

The Roar



Australian
Deer
Association

ACT and Southern Regions Branch

October 2019 Newsletter

HUNTERS' PLEDGE

The Hunter should conserve wildlife resources and not exploit them.

The hunter's behaviour should be guided by respect: -

- For the Deer and all Wildlife,
- For the Land, Forest and Crops,
- For the Landholder and his Property,
- For Everyone who enjoys the Bush.



'The Roar' is the bi-monthly Newsletter of the Australian Deer Association, ACT and Southern Regions Branch. The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Australian Deer Association Inc. No correspondence will be entered into in relation to anything contained herein. Unauthorized copying or distribution is not permitted without prior consent



The Roar - Australian Deer Association - ACT & Southern Regions Branch

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GENERAL MEETINGS: The ACT & Southern Regions Branch of the A.D.A. meets bi-monthly on the third Thursday of February, April, June, August and October starting at 7:30pm, unless otherwise advertised. The meeting place is the [Harmonie German Club of Canberra](#), 49 Jerrabomberra Avenue, Narrabundah ACT

HUNTING, GENERAL NEWS & ADVERTISEMENTS: E-mailed to the [Tom Penders](#) OR [ACT Editor](#)

BRANCH ADDRESS

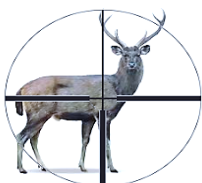
The Branch postal address is: PO Box 3178, Manuka, ACT 2603. E-mail address: act.pres@austdeer.asn.au

TRADING POST

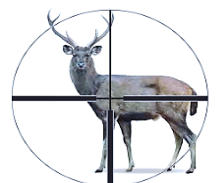
The '**For Sale**' section within the 'The Roar' is available as a free service to A.D.A. Members for the sale and exchange of personal equipment. All advertisements must include details of equipment, its condition, name of vendor, contact name and phone number/s, ADA Membership number. Advertisements should be forwarded to the Editor. Firearms may not be advertised.

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES

HAVE YOU CHANGED ADDRESS? – Notify directly to the National Membership Office on
Ph: 0499 892 320 Fax: (03) 9870-1173/E-mail: natmem@austdeer.asn.au



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Next meeting: Thursday 17 October

Guest Speakers: Robb and Judith McArthur, Game Licencing Unit, Queanbeyan.

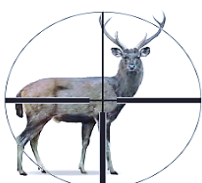
Robb and Judith will present to us on the recent changes to game regulations in NSW, the substantial new areas of state forest that are now available for booking, as well as a refresher on the role of the GLU and the R-Licence system.

Xmas Shoot: Saturday 30 November, Canberra International Clay Target Club. 9.00 am to 1.00 pm.

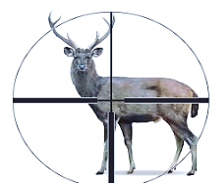
Club guns for hire and ammunition on sale. BBQ lunch of venison sausages will be provided.

Draft Branch Calendar 2020

Date	Event
Thursday 20 February	Branch meeting - Key Note Speaker:
Thursday 20 March	Executive meeting
Thursday 16 April	Branch meeting – Guest speaker:
Thursday 21 May	Executive meeting
Thursday 18 June	Branch meeting – Guest speaker:
Thursday 16 July	Executive meeting
Thursday 20 August	Branch meeting – Guest speaker:
Thursday 17 September	Executive meeting
Thursday 15 October	Branch meeting – Guest speaker:
Thursday 19 November	Executive meeting
Saturday 28 November	Xmas shoot – Canberra International Clay Target Club (TBC)



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Branch News

A Word from the President

It's October already and another deer season is almost over. I do note that the regulations in NSW and Victoria allow hunting of most deer species beyond the end of October, but I tend to associate hunting with the colder weather; first light is not too early, walking is invigorating and the meat chills quickly.

October 17th is our last branch meeting for the year. I am pleased that Robb and Judith McArthur are available to speak to us about the changes to regulations in NSW and also the inclusion of large new areas of state forest in the list of huntable public land. I'm sure we will all appreciate hearing from them.

There is one more branch event to look forward to before the year is done: our **Christmas shoot** at the Canberra International Clay Target Club. This is always an enjoyable social gathering for members, families and friends. The great guys at the club have a fine record running clay target events for beginners and everyone who wants to have a go hits at least one. We'll have some tasty home-made venison sausages on the BBQ for lunch.

