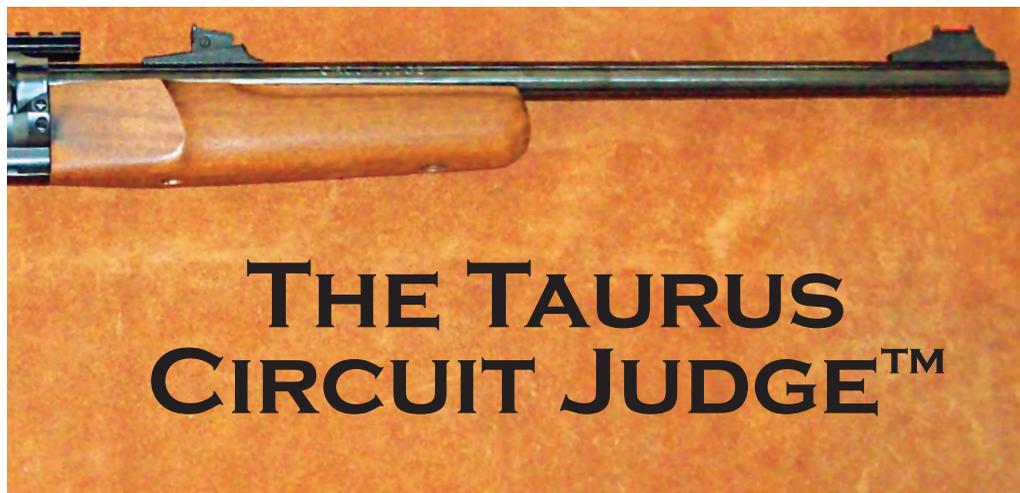


THE BENCH ¹¹



THE TAURUS CIRCUIT JUDGE™

rounds of Winchester SuperX 255-grain lead round nose. The adjustable fiber optic sights, green in the rear and red at the front, were bright and clear, even on this gray, cloudy day. The first group was about 1-1/2" which I thought was pretty decent. I fired several more groups, which varied between 1-1/8" and 1-1/4". The trigger pull was a smooth five pounds, single-action, and (I'd guess) about 10 pounds, double-action. I was glad to see that there was no problem with nasty stuff spitting out from the cylinder; the deflector shields worked like a charm.

I switched to the shotshell choke tube and loaded the Circuit Judge with five rounds of Winchester's PDX1 personal defense .410 shotshells. These are stuffed with three plated cylindrical projectiles, followed by twelve plated BBs. Even at 20 yards, they make an impressive mess. The entire 11"x17" EZ2C™ target was evenly covered with holes. Recoil was negligible and, once again, there was no discernable gas spitting. I tried out some more shotshells: 3" Federals with

#6 shot, and 2-1/2" Winchesters with #4 shot. Both patterned well, and were pleasant to shoot.

The Circuit Judge comes equipped with some thoughtful extras: a scope mount, a hammer extension for use with a scope, a pull-through cleaning brush, a pair of keys for the Taurus "Security System" in the hammer, and an orange chamber plug to reduce the cylinder to a three-round capacity where game laws require it. The Owner's Manual is one of the best I've seen; in addition to having the necessary information, it's a good read.

All in all, I was quite impressed with the Circuit Judge. It's versatile, accurate and lots of fun to shoot. MSRP is in the \$600 range, but the gun show prices have been less. Even my Judge-averse friend

had to admit; it shoots a darn tight group!

Note: The Circuit Judge is marked "Taurus." The box it comes in, and the Owner's manual, are both marked "Rossi." They are both the same corporation, and more information can be found at www.rossiusa.com.

