

Pedersoli's record-breaking rifles

The successes enjoyed by the Davide Pedersoli brand in competition shooting have made it a focal point for the demanding shooter. There are many excellent rifles to choose from...

By A WICKS AND G TANSELLA

One of Davide Pedersoli's most important achievements is producing firearms of outstanding quality – whatever the price, the attention to quality is the same.

Having said that, there are models of both rifles and handguns that are truly exceptional.

If we briefly exclude the famous and true king of long-range shooting, the Gibbs, the firm believes there are three rifles which, in their own particular field, are equally as good: the Bristlen A Morges, a modified version of the Mortimer and the 1857 Württembergischen.

The top three

The Pedersoli Bristlen A Morges is a replica of the famous Swiss sporting rifle made by Marc Samuel Bristlen in 1845 in his workshop in Morges. It is a rifle that was designed specifically for shooting standing up at targets placed 50 metres away.

The main characteristics are its imposing size and the intricate design, said to be aesthetically very pleasing as well as being the result of a long study in ergonomics.

The result is a large stock with a skeletal metal-framed butt stock to better lock onto the shoulder, as well as a palm rest knob in front of the trigger guard, both designed to increase stability.



Pierangelo Pedersoli (right) with German shooter Walter Massing, who has had great success with his Bristlen A Morges rifle.

There is also a two-stage set trigger and excellent Creedmoor sights.

The 1857 Württembergischen is very different in design as well as its intended use; it is a faithful reproduction (markedly safer) of the service rifle in use before German unification.

This particular model was designed and built following a request for a number of these in 1998 by the famous German arms manufacturer Mauser, based in Oberndorf.

It is not an extravagant design but great attention has been paid to the fine details.

The rear sight is of the sliding variety, which can be adjusted for

both elevation and windage.

The trigger pull is fairly light at just under 3lb and the 39½in-long barrel makes it ideal for 100m target shooting competitions.

The Mortimer Whitworth, with its 45-calibre cartridge, puts it in between the two aforementioned rifles and could be seen as a type of hybrid. However, it is an excellent rifle in its own right and was originally made by one of the most famous gunsmith families in England, who could also boast of a Royal warrant of appointment.

This rifle is one of the finest in the Davide Pedersoli catalogue and combines superb

manufacturing quality with a very elegant and almost slender design with second-to-none finishing.

All three rifles are very popular in the international-competition-shooting community and will once again be present at the forthcoming 26th Muzzle Loading World Championship in Granada (Spain) this coming October. GTW



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