In readiness for next year we have the draft 2020 calendar of branch meetings in this newsletter for you to put in your diaries.

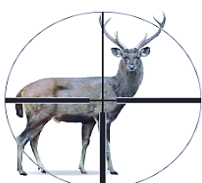
Media interviews

I got a call from Michael Weaver of **The RiotACT** on 26 August to discuss the announcement by Deputy Premier John Barilaro, that NSW is revising the status of deer and removing the requirement for a G licence. His [article](#) appeared on the 27 August and I have to say Michael did a very good job of reflecting my main points from what was a quite a long conversation.

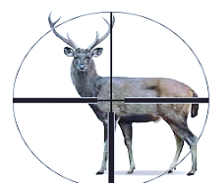
Soon after the RiotACT article appeared I got a call from a producer at **Radio 2CC** asking if I could do a live interview with Chris Mac on Saturday morning, 31 August 2019. I spoke to Barry Howlet who was pleased with what appeared in the RiotACT and he gave me a couple of pointers for the radio interview, particularly the fact that the G-Licence holder had public liability insurance, a risk which is now on the landholder.

I was a bit nervous but I think it went quite well, although I haven't seen a transcript or heard a podcast. The main points I tried to get across were:

- The changes in NSW are minor and not likely to assist drought-stressed farmers. Farmers and graziers were not subject to the licencing laws anyway, and if they wanted hunters to help I doubt that the G licence was a limiting factor.
- The G licence was a means to monitor hunting, it was a source of revenue for game management and it gave licence holders public liability insurance.
- The changes avoid the main issue which is the large concentrations of unmanaged deer on crown land including national parks. This should be a focus for the government if it wants to help primary producers affected by deer.
- I dislike inflated, panicky language about wild deer. The problems are acute in a few places but over much of their range the impacts of wild deer are minor or negligible. The situation we have now has resulted from



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decades of neglect and mismanagement of deer, especially on public land. Effective management of deer should be a sober, methodical exercise requiring expertise, wise policy, time and patience.

- We would like to see the NSW government take pride in their work. They have built a top class regulatory framework for managing hunting – the R licence - including a sophisticated system for permitting hunting on public land in a tightly controlled manner. They have great people working on this in the Dept Primary Industry and they have established the Game and Pest Management Advisory Board with eminent experts to give advice.
- We'd like to see them refresh and expand the R licence system, put to one side the noisy activists in Sydney, and work for people in the country where the problems lie.
- We say you can craft more inclusive and balanced policy if deer are classed as game, rather than vermin. It allows society to capture the benefits of wild deer and it does not prevent taking robust control measures where that is necessary. The pest classification tends to lower the value of wild deer for no practical purpose.
- Hunting in NSW is worth many millions of dollars, a lot of it spent in small towns and villages in places where other tourists don't go. There are also recreational, cultural and social benefits - friends and families getting together outdoors and associations between city and country folk. The government has built the capacity to grasp the benefits and to deal with the damage caused by wild deer; they need to make sure they don't throw out the baby with the bathwater.

Vaccinations for Deer Hunters

Q-fever is a bacterial infection that can be contracted from domestic and wild animals including deer. According to www.qfeverfacts.com.au at least 50% of infections result in no symptoms. Those who do get symptoms can suffer fever, chills, headaches, nausea, diarrhoea, pneumonia, blurred vision and more. The disease can also progress to a chronic phase with fatigue, heart and lung disorders and lesions on the skeleton and soft tissues lasting many months. Vaccination is recommended for farm and abattoir workers, veterinarians, wildlife carers and kangaroo shooters.

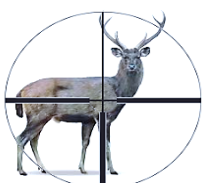
I asked my doctor about it and was referred to Dr Bethan McDonald at the Travel Doctor, Childers Lane in Canberra City. The process required, firstly, blood and skin tests to see if I had been exposed in the past and was therefore already immune. It is quite dangerous apparently to have the Q-fever vaccine if your immune system is already primed to react to the bacterium.

My next appointment was exactly one week later where I found I was not immune and therefore I was given the vaccine. My details were placed in a national Q-fever database to ensure I am never given the vaccine again.

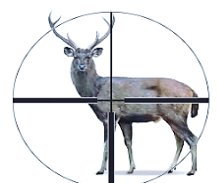
Dr McDonald recommended that I also get a booster for tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough, so I went home with two slightly sore shoulders. I had nothing more than a mild ache at the site of the Q-vax injection for a few days afterwards.

