

# FABARM AXIS RS 12 QRR

A REVIEW BY NICK SISLEY

**This Fabarm QRR (Quick Release Rib) over and under is based on the existing Axis RS 12.**

It's a versatile over and under that can be used for any discipline – trap, sporting clays, skeet or FITASC. It's the perfect option for shooters who do not need a gun dedicated to one discipline – such as youth shooters.

The QRR comes with two ribs – obviously very easy to change. One rib is labeled 50/50 and the second rib, packed in the gun's Negri case, is labeled 65/35.

To change ribs, simply knock out the round pin near the rib's rear portion. Slide the rib forward to remove it. To replace the rib, place the cutouts in the bottom of the rib

into their proper place on the top barrel. Slide the rib rearward until the hole on the rib matches up with the proper hole at the top rear of the barrel. Tap the pin back into place. If this procedure sounds complicated, it's not.

To regulate the gun to shoot exactly where you want, the QRR comes with an adjustable comb. It is suggested you experiment at the pattern board – with the 65/35 rib attached – then adjust the comb until you have the gun printing exactly where you want. The comb is

adjusted in the normal manner. Loosen two hex-head small bolts on the comb's right side. Move the top comb up or down. With the top comb off, posts under the comb can be moved right and left for any cast adjustment required.

Of further interest, check out the walnut figure on my test gun. Very impressive.



THE QUICK REPLACEABLE RIB (QRR) SET UP FOR TRAP PRINTING PATTERNS OF 65/35.



THE TRIWOOD™ STOCK FINISH COMES OUT LOOKING VERY SPECIAL. NOTE THE ADJUSTABLE COMB ON THIS TEST GUN.

That's because this is Triwood™, a 'dipped' finish that adds so much wood figure. As a rule, no Triwood stocks look the same. The finish is hand-rubbed oil.

The laser-cut checkering is at 24 lines-to-the-inch and is of excellent quality – no overruns and no sharp tops, so you can shoot with or without gloves. There is a right palm swell on my test gun. Left hand stocks are available for an additional \$123.

The recoil pad is soft when thumb pressed (3/4 inches wide), separated from the stock with a black spacer. The pistol grip is tight – so popular these days on clay target guns. The gold-plated trigger can be moved

back and forth. On my Lyman Digital Trigger-Pull Scale the trigger went off at 3 pounds – so very light and with minimal creep.

The QRR receiver is more black than blue and slightly differing in shape compared to many O/U



THE SOMEWHAT UNUSUALLY SHAPED AXIS QRR RECEIVER.

receivers. There is adequate engraving plus there's 'RS 12' in gold on both receiver sides and 'Axis RS 12' in gold on the receiver bottom. Additional engraving is on the fore-end iron and the top tang.

The 65/35 rib is slightly tapered (.400 near the breech and .350 at the muzzle). There's a small steel mid-bead and a white front-bead. Under the rib there are wide vents. A grooved channel runs down the middle of the rib.



THE QRR FORE-END – WITH LOTS OF INTRICATE CHECKERING.

**SPECIFICATIONS**

<b>ACTION:</b> OVER AND UNDER
<b>GAUGE:</b> 12 GAUGE
<b>WEIGHT:</b> 8 POUNDS 8.5 OUNCES
<b>BARRELS:</b> 32 INCHES
<b>CHOKES:</b> FIVE 4-INCH EXTENDED SCREW CHOKES INCLUDED
<b>STOCK:</b> LOP 14.75 x ADJUSTABLE COMB WITH MONTE CARLO STEP DOWN
<b>SUGGESTED RETAIL:</b> \$4,195
<b>MANUFACTURER/IMPORTER:</b> MANUFACTURED IN ITALY BY FABARM AND IMPORTED BY FABARMUSA IN CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND <a href="http://www.fabarmusa.com">www.fabarmusa.com</a>



GOOD RE-CURVE ON THE QRR PISTOL GRIP AND QUALITY CHECKERING.

Barrels pivot on trunnions. There's a full-width bolt at the bottom of the receiver that moves forward to engage lugs milled into the base of the monobloc. The lock up is enhanced with dual recoil lugs milled into the base of the monobloc. When the action is closed, these recoil lugs marry up with lugs milled into the base of the receiver. This is a very strong locking system.

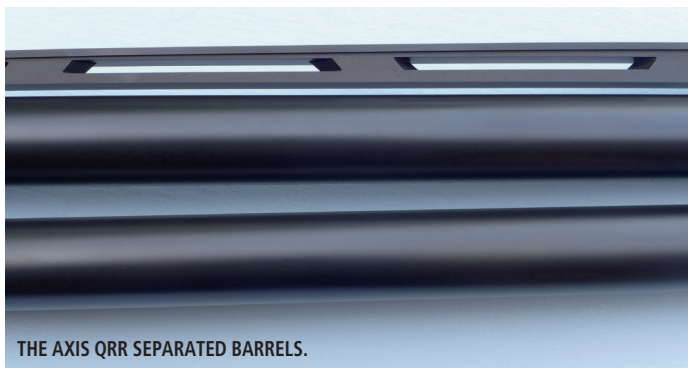
The QRR barrels are separated a la Krieghoff K-80s and others. There's a hanger between the barrels at the muzzle end that can be changed, this to ensure both barrels print at the same place at a specific yardage. Additional interchangeable hangers to make certain both barrels are printing at the same place are planned but not available at this



THE QRR TRIGGER IS ADJUSTABLE BACK AND FORTH.



BARRELS PIVOT ON TRUNNIONS. THE MONOBLOC HAS BEEN WELL GREASED.



**THE AXIS QRR SEPARATED BARRELS.**

writing. Barrels are deeply blued. I see not a ripple, indicating perfect polishing before the bluing process.

Length of pull is 14.75. Drop at comb is suggested at 1.5, but don't forget the comb is adjustable. Warranty is five years.

Five long (4-inch) extended screw chokes are provided – each with lengthy taper and parallel sections. Choke designations are on the extended portion of the choke so no need to remove the chokes to determine which ones you have inserted.



**EXTENDED CHROMED SCREW CHOKES.**

Using my Baker Barrel Reader both barrels measured .737 internally – so well overbored. The chokes included in my test package were Improved Cylinder at .720, Modified at .706, Improved Modified at .700 and the Full went .692 – so these were pretty tight chokes, which most trap shooters prefer.

The 32-inch barrels weighed 3 pounds 6 ounces on my digital postal scale and the fore-end 12.1 ounces. The gun weighed in at 8 pounds 8.5 ounces.

On test, my first visit to the trap range was with Jeff Crane – a long



**JEFF CRANE TESTS THE QRR.**

time local trap shooter of note. He obliterated one target after another at 16 yards. Later he moved back to Handicap yardage, but I didn't see any difference in the breaks. Mostly there was little or nothing left, target after target. When finished, his remark was, "I can't find a thing wrong with this gun Nick – in fact, I really like it."

The next shooting session was with Crane, John Smith and Ray Arch. Arch had recently shot 100 straight with his Krieghoff K-5 so he really knows what he's doing on the trap line. Smith has shot leagues and registered trap for decades. This trio tried the QRR at 16-yard, Handicap and Doubles. There was never a miss step with the gun – and all three spoke very highly of this new model.

Seems many trap shooters tend to continually think about buying a new gun to squeeze out that one additional target per hundred. Now they have a new one to consider – the Fabarm Axis RS 12 QRR. ■