

CYNERGY SPORTING

RECENTLY I REVIEWED THE CYNERGY TRAP COMBO FOR OUR SISTER PUBLICATION TRAPSHOOTINGUSA AND WAS IMPRESSED. IT HAD AN AVANT-GARDE RECEIVER WITH CLASSIC SCROLL ENGRAVING AND A CLASSIC STYLED WOOD STOCK.

It might seem counterintuitive to combine a quite modern receiver with classic engraving and classic wood stock, but it's an attractive package.

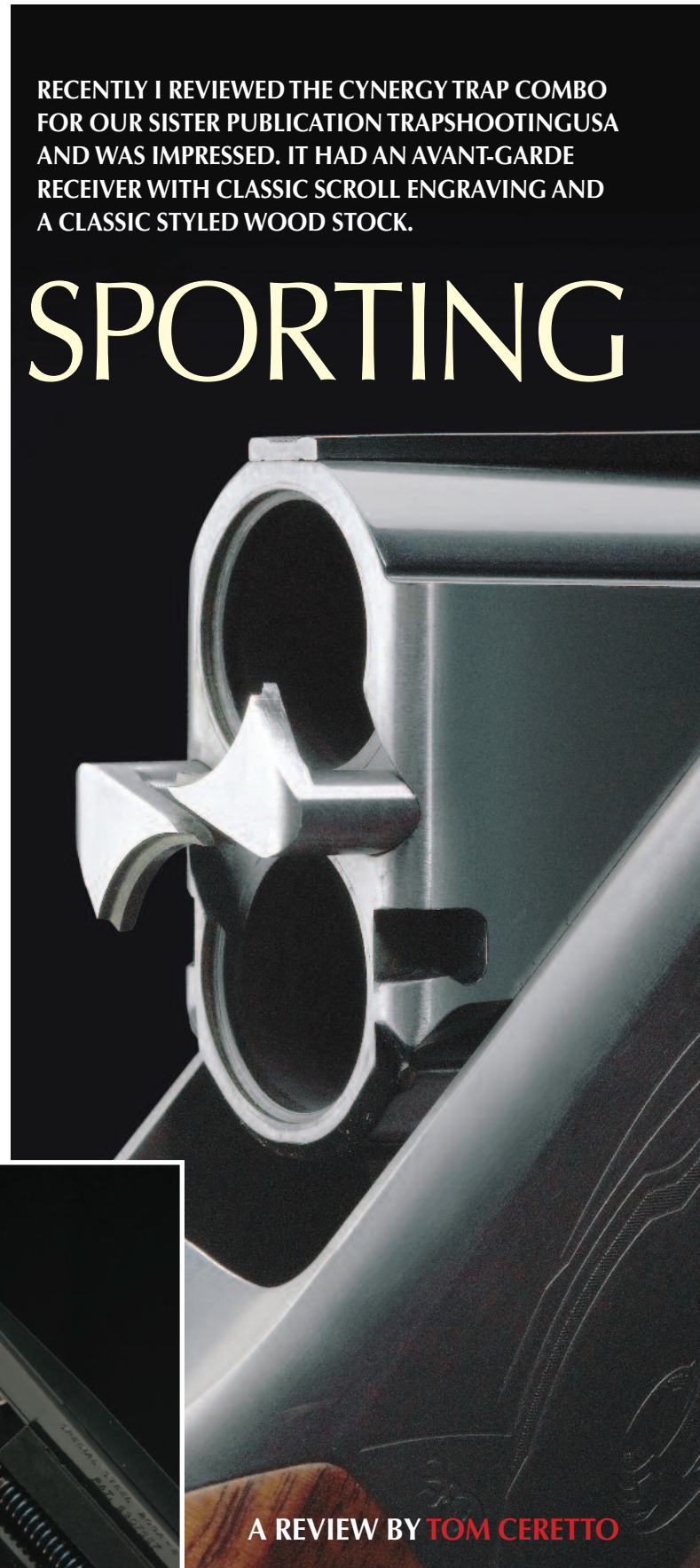
The Cynergy Sporting aesthetics is a variation on the same theme and works as well as the Cynergy Trap Combo – perhaps even better than on the trap gun. Both sides of the receiver have scroll engraving with the Browning Buckmark logo in the center. The bottom of the receiver also has some nice scroll engraving with 'Sporting' in script engraved in the center of the scroll. The modernistic trigger guard sports a gold Buckmark.

The Monolock receiver is a departure from the ageless John Browning Superposed designed in the 1920s. The most unique feature is the Monolock hinge – it does away with the usual Browning hook and pin design. Also absent is the chopper lump with its slot into which a wide bolt engages to lock the receiver to the monobloc. The receiver and monobloc are now secured with a pair of Boss style bolts that engage slots cut into the monobloc at the mid-point of the lower barrel. It allows a much shallower and narrow receiver than any Browning made in the past and is a significant departure from the original John Browning design. The receiver on my demo measured only 1.7 inches wide and 2.4 inches deep.

