techniques."

Twenty gauge, 28 gauge and .410 are still the classic choice for quail hunting, either side by side or over and under. That's why you need one of those guns that fits your stature and that's light in front end so you can swing it easily.

– This tip came from Kevin Kelly who is a foremost expert in the art of bobwhite quail hunting.

If you don't hit the target, never look down. This is something that we've just started talking about. And the minute that you look down, you know stomp your feet or look at the dirt, all of the negative vibes start coming back in. You don't want to do that.



Olympic Champ - Frank Thompson - DeWitt Photography

– This tip came from the book "The Coaching Hour Chronicles – Conversations in the Pursuit of Sporting Clays Excellence, Volume 4," by Gil & Vicki Ash.

There are two methods we can use to shoot the teal. The first is to swing through it from behind (underneath), firing as the target is blotted out by the muzzles.

The second is to maintain lead, where the gun remains in front of the targets at all times. This requires the ability to look "though" or around the gun with the other eye to maintain visual contact, just as you would do with a high driven target. At extended ranges, the ability to use this method is essential: otherwise, there will be no consistency. With the close teal, especially if the target is a flatter, trap-type teal, the swing-through method works well, because the momentum in the barrels and the delay in triggering the shot due to shooter reaction time will usually be enough to crush the clay, provided you trigger the shot as the muzzles overtake the target. Failure to trigger the shot at the right time will often result in head lifting, and the gun will shoot high.



The temptation to do this, combined with the possibility that the target is reaching the peak of its trajectory and starting to slow down, results in many teal being missed over the top.

– This tip came from the book "Successful Shotgunning – How to Build Skill in the Field and Take More Birds in Competition" by Peter Blakeley.

The cheek is the anchor point for the gun mount. A lot of people that we teach and we see shoot mount the gun to their shoulder and put their head down on the gun. When that happens, mounting to the shoulder and putting the head down to the stock, it will cause you to look at the front bead sight. Nothing good happens at that point in time. You can't look at the bird at the same time. It's physiologically impossible to do.

– This tip came from the DVD "14 Tips to Better Shotgunning" by Gil & Vicki Ash.

When we are shooting, if we hard focus on the target, the gun will be seen in the peripheral vision as a double blurred image of two gun barrels. If we attempt to place the bead at the end of the muzzle on the target, we are now looking at the gun, and the target is a blurred double image of two indistinct targets. Which one do we shoot?

– This tip came from the book "Breaking Clays – Target Tactics, Tips & Techniques" by Chris Batha.



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Hunting Seasons AS PER 2018

PROVINCIAL BIRD HUNTING SEASONS (and bag limits in brackets)

MPUMALANGA 013-759 5329

All year	Rock pigeons (need licence).
1 May-31 Jul	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, Egyptian goose, Spurwing, Guineafowl and Spurfowl.
1 April-31 Jul	Grey Wing, Orange River Partridge
1 May-30 Sep	Crested francolin, Coqui francolin, Red-wing, Shelley's Partridge

FREE STATE 083 632 3992

All year	Rock pigeons, Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove, Red eye dove.
1 May-31 Aug	Greywing & O/River partridge, common quail, guineafowl, Swainson's francolin, yellow-billed duck & red-billed teal, Egyptian goose, spurwing.
Note:	(maximum 10 land & 10 water birds pp per day)

GAUTENG

1 May-30 April	All year. Rock Pigeons (need licence) (20).
1 May-31 Jul	Egyptian geese (5); Red-bill teal (5); Yellow-bill duck (5).
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons francolin (5).
1 Jun-30 Sep	Helmeted Guineafowl (5).

N-WEST PROVINCE

All year	Rock pigeons (No limit), Red eyed dove (20), Cape turtle dove (20), laughing dove (20) (licence required).
1 May-30 Sep	Francolin: Red-billed (3), Crested (5); Partridge: Coqui (5), Guineafowl (10).
1 May-30 Aug	Partridge: Shelleys (5), Redwing (5); Quail: Harlequin (5), Common (10); Rameron Pigeon (5).
1 Apr-31 Jul	Partridge: Orange River (5).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqua Sandgrouse (5).
1 Nov-31 Apr	Sandgrouse: Burchells (5), Double-banded (5).
1 May-31 Jul	Duck: White-faced (4), Yellow-bill (4), Cape Teal (4), Red-bill (4), Cape Shoveler (4), Southern Pochard (3), Knob-bill (4), Spurwing (4).
1 Jun-30 Sep	Swainsons Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (3).
1 Jan-31 Jul	Egyptian Goose (4).
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (2).
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.