The cost after medicare refunds came to \$380, including \$50 for the tetanus booster. Not cheap but I think a worthwhile outlay to protect my health. Dr McDonald said our immune system loses some vigour as we get older so giving it a tune up is wise, especially for those of us given to tramping the bush with a bag of fresh venison or a trophy cape slung over our backs.

David Carter



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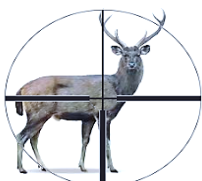
Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report ADA ACT & Southern Regions September 2019 Executive Meeting (Out of Session)

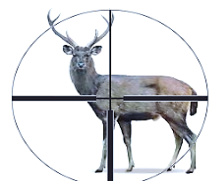
Bank Accounts - Financial Position

ADA ACT & Southern Regions has \$10,783.68 in funds as at 31 August 2019. Whilst we have a reasonable cash balance the Branch needs to become self-sufficient through fund raising activities (as the Branch is no longer receiving disbursements from National). To date in the 2019-20 Financial Year we have only raised \$214.43.

Opening Balance as at 1 August 2019		
Petty Cash	\$58.43	
Westpac - ACT - WORKING ACCOUNT	\$10,634.38	
Westpac - ACT - CASH RESERVE ACCOUNT	\$0.00	\$10,692.81
Add Deposits		
Interest Received	\$0.87	
Voluntary Branch Membership	\$20.00	
Donations	\$70.00	\$90.87
Less Payments		
Nil	\$0.00	\$0.00
Closing Balance as at 31 August 2019		<u>\$10,783.68</u>
Represented by		
Petty Cash	\$58.43	
Westpac - ACT - WORKING ACCOUNT	\$10,725.25	
Westpac - ACT - CASH RESERVE ACCOUNT	\$0.00	<u>\$10,783.68</u>



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2019-2020 - Fund Raising Proceeds	Revenue	Cost	Net Proceeds
Donations	\$150.00		\$150.00
Branch Membership (Voluntary \$20)	\$40.00		\$40.00
R Licence	\$20.00		\$20.00
Key Note Door Entry			\$0.00
Target Sales			\$0.00
Interest Proceeds	\$4.43		\$4.43
Raffle Proceeds			\$0.00
Total	\$214.43	\$0.00	\$214.43

KEY NOTES

- **National Reporting Obligations** - ACT & Southern Regions Branch 1st Quarter 2020 Financial Compliance obligations from Cash Book Complete was provided to ADA National on 12 August 2019.
- **Gross Fund raising proceeds** - for the 2019-2020 Financial Year are \$214.43.
- **Budget for 2019-20** - The following Budget was endorsed by the Executive for the 2019-20 financial year on the 18 July 2019.

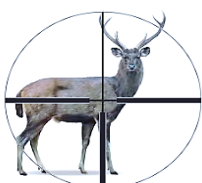
2019-2020 Budgets	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Key Note Speaker	\$600.00		\$600.00
Range Days	\$300.00		\$300.00
Trophy Awards	\$400.00		\$400.00
Total	\$1,300.00	\$0.00	\$1,300.00

- **Bank Accounts Operational** – David Carter is a registered as a signatory to operate Westpac on-line. Luke Smee is still not registered as a signatory.

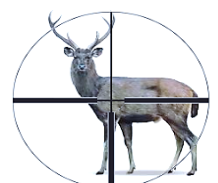
Please note:

NSW R-Licence Testing

Please contact our accredited training officer, Russell Stephenson: russell.stephenson@hotmail.com



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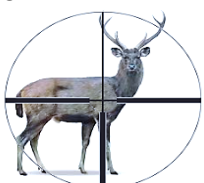
Latest news from Tough Gear Hunting Supplies

Andrew Paddison

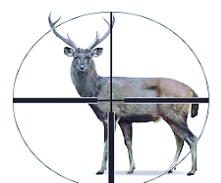
Reminder: Tough Gear Hunting Supplies is an ongoing financial supporter of our ADA branch and you can show your appreciation by shopping with them!



