



AMERICAN AND INTERNATIONAL TRAP SHOOTING DISCIPLINES

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FABARM'S AXIS RS12 TRAP

A REPORT BY **NICK SISLEY**



Manufactured in Brescia, Italy, the Fabarm Axis RS12 Trap is an over and under and so-called Combo with 32 inch over and under barrels and 34 inch Unsingle barrel.

The receiver, trigger guard, fore-end iron, top tang and opening lever are in a deep blue/black – but not the least bit shiny. There's also plenty of floral-style engraving. The laser-cut checkering is well done at 22-lines to the inch. There's a slight right hand palm swell on my test gun, but left-hand stocks are available. The barrel selector is a switch on the top tang safety. The recoil pad is soft rubber, thick and separated from the stock by a very thin black spacer. The back of the pad is configured so it won't slip during shooting. The trigger can be moved back and forth.

The extended screw chokes are quite long at 3³/₄ inches. The barrels are separated in the same style as a Krieghoff

K80 and others – i.e. no side panels. Interestingly, there's lots of space between those barrels. It also appears that there is a "hanger" between the barrels at the muzzle end. Perhaps different size hangers could be interchanged to make certain both barrels print at precisely the same point of impact. The adjustable rib sits about 1¹/₈ inch above the top O/U barrel back near the rear of the fore-end, then tapers down to just over 1/2 inch near the muzzle. The rib is aluminum to save weight.

The locking system is traditional – with barrels pivoting on trunnions and an under locking bolt that moves forward upon closing to engage lugs milled in at the bottom of the monobloc.

The inner barrel configuration is also a big-time feature of



the Axis. Fabarm developed this technology some years ago – which they call TriBore. In front of the chamber the dimension goes immediately to .737 and stays at .737 for about half the barrel. Then starts a very slow taper to .730 to just shy of the screw choke threads. TriBore thus treats the shot pellets very gently – resulting in fewer pellet fliers that will quickly exit the effective pattern. This inner barrel

configuration could also contribute to less perceived recoil.

All three barrels on the over and under and Unsingle went .730. The most open choke was .720, then .716, .705, .700 and .692 (the Full). As regards weight, the Axis fore-end is 13.3 ounces, the over and under total is 9 pounds 1.5 ounces and the total weight with Unsingle barrel attached is just over 9 pounds. O/U barrels are 32 inches and 34 inches for the Unsingle.

THERE'S ALSO PLENTY OF FLORAL-STYLE ENGRAVING. THE LASER-CUT CHECKERING IS WELL DONE AT 22-LINES TO THE INCH.



ON TEST

To give a substantial number of shooters the opportunity to shoot the Fabarm Combo, I spent many hours at the Richland Trap Club north of Templeton (PA). Some shot as many as 50 trap targets while most shot a round of 25.

The consensus was that most every shooter commented on the lack of recoil. Others liked the "heads up shooting" with the super high rib and high adjustable comb. Those latter comments came from those who were unaccustomed to shooting a high rib trap gun.

I think what prompted many shooters to comment favorably on the Axis RS12 was the highly figured walnut – with the wood 'figure' coming from a specialized process that improves wood grain significantly and provides waterproof protection and is scratch resistant. The process involves depositing ink on the wood. The finish is semi-gloss acrylic. It's the specialized ink process that results in a stock and fore-end with the look of a \$2000 piece of walnut. (An adjustable comb is standard.)



YOUNG SHOOTER PUTS OUR TEST GUN THROUGH ITS PACES.

SUMMARY

This isn't the first time that Fabarm have come up with a winner. Their track record of innovation, bringing products to the market that shooters want and specifically responding quickly to market demands has resulted in a remarkable impact on our industry in a very short time. The Axis RS12 comes in a protective Negrini case that is airline approved. ■

Readers may be interested in one or more of Nick's four e-Books – only \$2.99 each. He also has a new soft cover book published by Digest Books – "Shooter's Guide to Shotgun Games". For all Sisley's books go to www.amazon.com Click "books". Type in Nick's name. All his books appear. Download the e-books to your Kindle or Fire. If you have neither, use the free Amazon App to download to your i-Pad, other electronic reading device, even your computer. Nick welcomes your emails at nicksisley@hotmail.com

FABARM AXIS TRAP SPECIFICATIONS

STOCK DIMENSIONS: 14.75 x 1.5 x 2.5 – BUT ADJUSTABLE COMB

CHAMBERS: 2.75 INCHES

WARRANTY: 5 YEARS

SUGGESTED RETAIL: TRAP O/U \$4195, TRAP UNSINGLE \$4195, TRAP COMBO \$5775