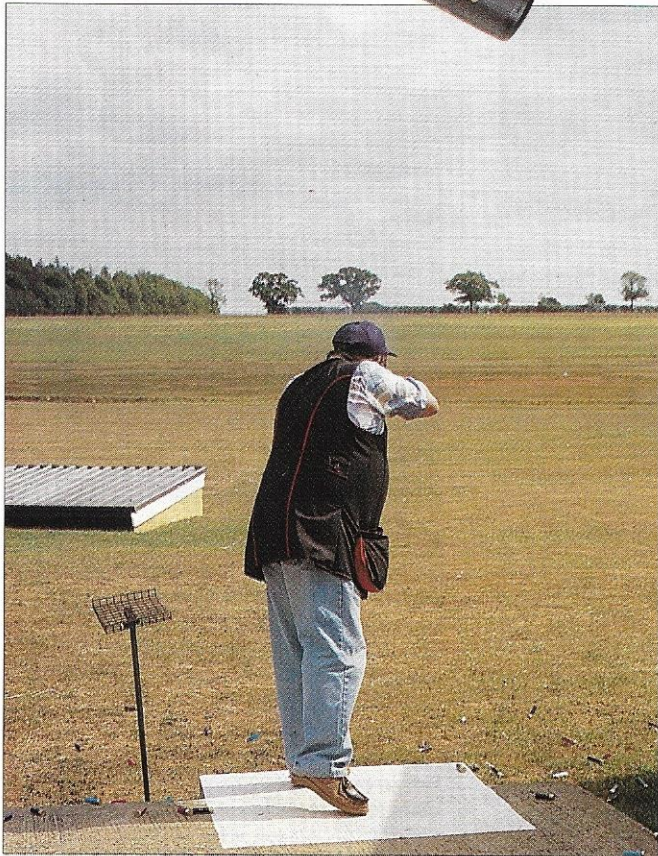


**HEAD
TO
HEAD**
CARTRIDGE
TEST



DIONISI TRAP 2 28 GRAM



VICTORY SONIC 28 GRAM



BRIT VELOX 28GRAM



**3 CLAY
CRUNCHERS**

JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT THERE couldn't possibly be another cartridge on the British market, up pops the Dionisi - a hot little number from Italy based largely around Fiocchi components.

It's being imported by Gunmark, who had a brief flirtation with Fiocchi last year, and it is distributed through their newly-acquired Laporte business at Grantham, Lincs. With it we have contrasted the Cyprus-made Victory Sonic - one of the fastest shells around - and the value-for-money Brit Velox, made in Scotland. Let's have a look at the detail!

THE SHELL IS LOADED IN A NEAT, black, lightly-ribbed 70mm. case with a 12mm brass head, clearly stamped "Fiocchi". Seal is with a six-star crimp, and the wad is by B&P, one of Italy's major wad manufacturers.

The shot, as expected in an Italian cartridge, is English 7 rather than the labelled 7½, and was round and well-polished.

It averaged 31 per cent on our crush test for hardness - good, trap-quality material.

Muzzle velocity of the shell was 1,345 ft/sec, with a down-range, observed figure of 1072 ft/sec. This was achieved with a pressure of 560 bars.



● VERDICT

A good shell for all-round competition work, and made with quality components.

An interesting new load from Italy.

SPECIFICATION

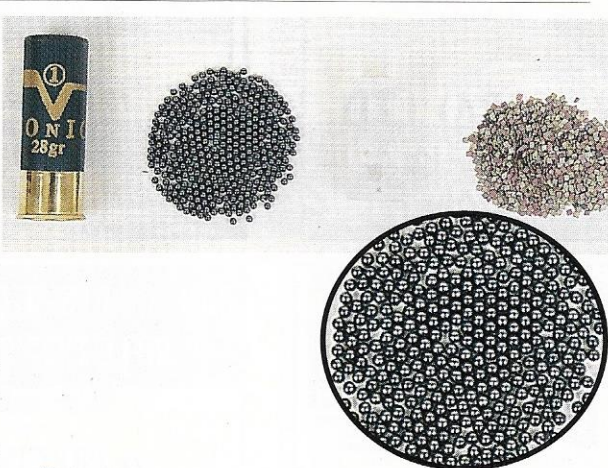
LOAD: 28 gram
SHOT (size): English 7
SHOT (crush): 31%
POWDER: Grey coloured flake
WAD: Plastic B&P
MIN. CHAMBER: 2¼
CASE (size): 70mm
CRIMP: 6 star
PRESSURE: 560 bar
VELOCITY Muzzle: 1,345 ft/sc
VELOCITY Observed: 1,072 ft/sc
PRICE (Approx): £ 108per 1,000