Tough Gear Hunting Supplies are very proud and excited to announce that we can now provide the full range of Nightforce rifle scopes, rings and hardware. Long associated with high end precision optics catering to military and law enforcement demands, these Australian owned and designed scopes really are world class. With an ever expanding range of models, Nightforce manufacture scopes that are also well suited to a variety of hunting applications. Having just returned from a two day training course in Adelaide with the specialists from Nightforce I can report that I'm extremely impressed with the ruggedness, quality of manufacture, design features and wide range of options across the entire product line up. Don't discount the idea of using a first focal plane scope for



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hunting applications either, there are definitely advantages to them. I love the 15-55x competition model and rings I've been using on my custom 6BR and I can tell you the next scope I purchase will definitely be a Nightforce, check out the range via: www.nightforceoptics.com and if you need any further advice come and see me. We'll have a product display with some of the scope models in store shortly.

You can now keep up to date with us via our web site: www.toughgear.com.au and like us on Facebook for regular updates and notifications.

An introduction to the 9.3x62mm.

Rob Butterworth

The 9.3x62 is a popular choice for sambar hunters looking for a round that has more "authority". The 9.3x62 is a substantial step up in projectile weight and recoil from the 'standard' .270 Winchester, .308 Winchester, .30-06 Springfield cartridges.

The hunter's interest is typically provoked by a failure to recover an animal that escaped after being shot with one of the "standard" cartridges. Greater certainty is sought in something bigger. At this point there are two directions to take: something faster like the .300 Winchester Magnum or a substantial increase in projectile weight like the 9.3. Both produce similar energy figures.

The 9.3x62 is offered by many rifle manufacturers such as Blaser, Merkel, Sako, Tikka, Sauer, CZ and Ruger No 1. Most large gun shops will have second hand examples.

Projectiles are typically 250-300 grain and energy figures typically 3500 to just under 4000 foot pounds.

Case dimensions

The 9.3 case is not very different to the .30-06 case (but they are not related).

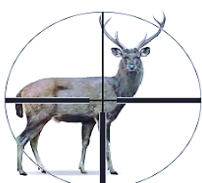
	9.3x62mm	.30-06
Base diameter	.476 inches	.471 inches
Rim diameter	.470 inches	.473 inches
Length	2.441 inches	2.494 inches
Bullet diameter	.366 inches	.308 inches
Twist	1:14	1:10
Case volume	78.2 grains of water	68 grains of water
Typical projectile	250 grains	180 grains
Max pressure (CIP)	56,565 lbs per square inch	58,740 lbs per square inch

Source: Wikipedia

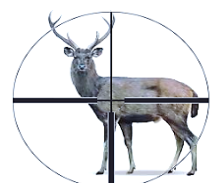
In summary, the 9.3 case is 15 percent larger in volume which provides the means to drive a notional 39 percent increase in projectile weight, at a slower speed than the .30-06.

The 9.3 is a substantial step up in projectile weight and recoil from the 'standard' .270, .308, .30-06 cartridges. Velocities are generally lower; reflecting its age (and hence the population of older rifles) and the lower pressures of the 9.3x62.

Felt recoil



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With a substantial increase in projectile weight from the standard calibres the increase in recoil of the 9.3x62 is considerable.

	Energy (foot pounds)	Velocity (feet per second)
.30-06 (180@2700)	20.3	12.8
9.3x62 (250 @2450)	25.7	14

Source: Chuck Hawks rifle recoil page.

Users report that the recoil from a 9.3 is a push rather than a punch. However, some care is required when firing in prone positions to avoid eyebrow injury from the scope.

In the field felt recoil is less apparent with standing shots at moving game. A lighter hold will also allow the barrel to jump and reduce felt recoil.

An increase in rifle weight can also help reduce felt recoil. Some suggest that the Sako and Tikka examples are on the light side for this cartridge. A safari weight barrel could make a big difference to felt recoil if you don't mind carrying it.

Factory ammunition

Australian gun shops offer a range of 9.3x62 ammunition. The Safari Firearms website lists Hornady, Lapau, Geco and RWS; Horsley Park: Hornady, Geco, Prvi, Sako, Sellier and Bellot and Winchester. Within this range there should be scope to find a factory round your rifle likes.

These brands should be readily sourced locally through Tough Gear.

286 grains is the most popular projectile weight in factory ammunition. There is less choice in lighter projectiles.

Reloading

Horsley Park and Safari Firearms both stock 9.3 Lapua Brass.

There is a small range of projectiles available for the reloader. Norma Oryx and Alaska are popular with European moose hunters. Woodleigh offers Weldcore SP's from 250 to 320 grains.

The general advice is to choose a soft bullet to ensure expansion. Going for a "light" projectile and driving it faster is one way to get this.

