

Larry Lombard's

SMOKEPOLE SECRETS...

Try muzzleloaders for turkey hunting!



When Larry Lombard talks about using a muzzleloading shotgun for turkey hunting, you're well-advised to pay attention. With numerous blackpowder gobblers to his credit, the man knows whereof he speaks. Here's a quick itemization of the pieces/parts that comprise Larry's formula for success:

SHOTGUN: TK 2000, Traditions Pursuit, TC Hunter, White or CVA

CHOKE TUBE: Indian Creek .655 or Pure Gold .655

SCOPE: Nikon Turkey Pro

LOAD: 100 grains FF true black powder or 90 grains Triple Seven
2 oz. #6 shot — copper, Hevi-Shot or TSS (Tungsten Super Shot)

WAD: Ballistic Products Turkey Ranger 3" or Knight 3½"

COVER (overshot) WAD: BPI paper or Knight foam



*BPI Turkey
Ranger wad*

PRIMER: CCI, Winchester or Triple Seven 209, or #11 CCI

SHOT BUFFER: BPI spherical

SOURCES: Ballistic Products, Inc., Cabelas,
Sportsmans Warehouse, Midway USA



PREPARING FOR THE HUNT

Preload shot/buffer and powder in film cans (taped shut) or Speed Loaders. Wads, primers and cover wads are carried in a ZipLock bag. All powder and shot is measured volumetrically (VERY IMPORTANT). Waterproof muzzle by covering it with Scotch tape. Don't worry — it won't affect the shot.

Practice (and adjust) off bench until gun shoots where it is pointed. My guns put 20-30 pellets in three inch circle at 40 yards but if you can consistently get 15-18, you will be successful.

In the field, try to keep your shots under 30 yards. With a muzzleloader you only get one chance, but what a rush when the smoke clears and a 20 pound gobbler with a ten inch beard is laying there!



Muzzleloading expert Larry Lombard has competed at the NWTF Still Target Shoot in the Blackpowder division.

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