LIMPOPO 082 802 0871

All year	Rock Pigeons (licence) (50), Red-eyed Turtle Dove (50)
1 May- 30 Sep	Guineafowl (10), Crested Francolin, (6), Shelley's (2); Natal francolin (6).
1 May - 31 Jul	Egyptian (6) & spurwing (4), white-faced whistling duck (6), Yellow-bill duck (4), red-billed teal (4).
15 Jun- 30 Sep	Swainson's francolin (8).
Note:	Total combined daily bag of (10 land & 10 water birds)

WESTERN CAPE 021-483 3586

1 Jan-31 Dec	Spurwing (3) & Egyptian goose (10), rock pigeons (and Cape turtle dove, Laughing dove, Red eye dove, Speckled Pigeon) (40 in total), guineafowl (10),
1 Jan-30 Jun	Yellow-billed duck, red-billed teal, shelduck, Cape teal, Cape shoveler, southern pochard (10 in all).
1 May-31 Jul	Greywing Partridge; Cape & Red-necked Francolins (6 in all).
1 May-31 Aug	Common quail (5).

NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE

All year	Egyptian Goose (10); Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves (10 each) and Rock Pigeons (50).
1 April-31 Dec	Helmeted Guinea-fowl (10);
1 Jan-31 Mar	Shelduck (5).
1 May-31 Aug	Spurwing (5).
1 May- 30 Jun	Orange River Partridge (5), Red-billed Francolin (5), Cape Francolin (5), Natal Francolin (5), Swainsons Francolin (5), Grey-wing Partridge (5).
1 May-31 Aug	**Northern Cape Excluding Namaqualand Magisterial District** Yellow billed duck (10), Red-bill Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10).
1 Apr-15 Jul	Namaqua Sandgrouse (10).
1 Jan -31 Mar	Burchell's Sandgrouse (5).
1 Jan-30 Apr	**Namaqualand Magisterial District** Yellow-billed duck (10), Red-billed Teal (10), Cape Teal (10), Cape Shoveler (10), Southern Pochard (10).
Note:	A maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.

EASTERN CAPE 040 609 4717

1 Jan-31 Dec	Red eyed, Laughing, Cape turtle Doves and Rock Pigeons. (need licence).
1 Jun-31 Jul	Rameron Pigeon (Olive Pigeon) (5).
1 Jan-31 Mrt	Shelduck (2).
1 Feb-30 Sept	Egyptian Goose (10).
1 Mrt-30 Sept	Spurwing (5).
1 May-31 Jul	Red-billed Teal (3), Yellow-billed Duck (3), White-faced duck (2), Southern Pochard (2), Cape Teal (2), Cape Shoveler (2).
1 May-30 Sept	Guineafowl (5).
1 Oct-30 Nov	Quail (10). (Note: Different in former Ciskei)
1 May-31 Jul	Red-Wing Partidge (2).
1 May-31 Jul	Grey-wing (4), Orange River Partridge (4), Red-Necked Francolin (4).
1 Jan-31 Dec	Exotic Anseriformes

KZ-NATAL 033 845 1652

31 May-31 Aug	Ordinary Game Licence Required for all. Common Quail, White-faced Duck, Red-billed Teal, Yellow-billed Duck, Egyptian Goose, Spurwing, Helmeted Guineafowl, Rameron Pigeon. Francolin: Red-necked, Natal, Swainsons. Partridge: Grey-wing, Red-wing, Coqui, Crested & Shelleys..
Note:	A Maximum combined total of 10 land birds & 10 waterfowl per day.
	Other game birds can be shot under a SPECIAL PERMIT during the open season, please contact KZN Hunting & Extension Department on 033 845 1652.

PLEASE NOTE that all members must still consult the respective provincial ordinances, as we do not list species that are not traditionally gamebirds, such as Hadeda Ibis, etc.

All exotic *Anseriformes* are open all year.

Please Note: You have to return your licence to the respective provinces, after each season, stating on the licence all the relevant details as asked. This applies to provinces who require this, such as NW Prov, and is stated as such on your licence.