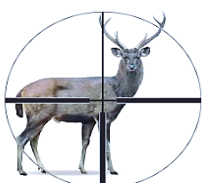
Some "authorities" suggest that the reloader needs to take special care with resizing. The case has a small, shallow shoulder to headspace against.

Nathan Foster suggests fast burning powders such as ADI 2206H for lighter projectiles and medium burn rate powders such as ADI AR2208 for 285 grain projectiles.

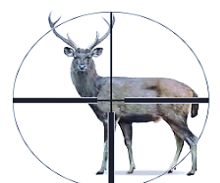
Russell Stephenson has provided the following data as a guide on the cost of reloading for the 9.3.

Reloading costs

	Brand	Dollars per round
Brass	Lapua (\$2 per case for five uses)	0.40
Primer	Federal	0.07



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Powder	ADI AR2208	0.43
Projectile	Woodleigh PPSN 286 grain	1.24
Total		2.14

Russell's 9.3x62mm has been put to good use knocking over a few sambar in Victoria and at least one unlucky fallow that took the option jumping and moving left to right in front during an evening walk looking for a sambar.



Similar cartridges

There is very little ballistic difference between the .35 Whelen and the 9.3x62. Sako offers a 9.3x66 which takes energy levels close to the 375 H&H.

The .35 Rem Mag is also a close alternative. The .375 H&H is a further substantial step up from the 9.3x62.

The .300 Win Mag is close in terms of energy but a different philosophy.

Effectiveness

The 9.3 is more than adequate for Sambar; it could also double as a water buffalo rifle.

Kevin Robertson in "The Perfect Shot" says that the 9.3x62 is adequate for Cape Buffalo if used properly and sensibly. He says many PH's would prefer clients to use something like the 9.3 in preference to a larger calibre

they are not comfortable shooting.

Bullet trajectories are more than adequate for typical deer hunting ranges. A 3-inch MPBR holds to around 250 yards.

According to Nathan Foster the parameter to watch is velocity to ensure that projectiles give adequate expansion on relatively light game like deer. Velocities of 1800 fps are said to be adequate and heavier projectiles can fall below this speed inside 300 yards.

Further reading

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/9.3%C3%9762mm>

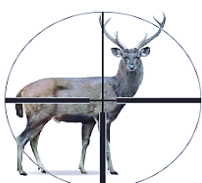
<https://www.ballisticstudies.com/Knowledgebase/9.3x62.html>

Cartridges of the World, Frank C. Barnes 10th edition, page 420.

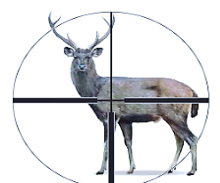
Kevin Robertson, "The Perfect Shot", Safari Press, 1999.

An introduction to the 6.5x55 Swedish

Rob Butterworth



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The 6.5x55 was developed well over 100 years ago as a military cartridge but has a keen following as a hunting round for smaller deer. It offers low recoil and adequate power out to nearly 300 yards and a 3 inch Maximum Point Blank Range to around 260 yards. The long thin projectiles have excellent sectional density, low wind drift, and good penetration on game.

The cartridge has long been a favourite of long-range target competitors for its accuracy. This popularity has been reflected in more recent interest in the calibre and the development of the 6.5 Creedmoor.

The 6.5x55 is offered by many rifle manufacturers such as Blaser, CZ, Sauer, Steyr, Mauser, Sako, Tikka, and Howa.

Unfortunately, the 6.5x55's utility in Australia, as a deer cartridge, is restricted because it is not legal for hunting Sambar deer in Victoria. For this reason it is often the "smaller rifle" in a two rifle deer battery and its use confined to fallow deer. It excels in this role mainly due to adequate power and its low recoil which contributes to more accurate shot placement.

The typical 140 grain projectile at 2600 fps produces about 2100 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle.

Case dimensions

The 6.5x55 case is not very different to the .270W case.

	6.5x55	.270W
Base diameter	.480 inches	.470
Rim diameter	.480 inches	.473 inches
Length	3.150 inches	3.340 inches
Bullet diameter	.264 inches	.277 inches
Twist	1:8.66	1:10
Case volume	57.8 grains of water	67 grains of water
Typical projectile	140 grains	130 grains
Max pressure (CIP)	55,100 lbs per square inch	65,000 lbs per square inch

Source: Wikipedia

In summary, the 6.5x55 case has a 14 percent lesser volume, operates at lower pressure and delivers 14 percent lower muzzle velocity than the .270W.