The silver nitride receiver is CNC machined out of a solid block of steel alloy. It is well executed without a single blemish from a machine tool evident. The Monolock hinge allows a much greater surface to absorb recoil than the old hook and pin design did. This is an important added benefit of the Monolock design that will be appreciated by many.

The barrels on my demo opened and closed smoothly right from the get-go, no grunting and groaning was needed to open and close the shotgun right out of the box. It's just as easy to assemble a Monolock shotgun, as it is to assemble a hook and pin design or a Boss style locking system.

The manual safety hangs from the top strap and contains the barrel selector switch. The safety and selector switch snap positively into position and hold snugly and firmly in the position selected. Left



A REVIEW BY TOM CERETTO



fires the under barrel and right fires the over barrel. The designers did away with the old Browning Superposed style ejectors in favor of a simpler and much neater system contained within the receiver – they work perfectly.

Borrowing their experience with rifles, Browning have designed a mechanical reverse striker system for the Cynergy triggers. It's a very clean and uncomplicated system with quite a fast lock time that all target shooters will appreciate. Trigger pull at 4.9 pounds for the bottom barrel and 5 pounds for the top barrel seemed heavy when I used my trigger pull gauge to measure them, but was not at all onerous when I shot the gun. Three trigger shoes are included for the owner's consideration – a nice touch. The trigger is adjustable fore and aft.

The barrels on my demo were done to a very high standard and were smooth from breech to muzzle. The top rib is very slightly raised and vented. The mid-rib is vented and well executed. My demo came with three Midas Grade chokes that smoked most targets when I shot a round of 5-Stand. I found out why when I

measured them – the skeet measured .008 inches, the improved cylinder .014 inches and the modified .024 inches. All were slightly tighter than the normal dimensions for their indicated constriction, but they performed beautifully. The front bead is fiber optic and the mid-bead is white. They lined up perfectly for me right out of the box and I never touched the adjustable comb.

The Cynergy Sporting comes with grade III/IV wood and the stock contained some nice fiddle-back and was pleasing to the eye. The fore-end has a semi-beavertail cast to it at the back and rounds-out a bit and tapers to the front and ends in a semi-Schnabel. It is a bit odd looking at first and has a slightly different feel to it, but works well. No one that shot it had a problem with it and most didn't even comment about it.

The checkering pattern is different than any other Browning and seemed to go very well with the Cynergy concept of mixing avant-garde and classic. The stock is finished in Browning gloss that filled the pores well. The grip has a competition radius, but is not as tight as some guns I have seen. There was no palm swell on my demo and frankly I didn't miss it.

The checkering offered a good grip with and without gloves. The recoil pad is curved and has a gel filled center section. A shim to lengthen the stock comes with the shotgun. I shot it with $7/8$ s and 1 ounce 1,300fps home loads and factory International 24 and 28-gram loads and recoil was negligible. Some that shot it used $1\frac{1}{8}$ ounce shells and were comfortable with

shooting those heavier loads – no one complained about recoil.

I shot the Cynergy Sporting just as it came out of the box and never looked back. I shot a 48 with it at night on a lit 5-Stand and shot a 49 with it the next day at regular sporting. Neither course was set to competitive standards. I subsequently shot it particularly well on a more competitive course.

I give the management at Browning credit for marketing a gun that while not totally new in concept, is a fresh and bold effort. I applaud them for that and believe the Cynergy with its Monolock hinge and reverse striker triggers will prove to be a success. ■

SPECIFICATIONS

MANUFACTURER:	B. C. MIROKU NANKOKU, JAPAN
IMPORTER:	BROWNING ONE BROWNING PLACE MORGAN, UTAH 84050-9326
MODEL:	CYNERGY SPORTING
MSRP:	\$4309.00
ACTION:	12 GAUGE O/U BOXLOCK WITH MONOLOCK HINGE
TRIGGER:	MECHANICAL REVERSE STRIKER
TRIGGER PULL:	UNDER 4.9 LBS OVER 5.0 LBS
RECEIVER DEPTH:	2.4"
WIDTH:	1.7"
WEIGHT:	8 LBS 9 OZ.
OAL:	48" W/30" BARREL
STOCK:	WALNUT ADJUSTABLE LENGTHENING SHIM INCLUDED
STOCK FINISH:	BROWNING HIGH GLOSS
LOP:	14 $\frac{3}{8}$ " ADJUSTABLE
DROP AT COMB:	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " ADJUSTABLE
DROP AT HEEL:	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
FORE-END:	MODIFIED SCHNABEL
BARRELS:	30 AND 32" AVAILABLE 30" TESTED
FRONT BEAD:	FIBER OPTIC
MID-BEAD:	WHITE
CHOKES:	MIDAS GRADE THREE INCLUDED
CONSTRUCTIONS:	
SKEET:	0.008"
IC:	0.014"
MODIFIED:	0.24"
TOP RIB:	VENTED
MID-RIB:	VENTED
BORE:	0.742"
FORCING CONE:	VECTOR PLUS EXTENDED