DEDICATED ACTIVITIES (Act 60/2000) - ANNUAL MEMBER'S REPORT
Fax to: 086 211 5111 or e-mail to: anel@wingshooters.co.za

Year of Report:	**PROVINCE**			
Member's Surname:				
First Name:	**DISTRICT**			
Initials:	**FARM / CLUB**			
ID Number:				
Signature or e-mail	**DATE**			
RIFLE SHOOTING		☐	☐	☐
HANDGUN SHOOTING		☐	☐	☐
SHOTGUN SHOOTING		☐	☐	☐
GAMEBIRD HUNTING		☐	☐	☐
PLAINS GAME HUNTING		☐	☐	☐
OTHER HUNTING or RELATED activities also count towards activities, such as reloading, HuntEx show visit, etc.				
Activity Description 1:				
Activity Description 2:				
Activity Description 3:				

Please note that this report completed by you is an affidavit under oath ☐

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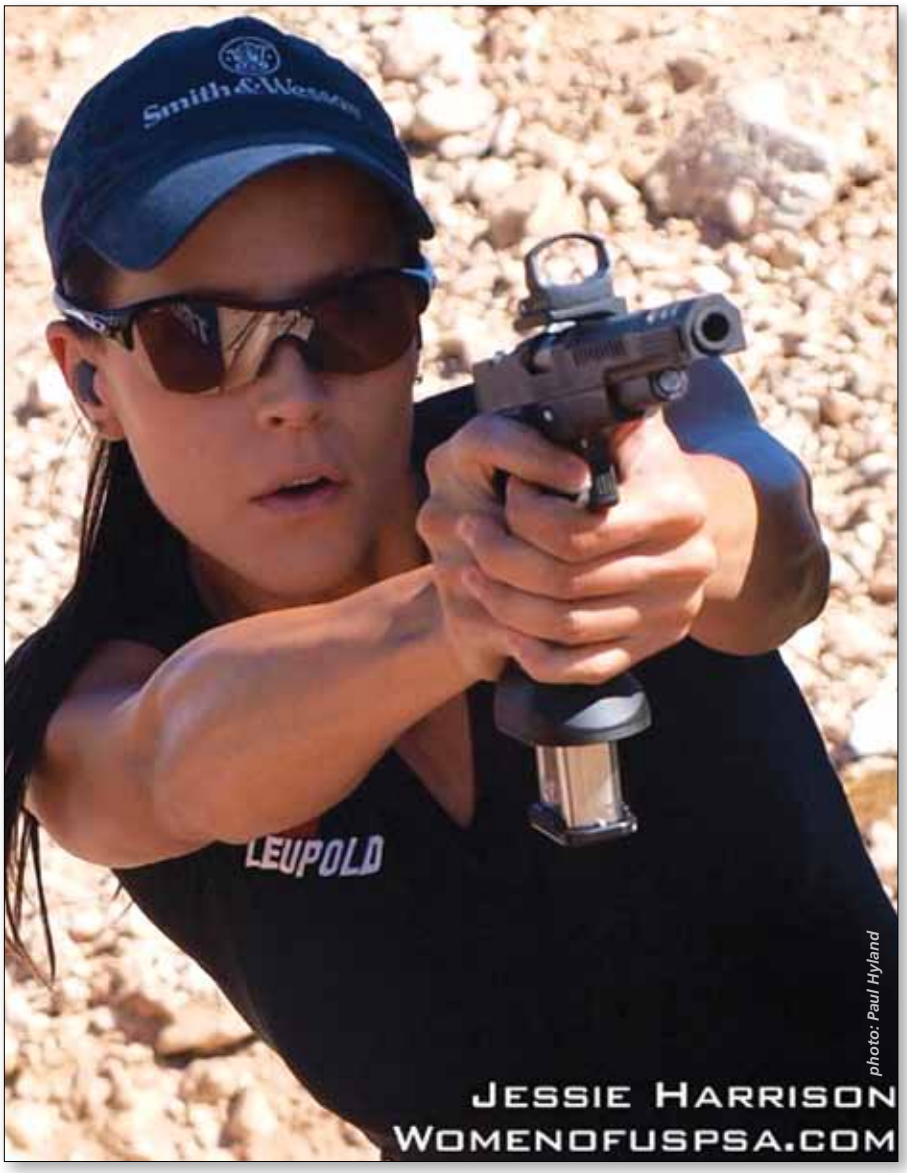
In a previous article I referred to Angela Lee Duckworth's Ted talk about success. She explains that after all their research; they discovered that success comes to those who exhibit the virtue of true grit. This grit is explained further as 'having the power of passion and perseverance for very long-term goals'. In a nutshell, having the stamina to stick to your goals and work hard at them for years.

by Cornell van der Westhuizen

So how do you show stamina? We know that it's the ability to keep going, to show endurance, patience and survival, but - how do you really do it? After a setback, by default one risks accelerating into a sprint to make up time, and that ends up being a mad dash to futility. To have and to show stamina, it seems, you must have the ability to pace yourself. To pace yourself properly you need to know yourself and disregard what is going on around you.