The 6.5x55 is a substantial step down in recoil from the 'standard' .270W, .308W, .30-06 cartridges.

Felt recoil

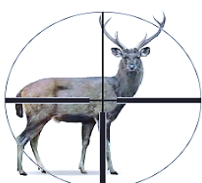
With lower pressures and lower velocity, recoil is modest and manageable for most shooters. It also lacks the intrusive muzzle blast of the .270W.

	Energy (foot pounds)	Velocity (feet per second)
.270 W (130@3060)	16	11.4
6.5x55 (140@2650)	12.5	10

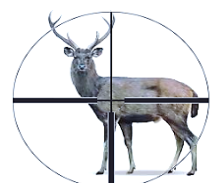
Source: Chuck Hawks rifle recoil page and Winchester website (low recoil loads for deer)

The 6.5x55 would be a good choice for a light, classic centrefire like a break action Blaser K95.

Factory ammunition



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Major Australian gun shops usually stock a good range of 6.5x55 factory ammunition. For example, the Safari firearms website lists factory loads from Federal, Hornady, Lapua, PPU, RWS and Sellier and Bellot. The 140 grain projectile dominates factory offerings but Lapua in particular offers a range of projectile weights.

Reloading

The 6.5x55 is a rewarding cartridge for hand loaders.

The cartridge is said to be inherently accurate. This reputation is probably based the original Mauser action earlier rifles were built upon, the low recoil, flat trajectory, and low wind drift.

Brass is readily available; the case stands up well to repeated loadings; it accepts a range of slow to medium slow powders; and there are a wide range of projectile weights and designs to choose from.

Moreover, some factory loads are kept to low pressures to accommodate the stock of older rifles still in use. With care, and in modern rifles, pressures can be increased to improve performance. That said, some ammunition manufacturers produce higher velocity rounds specifically for use in modern rifles. For example, Hornady sells a Superformance SST round that achieves an (advertised) 2735 fps at the muzzle. Lapua brass is readily available. It sells for around \$1.70 per case.

There is also a wide range of projectiles from Hornady, Nosler, Sierra, Barnes and Woodleigh. Nathan Foster suggests slow to medium slow powders such as ADI 2209 and ADI 2213sc.

Similar cartridges

There are two other 6.5mm cartridges that have similar performance to the 6.5x55:

- The 6.5 Creedmoor
- The .260 Remington.

Both are based on the .308W case which allows them to be chambered in a shorter and stiffer action than the 6.5x55. (Stiffer actions are said to be conducive to accuracy.)

The 6.5 Creedmoor is very popular with long range metallic silhouette shooters. It features a lower case capacity than the 6.5x55 but it is loaded to higher pressures.

Despite the small differences there is very little difference in the recoil and ballistic performance of these three cartridges.

Hunters looking for a lower recoiling "Fallow rifle" may also consider the .243W. The limitations with this choice are lower down range energy delivery and an increase in muzzle blast. According to some authorities the .243W runs out of enough energy to reliably kill deer at around 200 yards whereas the 6.5s have sufficient energy to around 300. 200 yards is a long shot.

In the other direction there are the 7mms: 7mm-08 and the 7x57 which are a step up in calibre at the cost of a little more recoil. Both these cartridges however are legal for Sambar in Victoria.

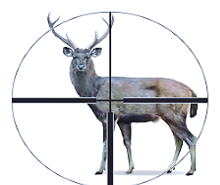
Effectiveness

The 6.5x55 is more than adequate for Fallow deer at normal stalking ranges.

The 140 grain projectile is probably the best choice for general hunting and carries enough energy for shots out to at least 260 yards.



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According to Nathan Foster the limitation is the tendency for the long thin projectile to sometimes fail to open-up when met with little resistance or at long range. The result can be a clean pass through the chest and an animal that runs a long way before succumbing.

The solution is to carefully place shots in the high shoulder to damage the spine (directly or indirectly by bone fragments) and to use projectiles that expand reliably. Round nose soft points would be a good choice for general deer hunting. Traditional cup and core designs like the Remington Coreloks also perform well, as does the Hornady SST.

Sources and further reading

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/6.5%C3%9755mm_Swedish

<https://www.ballisticstudies.com/Knowledgebase/6.5x55.html>

Cartridges of the World, Frank C. Barnes 10th edition, page 35.