WITH A MUZZLE VELOCITY of 1,580 ft/sec these shells are among the fastest around - and yet it is sensible performance with reasonable pressure and recoil. Observed velocity at 20 metres is 1,250 ft/sec. Pressure is 630 bars.

The Cyprus-made shell is loaded in a dark blue, lightly-ribbed case with a 16mm. brass head, sealed with an 8-star crimp.

Propellant is a multi-coloured single-base flake, driving a simple but efficient plastic wad of Victory's own manufacture.

The shot is made to Italian standards - English 7 rather than 7½ - and it recorded a super 26 per cent on our crush test - very hard and tight-patterning.



● VERDICT

If you want a really fast shell, this is one of the best.

Really hard shot which holds superb patterns.

SPECIFICATION

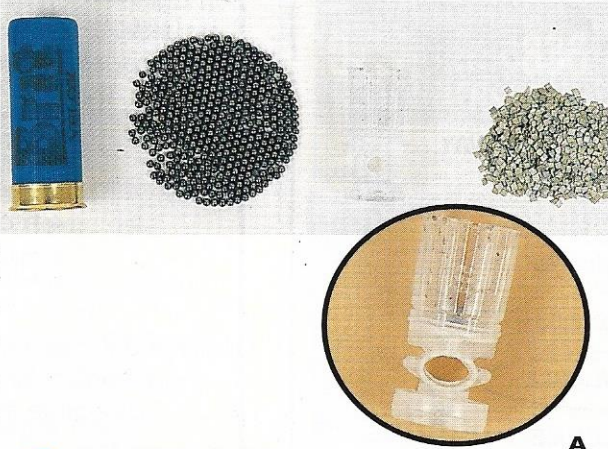
LOAD: 28 gram
SHOT (size): English 7
SHOT (crush): 26%
POWDER: Multi coloured flake
WAD: Victory power piston
MIN. CHAMBER: 2¼
CASE (size): 70mm
CRIMP: 8 star
PRESSURE: 630 bar
VELOCITY Muzzle: 1,580 ft/sc
VELOCITY Observed: 1,250 ft/sc
PRICE (Approx): £ 114 per 1,000

MANY NEWCOMERS TAKE THEIR first steps in shooting with Brit cartridges. They're reasonably priced, and are often used for instruction days on grounds. They would be wise to stick with the brand for much of their shooting.

The Velox is loaded in a lightly-ribbed, blue, Martignoni 67.5mm case, requiring a 70mm chamber. Seal is with a 6-star crimp, and the brass head is 8mm deep. Wad is the competition-proven Gualandi, propelled by a grey disc powder.

The shot is true English 7½, and had excellent hardness - 28 per cent on our crush test.

Muzzle velocity is 1,250 ft/sec, which would equate to an observed figure of around 1,000 ft/sec. Pressure is 500 bars.



● VERDICT

Worthy of use well beyond the club/beginners circuit.

A much underrated load which is now gaining favour.

SPECIFICATION

LOAD: 28gram
SHOT (size): English 7½
SHOT (crush): 28%
POWDER: Sage coloured flake
WAD: Gualandi
MIN. CHAMBER: 2¼
CASE (size): 67.5mm
CRIMP: 6 star
PRESSURE: 500 bar
VELOCITY Muzzle: 1,250 ft/sc
VELOCITY Observed: 1,000 ft/sc
PRICE (Approx): £ 100 per 1,000