The guy who paces himself the best is the person that endures. "Ja, ja, but we are not runners", you say! Indeed we are not, but in our field we must train to be better and aspire to be the best we can be. In years past I spoke about building a pyramid. In the article I suggested putting a framework together to correct mistakes, to build on strengths and hopefully excel at weak points. To build a pyramid that is unique to you. Unfortunately, I omitted a crucial factor... What are your constraints?

What the hell have constraints got to do with all of this, you might ask? For one, the fact that in this country there isn't a single full time professional shooter, is proof that this sport remains a hobby for all of us. This means that our shooting endeavours take a back seat to our work, spouse,





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ZERODelta Ventator 6.5 Creedmoor AR Platform (SLR) Rifle. Photo: André van der Westhuizen

kids, family and even other hobbies.

By implication our constraints are those of limited time, limited resources and a limited budget for our shooting. The younger competitors have more free use of their money and time. Continually buying newer toys, travelling far and wide to compete, and train a lot (some do not even have kids, so a lot is really a lot). It seems they quickly move up the ranks, but it may be for a year or two before inevitable outside pressures or failures take their toll and they have to drastically reduce training time or something gives.

The result is a decline or erratic results. They do not feel like the king of the hill anymore, and thus lose impetus and soon stop all together. Stressed, fatigued or demoralized. Why? I believe it's because they did not use their resources sustainably. They failed to consider their constraints and to be truthful about them. Not having a long-term plan or goal meant that they had no idea how to pace themselves. Sustainability is such a fashionable ad-campaign term, I almost want to dismiss it, but it really is applicable to us too.

In the referred to article about 'Skill Sets' I explained that the wider the base is, the higher, the sharper, more stable, consistent and durable the peak will be. Creating that wide base takes time and a lot of it. It is then logical and paramount that you must pace yourself. While making a list of your constraints, be real, be truthful to yourself and be considerate of others. Whatever your limitations are, whether work, seasonal or medical, take all into consideration. Imagine that you are going to do this for the next ten years.

Decide how much time and money you can invest in your sport to make it sustainable for the rest of your life and see how good you really can get! Just imagine what is possible if you do this for ten years, never mind a lifetime!

Be mindful that you are running your own life marathon. The benefit of this viewpoint is that any failure is not the end of the world; it is just the next hurdle or challenge to overcome. Competing with your very particular constraints makes it senseless to measuring yourself against others and we know where that brings you. Thirdly, you will have the peace of mind to see this as a path of growth and have an open mind to experiment. Consider going outside your comfort zone and see what happens, win or lose. More importantly, you will enjoy it all the way and others will encourage you.

> *"The benefit of this viewpoint is that any failure is* ***not the end of the world*** *– it is just the next hurdle or challenge to overcome"*

Without a doubt, with consistent purposeful practice you will become good, very good. It is there at this pinnacle point that we become our own very worst enemy! Now that you are beating other competitors, sometimes even winning - let's face it, the ego likes it!

So you start to compare, and think… imagine if I shoot twice as much or if I train 50% more, who will I beat and what can I win? Oppas boetie! Tread very carefully here! Although there is a time (a short one) to put in more time or money, than your constraints may allow, it is only a short gangplank's walk to the abyss. Here the never-ending dark vortex sucks you in, where no amount of time, money or winning is ever enough. Trust me, I have been there!

In no way do I suggest you must slack off, with a 'tomorrow-is-another-day' attitude. Hell no! Always do your utmost and focus everything you have for the 10 or 20 minutes a day you set aside to train, but take December holidays completely off, for example. Mix it up - try a different shooting sport for a few months at the end of the season or shooting everything weak hand or support side for a while. Work on keeping things interesting. Think, plan and pace for the long race! Win or lose – you will have grit!

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With over 40 registered CTSASA clubs in South Africa, you can find our sport virtually anywhere!





The Clay Target Launcher (trap machine)