Field experience

Tom Penders has been using a 6.5x55 for the last few years and makes the following comments:



Fallow deer can be successfully hunted with any number of cartridges. Most of my fallow deer hunting is in open farm country picking up animals moving in or out of the bush edge on first and last light. This type of country provides an opportunity for shots at undisturbed animals within 200 metres. Having taken fallow with: .222, .243, .308, .3006, .300 Win Mag and 35 Whelan I was looking for a fallow cartridge that would kill well at up to 250m and be pleasant to shoot. As a side note, I will say that the .222 is not really a great fallow cartridge for the way I hunt as the occasional animal will run a distance even with good bullet placement.

Picture above is meat from a fallow spiker taken just on dark with the 6.5x55 hanging on a 'repurposed' swing set installed at a regular camp by Bob Stott.

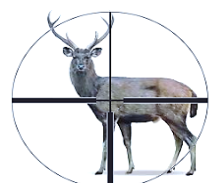
I picked up my 6.5x55 two years ago and it has been an excellent rifle/cartridge. It is a nice quality rifle with an excellent scope. There is no doubt that is on the heavy side. While I haven't kept an exact count, I figure that it has taken: two large bodied Chital stags; half a dozen Fallow does, bucks and spikers; and one medium size boar. The longest shot was one of the Chital stags at 260 yards (measured on a rangefinder) and it was a very satisfying 'bang-drop'. I have had no losses but two animals did travel approximately 35 meters and one required a second shot. Of course, suitable projectiles and bullet placement are as always critical.

To get some brass for my 6.5x55 I bought some old stock of Remington 140 grain Coreloks at one of our local gun shops. These were accurate and produced 3 shot groups that I would consider perfectly acceptable for hunting i.e. 25mm at a 100m. My reloads have given better accuracy and fast kills without a lot of meat damage – I have even managed to recover a shoulder or two! I am using AR2209 and Hornady 143 grain ELD-X. These projectiles are long and thin, they penetrate well and the recovered projectiles (see picture) appear to have expanded quickly at the front end. When sighted in 40mm high at 100m they are pretty much spot on at 200m making it a suitable setup for 250m shots on Fallow deer.

I would be happy using this 6.5x55 again on Chital deer. If hunting good country, without the pressure of time constraints and therefore having to take more marginal shots I would be comfortable using it on red and rusa deer. If the opportunity arises to hunt hog deer stags I will be taking this 6.5x55.



ACTIVELY IDENTIFY YOUR TARGET





Home brew: Deer saltlick

Graham Turner

I got this idea from an ad in an American hunting magazine. I looked up the product on the internet, which gave a description of the ingredients and how to use it.

It was full of all sorts of minerals and trace elements but the bulk of it was salt, sugar and something with a smell that would attract the deer. This is the recipe I came up with;

Ingredients

- 4 kg cooking salt
- 4 packets of raspberry or strawberry jelly crystals
- 1kg bi-carb soda
- ½ kg brown sugar

Exact measurements aren't important.

Mix all the ingredients together in a bucket or large tub. I put the mix into empty 2L juice bottles so it would not spill when carried in a backpack, (make sure the bottles are dry or the mix will cake hard in the bottles). These measurements made enough mix to fill three 2L containers.

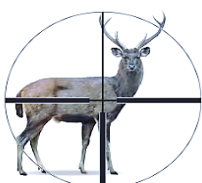
The dry mixture is poured onto and around a half rotten stump or log. The brown sugar and jelly gives off a strong, sweet smell, which I could smell from at least ten metres away in the breeze, so I could only guess how far a deer could detect it from.

When the mixture gets wet, (if it ever rains), it dissolves and is absorbed into the soft rotten wood which the deer will chew on.

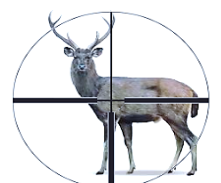
To see continued results, I believe every 3 months approx. half the original amount of the mixture should be reapplied to the log. If you were real keen you could add calcium carbonate powder to promote antler growth.



Kangaroos turned up 4hrs after the salt was put down



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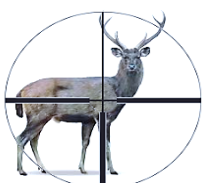
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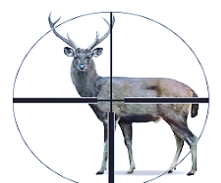
This fox turned up every couple of days for a sniff around.

First deer turned up 4 days after the salt lick was put down. From then they were like seagulls on a chip.

