

Tried & True

Not your normal product reviews...

Actual accounts from the field on some of today's hottest new items!

By Fair Chase Staff

WINCHESTER .325 WSM

Building success on success the ammo techs at Winchester went "Big" with their next Winchester Short Magnum (WSM) offering by adding the new .325 WSM to their already popular .300 .270 and 7mm WSMs. Specifically designed to deliver serious punch on larger big game species like elk, moose and dangerous game the new .325 WSM produces similar energies as those produced by a .338 Win-Mag, but capitalizes on the "Short-Fat" cartridge benefits which result in lightweight

short magnum rifles. In addition to delivering excellent ballistics, the .325 WSM also exhibits exceptional accuracy, a real plus in this large caliber cartridge. The proven accuracy of these shorter, fatter rounds and the lighter weight actions they produce have created a "buzz" among big game hunters used to packing heavy-weight rifles to ply their trade.

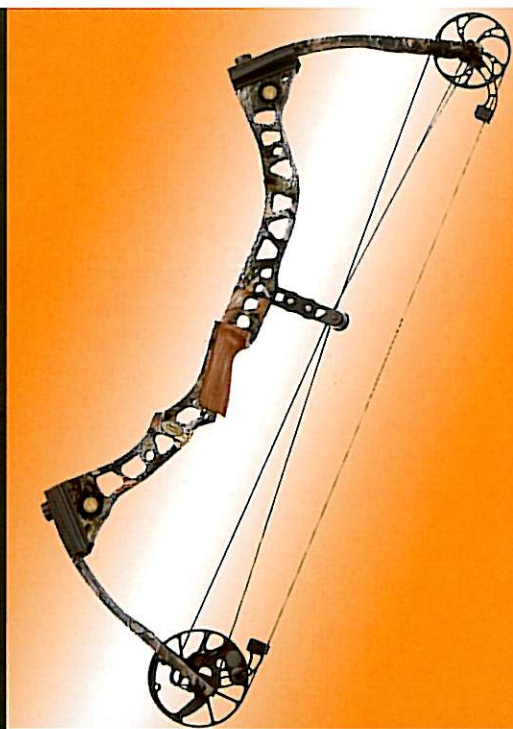
Out of the gate, Winchester will offer the new .325 WSM in a specially designed Nosler, Inc. 200 gr. Accubond® CT® in their Supreme® and Super-X® line of factory loads. It will also be available in a Winchester 220 gr. Power-Point® and 180 gr. Ballistic Silvertip® bullets – all specifically designed for optimal use in the .325 WSM. Additional loads are expected from Winchester in the future. —K.B.

The "Short-Fat" craze continues with the new .325 WSM

MATHEWS SWITCHBACK

Holly Smoke! Bows have changed. Just when you think you've dialed in the perfect bow, something new comes down the trail. Take the new Mathews Switchback for example. I bit the bullet three years ago and upgraded my old battle-ax of ten years. I thought I had the ole' gal shooting pretty well, but the upgrade to a Mathews Legacy bow proved just how behind the times I was – smoother, faster, quieter, and way more forgiving of my "occasional" poor shooting form. The new Switchback pushes the efficiently envelope even further. I don't care what makes this bow so shooter-friendly, but for you Tech heads it starts with their new StraightLine Cobra Cam™, which allows for a super-comfortable 7-inch brace height. New in vibration-canceling, Mathews has also added two more harmonic dampers to its already revolutionary cable Roller Guard, and the list goes on: Single-cam technology, perimeter-weighted cam, harmonic dampers, string suppressors, parallel limb design, In-Line grip, V-Lock limb cups, and Zebra Barracuda bowstring. If popping the string with confidence is what you seek, look no further. —K.B.

IBO Rating: 318 fps (approx.)
AMO Rating: 241 fps (approx.)
Cam: StraightLine Cobra (with dual perimeter weights)



Mathews Switchback Rocks!

Draw length: 26-30 inches (half sizes from 26 1/2-29 1/2)
Draw weight: 40-70 pounds
Axle-to-axle: 33 inches (approx.)
Brace height: 7 inches (approx.)
Physical weight: 4.34 pounds (approx.)
Let-off: 65% (approx.) or 80% (approx.)

Suggested Retail: \$769
www.mathewsinc.com

KIMBER 8400 WSM

With the high praises Winchester Ammunition has received from their new .325 WSM, Kimber Manufacturing has joined the party with the introduction of their new Model 8400. Those looking for the long-range knock down punch of a .338 in a lighter, short action cartridge will be pleased with Kimber's new Model 8400 which takes the .325 WSM cartridge from function to field. Already touted as a sweet shooting rifle the Kimber 8400, now available in .325 WSM, is the only rifle designed from the ground up specifically for the .325 short-fat cartridge. Instead of blocking or shortening a standard length action to accommodate the new WSM, which keeps the weight and the bulk down, the 8400 action is as short and light as the cartridge will allow.

Like all Kimber trademark rifles, the Model 8400 features match grade triggers, chambers, and barrels (free floated). Actions are bedded on aluminum pillars and recoil lugs are glass bedded into the stock. Three Model 8400 are available. The Classic and SuperAmerica™ feature handsome claro walnut stocks that are checkered and oil finished by hand. The lightweight Montana™ features a stainless steel barreled action plus the highest quality Kevlar-reinforced carbon fiber stock. — K.B.

Suggested Retail: \$1,080
www.kimberamerica.com



Kimber's new Model 8400 Classic in .325 WSM.