* SAPS Accredited Sports Shooting Organisation (for Dedicated Licence purposes)
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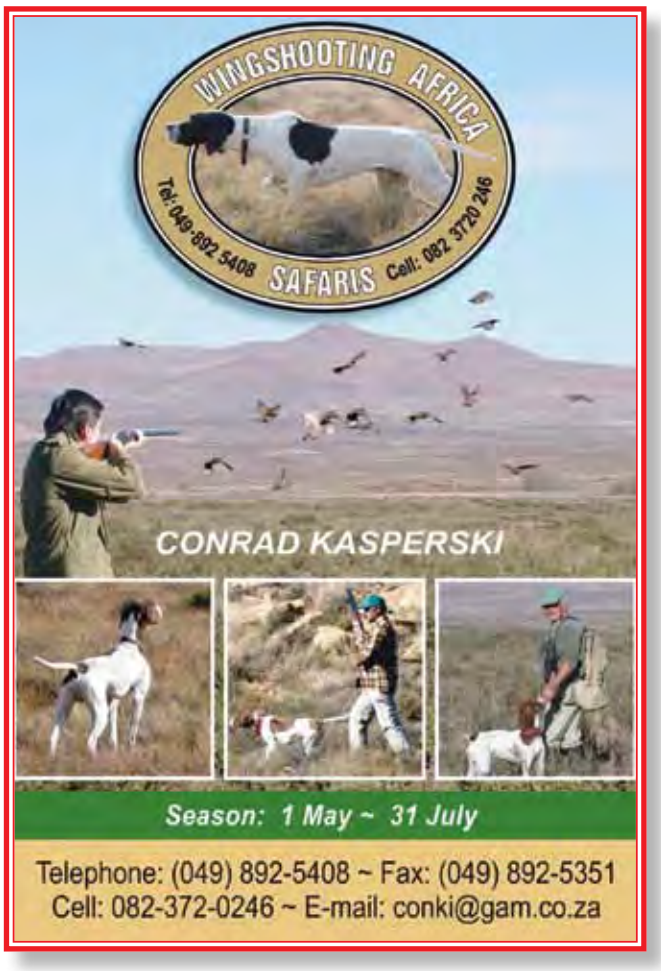
Sarah Kalell, Executive Officer,
Clay Target Shooting Association
of South Africa

Tel: 044 620 4178
Email: info@ctsasa.co.za
www.ctsasa.co.za

We look forward to seeing you on the shooting range!


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CONRAD KASPERSKI
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Quality 100% Cotton 6 panel Ball Cap – In Orange, Olive Drab, Burgundy, Camel and Chocolate caps, with the Flying Ducks®™ logo on front & "SA Wingshooters" on the right side. Perfect for casual wear or hunting

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NW WINGSHOOTING
RUSTENBURG SOUTH AFRICA
Game Bird Hunting

Francolin, Guinea Fowl, Water Fowl & Pigeon

- Hunt is a rough shoot with pointing and flushing dogs
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A Gamebird Recipe Book for South Africa!

This is a unique book, with 40 recipes and over 80 full colour photographs. Chapters include the role of wingshooting and conservation, an illustrated guide to cleaning gamebirds, cooking techniques and of course some hunting stories.

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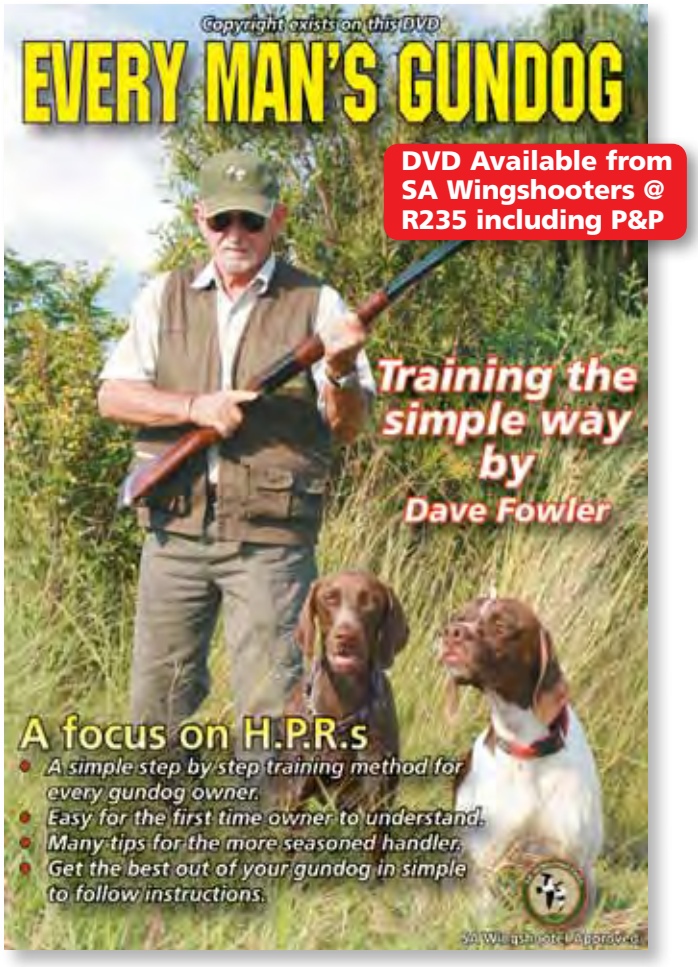