Deer visited the salt nearly every day for the 6 weeks I had the camera set. They were there any time between 4.00 PM and 8.00 AM, sometimes staying for up to 45 minutes.



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Branch Trophy Competition

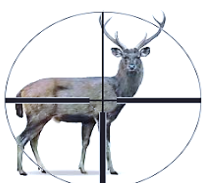


GET YOUR HEADS MEASURED FOR 2019 - Must be received by the Branch Measurer no later than 31 December 2019.

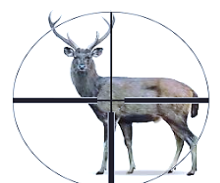
Branch members are encouraged to submit their heads shot in 2019 for scoring as they will be automatically entered into our Branch Trophy Competition. The score sheet for all heads shot in 2019 must be received by the Branch Measurer no later than 31 December 2019 to be included in the Branch Trophy Register or to be eligible for our Branch Trophy Competition (note both unmounted and mounted heads will be accepted for scoring into the Branch Competition).

How our Trophy Competition Works

Note our Branch Trophy Competition has three tiers.



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- **Tier 1 – Annual Trophies:** The first tier is for the highest Douglas Score relating to Fallow Bucks, Sambar or Red Stags shot in 2019.
- **Tier 2 – Top Heads:** The second tier is for exceptional heads in any of the six deer species that are either a new Branch Record or a score that would rank within the National Top 50 heads. The current scores required to receive a Top Head Trophy are identified in the table below:

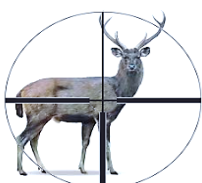
Deer Species	Douglas Score Required for 2017
Fallow	242 1/2
Red	279 5/8
Sambar	205 7/8
Rusa	235 1/8
Chital	173 3/8
Hog	101 7/8

- **Tier 3 – Master Hunter:** The third tier is for a branch member that achieves an exceptional heads (Top Heads in all of the six deer species that are either a new Branch Record or a score that would rank within the National Top 50 heads. This accolade is yet to be achieved by any member.

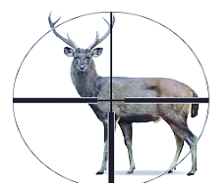
Heads may be taken to our bi-monthly general branch meeting for collection and subsequent scoring. The heads will be subsequently measured at accredited measures homes and will be returned at the next general meeting (or earlier through negotiated arrangements). Non-Branch members will incur a \$20 administration fee. To make a reservation contact:

Trevor Vivian
Branch Measurer
Phone: 0418 248 063
E-mail: act.treas@austdeer.asn.au

For a head to be included in the National Trophy Register and the National Trophy Competition it must not be mounted and must be scored at least 60 days after it was shot to allow for the antlers to dry out.



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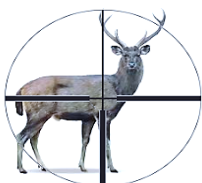
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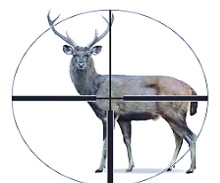
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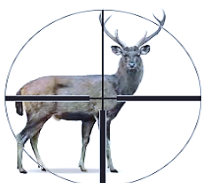
Ph: 6254 6878

13 Denny Street Latham ACT 2615

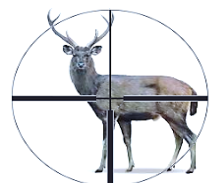
Email: jimsleather@grapevine.com.au

I have had the occasion to visit Jim's Leather Craft in Latham and found that the work he did for me was excellent.

If you need a knife sheath, a sling, a purpose built dog lead or some repairs done it is well worth putting you work to supporting a local business.



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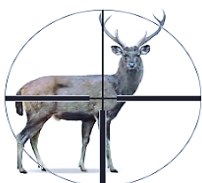
Stone-Free International - John Bladen ACT-FDL N0001802D,

jb.stonefree@bigpond.com , Ph; 0427 257 338.

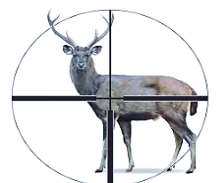
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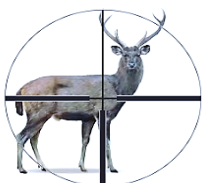


Contact: Geoff Woodbury
Mobile 0437 550 161

Email Geoff.woodbury@telcomail.com.au

Advertising Space Available

Contact Tom Penders
tcpenders@gmail.com



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