

Input On 2 ½-inch 16 Ga. Reloads

By Nick Sisley

Several weeks ago I had a reader write in looking for reloading recipes for his English side by side – a 16 gauge with 2 ½-inch chambers. I'm guessing he thought I would have information on that subject since I had written about my H. Beesley 12 gauge side by side with 2 ½-inch chambers in these pages. While there are a reasonable number of 12 gauge 2 ½-inch reloading recipes available this reader could find nothing on 2 ½-inch 16 gauge reloads. Neither could I. So I contacted Ron Reiber at Hodgdon Powder to see if he had worked up any reloading data on such reloads. He had not, but he offered to do just that.

The reader had told me that he had a good supply of Cheddite 2 ½-inch plastic hulls that he had saved up, so that's the hull Reiber used to work up a pretty impressive list of those 2 ½-inch 16 gauge reloads. This is perhaps the first time reloading recipes have ever been published for 2 ½-inch 16 gauge hulls, so maybe you will see the following recipes in Hodgdon's next reloading annual. The interest in 2 ½-inch reloads stems from the fact that so many English side by sides with the shorter chambers have found their way into our country. By far the 12 gauges predominate, but 16, 20, even 28 gauge English side by sides have been purchased by Americans. Factory-made shells with short chambers are often difficult to find, although they can be ordered through RST Shells made in northeastern Pennsylvania – www.rstshells.com. So check out the following suggested 16 gauge 2 ½-inch reloading recipes from Hodgdon Powders. These are all for 16 gauge 2 ½-inch Cheddite plastic hulls only.

SHOT WT.	POWDER	PRIMER	WAD	POWDER WT. GR.	PRES	VEL
¾ OZ.	CLAYS	CHED. 209	DR 16	15.3	5700	1100
	INTERNATIONAL					
¾ OZ.	CLAYS	CHED. 209	DR 16	15.9	6200	1150
	INTERNATIONAL					
¾ OZ.	CLAYS	CHED. 209	DR 16	16.6	6700	1200
	INTERNATIONAL					
¾ OZ.	CLAYS	NOBEL 209	DR16	15.3	5400	1100
	INTERNATIONAL					
¾ OZ.	CLAYS	NOBEL 209	DR 16	16.2	6000	1150
	INTERNATIONAL					
¾ OZ.	CLAYS	NOBEL 209	DR 16	17.0	6500	1200
	INTERNATIONAL					
¾ OZ.	PB	CHED. 209	DR 16	16.1	5400	1100
¾ OZ.	PB	CHED. 209	DR 16	16.9	6100	1150

¾ OZ.	PB	CHED. 209	DR 16	17.7	6600	1200
¾ OZ.	PB	NOBEL 209	DR 16	17.2	5100	1100
¾ OZ.	PB	NOBEL 209	DR 16	18.0	5600	1150
¾ OZ	PB	NOBEL 209	DR 16	18.7	6000	1200
7/8 OZ.	CLAYS	CHED.209	BP	19.5	7300	1125
	UNIVERSAL	SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	CLAYS	CHED. 209	BP	19.9	7500	1150
	UNIVERSAL	SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	CLAYS	NOBEL 209	BP	19.7	7100	1125
	UNIVERSAL	SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	CLAYS	NOBEL 209	BP	20.1	7300	1150
	UNIVERSAL	SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	7625	CHED. 209	BP	19.6	6400	1125
		SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	7625	CHED. 209	BP	20.1	6800	1150
		SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	7625	CHED. 209	BP	20.6	7200	1175
		SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	7625	NOBEL 209	BP	20.0	6000	1125
		SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	7625	NOBEL 209	BP	20.4	6300	1150
		SPTG16				
7/8 OZ.	7625	NOBEL 209	BP	21	6700	1175
		SPTG16				

In the above examples of the 16 gauge reloading recipes for 2 ½-inch Cheddite hulls, Ched. is the abbreviation for Cheddite 209 primers, the DR 16 gauge wads – the DR is for Down Range, the BPSPTG16 wads are from Ballistics Products, powder weights are given in grains, the next to the last column on the right refers to chamber pressure in pounds per square inch, and the last column on the right refers to the load velocity in feet per second. PB and 7625 are IMR powders – now available through Hodgdon Powder. Hodgdon has many, many reloading recipes on their website – www.hodgdon.com, plus the company produces a new reloading manual every year.

NEW DOVE VEST FROM MOJO OUTDOORS

With only weeks remaining before dove seasons open across most of the USA (a few backward states still will not open dove seasons – much to the delight of dove shooters in nearby states that do have open seasons) it's time to announce that MOJO Outdoors has introduced a new dove vest. MOJO is famous for their spinning wing and other decoys - and is expanding their line of outdoor products – this time with their new MOJO Dove Belt.

Hot weather tends to predominate all across dove country all through September, and this new Dove Belt is designed to keep you cool as nothing drapes over your shoulders – not even shoulder straps. Check the accompanying photos.

Despite the small size of the Dove Belt this clothing item is very well thought out so it is capable of carrying everything you need for any dove venture. There's space for a water bottle, important when the sun is beating down and temps are in the 70s or even hotter in some states. Since MOJO is a dove decoy maker there's also room for your dove decoy, plus its spinning wings, the battery that runs the spinning wings, and a decoy stake. All these go in separate compartments to prevent scratch damage. Of course, there's enough room in the Dove Belt to also carry your limit of doves – and in a blood proof compartment no less. You'll need room for enough shells to bag your limit, so you can bet MOJO has thought of that need. The company has not forgotten specific space for your screw-in chokes either. Yes, this Dove Belt is so very much compartmentalized. Made from heavy duty 600 denier Cordura, this product should last and last. I'm betting most of you will find this product useful in waterfowl and other small game hunting – in addition to its obvious use in dove hunting.

FROM RADIANS – ESPECIALLY FOR THE LADIES

Radians has five new shooter products – all of them aimed at lady shooters. Their new Women's Shooting Glass features a silver frame with pink accents. Lenses are smoke and clear, the nose piece is adjustable, and the temples are non-slip. Check their looks in the accompanying photo – very good looking! Radians, as reported here before, has very inexpensive custom molded ear plugs – that you mold yourself. Now that custom plug kit is offered in pink – for the ladies. Finally, Radians is offering three head-set type ear protectors. There's the Pink Pro Amp Electronic, the Pink Low-Set Muff and the MP-22 – also in pink.