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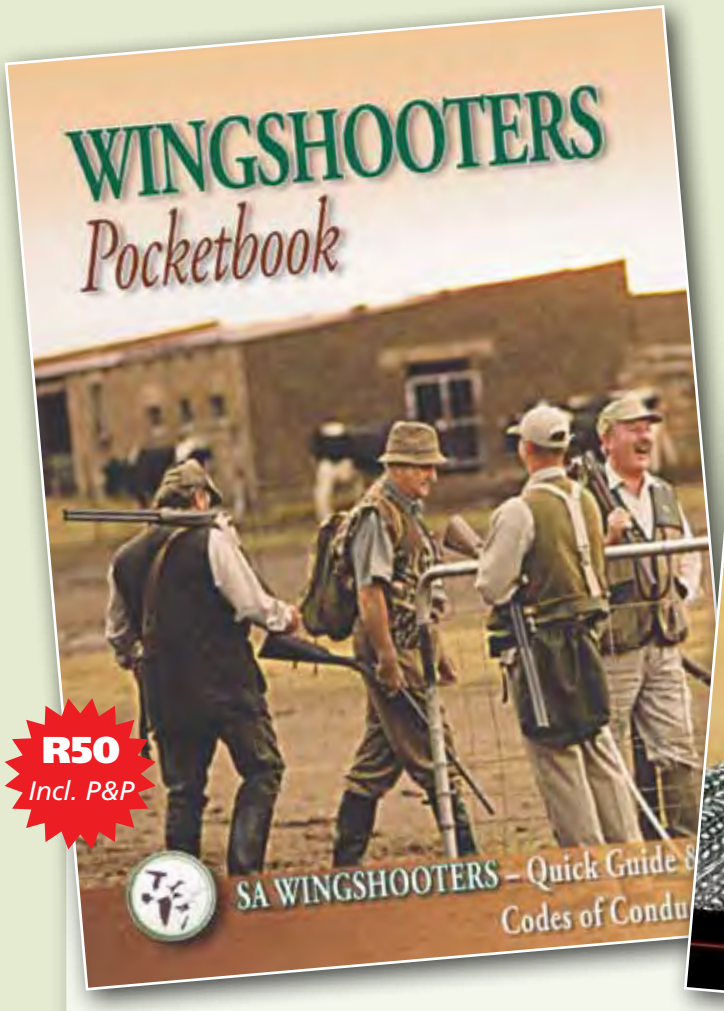
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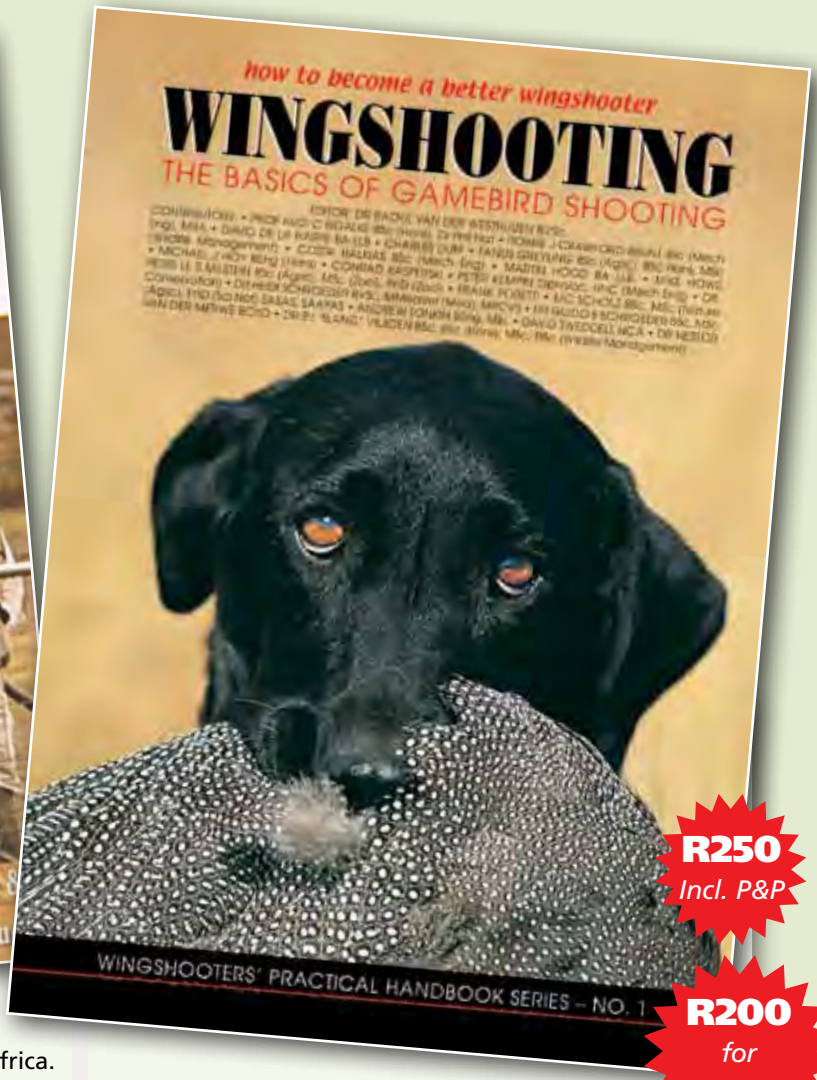


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R50
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R250
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R200
for members

This pocketbook is the first of its kind in South Africa. It is an essential 'must have' for every wingshooter, particularly *Dedicated Hunters,* and contains:

- The Wingshooters Codes of Conduct, including the codes for bird dogs, shoot organisers and wildfowlers,
- A guide to the identification of gamebirds in the field,
- The combined shooting and hunting log for use by dedicated hunters to comply with the regulations of the Firearms Control Act, incorporating the landowners' hunting permission form… And much more…

'Every Wingshooter should have one'

'In today's world, where it is so important that all hunters act in a responsible and ethical manner, this pocketbook is an essential part of the field hunting gear of every gamebird shooter. We are pleased to support this pocketbook and I strongly recommend it to all who wish to hunt more responsibly. Every Wingshooter should carry it on him in the field'

— Dr Alan Kloeck
MD: MSD

'Respect for all Creatures, Great and Small'

'There are very few, if any, hunters who can say they have never shot the wrong quarry by mistake or have committed some thoughtless act, which they, in hindsight, would like to undo. This pocketbook will help all of us to prevent such mistakes and to embody the Wingshooters motto of Respect For Life. '

— Dr Raoul van der Westhuizen
Chairman: SA Wingshooters

HINTS AND TIPS FROM 20 EXPERTS ON THE BASICS OF WINGSHOOTING

This is not just another book on Wingshooting in Southern Africa. It is the definitive practical handbook by 20 top experts, packed with facts. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced shooter, in these pages you are sure to find lots of new tips and tricks from the old hands. The subjects are covered in short and concise fashion and include:

• Shotguns • Gun fit • Gun care • Gauges & shot sizes •-Shotshells and ballistics • Shotgun marksmanship • Safety • Game bird identification • How to shoot francolin, guinea fowl, geese, ducks, sand grouse, rock pigeons, etc. •-Gun dog breeds • Training your gun dog • Gun dog nutrition and health •-Shooting ethics and etiquette • The Gun Control Act • How to get a hunting licence • Game birds for the dinner table • Field trial clubs & associations

For the first time, this book brings together the collective know-how and experience in game bird shooting of many of the leading wingshooters in Southern Africa — be they scientists, field triallists, gun dog experts, veterinarians or lay people — who all share the passion for wingshooting and the joy of the great African Outdoors. The section on shotgun marksmanship alone makes the handbook worth having. In this section the greatest South African sporting clay shooter ever and 20 times Springbok tells how to shoot any target under any condition. The handbook is edited by the co-founder and first chairman of the SA Wingshooters Association, Raoul van der Westhuizen.

To order your books today, call the SA Wingshooters Assocaition office: 011-781 4762 or 011-781 3613.

Dedicated REPORTS

Go to:
https://members.wingshooters.co.za
and register to create your own profile for your dedicated reports & firearm licence renewal reminders



YOUR ANNUAL DEDICATED ACTIVITY REPORT (Hunt & Sport) – What to do:

How you can send us your report:

Via email, fax or on-line on your personal member profile.
Go to:
https://members.wingshooters.co.za
and register to create your own profile; or

Complete a report (you can download it from our website: www.wingshooters.org.za) and fax to 011-781 3486, or you can email us a report listing 2 activities you did during the year.
Dedicated Hunter activity reports are mandatory, by law, for all qualified dedicated hunters!

New Member Online Portal

For Dedicated Activity Reports & Firearm Licence Renewal Notices –

Firstly, It's nearing the end of the season, thus all Dedicated members need to send in their dedicated hunting activity report. **It's a legal (Firearms Control Act 60 of 2000) requirement for Dedicated Hunters and Dedicated Sports persons.** You can send any hunting activities report, whether it was plains game, bird hunting or range shooting and includes rifles, shotgun, handgun use, etc. You only need to list two (2) activities for the year. Remember to send us a report before end October, as we have to send a 'members activity report' to the SAPS every year in November, listing all the members who did not send in a report.

Our on-line member portal –

You can do it on our new member online portal. Please go to our our on-line member area and 'Register' with us:
https://members.wingshooters.co.za

Once we've approved your registration request, you can 'Login' and start to use this service for your dedicated reporting and to list your firearms renewal dates for our renewal reminder service. Call the office if you don't know what to do! Tel: 011-781 4762 or 011- 7813613.

You can also enter your dedicated hunting/sport shooting activities report online, on our website! Go to www.wingshooters.org.za and click on the "Dedicated Hunters" menu and complete the form right at the bottom of the page. It's quick and easy!

Or, if you prefer to remain old school you can download the form from the "All Downloads" page on our website. You can fax it to 086 211 5111 or 011-781 3486. You can also send us the same one you might have done for another association you belong to... it needn't be our form.

www.wingshooters.org.za

Join South Africa's No.1 accredited Hunting & Sport shooting association



Some of the great benefits:

- Exclusive members-only access to the Gun Licensing Help-line
- 'Bona-fide Hunters' recognised as credit to Dedicated Hunters, or
- Option to qualify as Dedicated Hunter/Sports Person in terms of Act 60
- Membership of Police-accredited Hunting & Sport shooting Association
- Exclusive hunting rights and shoots for members only
- Access to the National Shooting Venue Database
- Up-to-date information on the Firearms Control Act
- 4 'WINGSHOOTER' magazines with full shooting calendar
- Provincial hunting licences (for most provinces)
- Access to clay shooting clubs, shotgun/Rifle/Handgun clinics and training
- 25% saving on the handbook WINGSHOOTING, with tips & hints by 21 experts on game bird hunting
- Free advice on shooting seasons, gundogs, shotguns, rifles, handguns, etc.
- Free firearm ENDORSEMENTS for any type of firearm.
- R20 million wingshooters' liability insurance included
- Option to join PSP – Postal Shooting Programme for Handguns & Rifles
- Option to join the Long Range Shooting Club and TPS 2-gun/3-gun, etc.

YES! Sign me up and rush me my membership documents

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E-mail: anel@wingshooters.co.za
SAPS Accreditation No's: 1300080 & 1300136

SA WINGSHOOTERS 2019

Deposit your subscription by means of Internet banking (EFT) or deposit it in our bank account as per the details below (email us the proof of payment with the application form) to:
anel@wingshooters.co.za

Bank: ABSA Brooklyn
Branch Code: 335-345
Account Name: SA Wingshooters
Account Number: 1500165460

* If you are a dedicated hunter at any other association please attach a copy to receive a credit towards decated hunter status.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: (Tick all appropriate boxes)

1. I wish to join for	☐	1 Year	☐	2 Years
Join Fee – Once off, plus:		R 350.-		R 350.-
Subscription – Annual*		R 1,362.-		R 2,650.-
*Subscription – over 70's:	☐	R 903.-	☐	R 1,700.-
*Subscription Junior U/21:	☐	R 253.-	☐	R 500.-

You can also join the PSP (Postal Shooting Programme) for rifle and handgun shooting. The PSP offers participation in our annual target shooting competition in various divisions for rifle and handgun shooting:

2. I also wish to Join the PSP	☐	R 100.-	☐	R 190.-

3. I also wish enroll in the Dedicated Hunter Course and/or Dedicated Sport Shooter course:

Dedicated Hunter Manual & Test:	R 570.-	☐
Dedicated Sport Shooter Test:	R 570.-	☐

TOTAL	R	.-	R	.-

Payment Method:
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You can also pay in person with a card at our offices.

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Postal Code .....
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*(we email members with news regularly)
Office Tel No. .....
Fax Number .....
Home Tel No. .....
Cell Phone No. .....

Your Signature .....
Date .....

I agree to honour the constitution and I do not have a criminal record. You hereby confirm that you are subscribing to SA Wingshooters Association for a period of one year or two years, depending on your option.

2019

*** The entry fee of R350 is not payable by younger than 21. The annual subscription fee for Juniors (persons younger than 21) is a nominal R253.- (VAT incl), and for persons 70 and older is R903.- Incl. Family memberships do not pay any once-off join fee.**

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- **2-Gun (handgun & rifle) range from 10m to 500m with 22 targets**
- **Exclusive range open to members only!**
- **Match days and competitions**
- **Training & fun shoots, etc.**





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PSP POSTAL SHOOTING PROGRAMME



The LRSC is a club of the SA Winghooters
The LRSC is a sub-club of the SA Wingshooters and requires an additional membership to SA Wingshooters

www.longrangeclub.com
Tel: 011-781 4762 or 011-781 3613