

# Hunting Equipment Review

By Johnny Kirby

I don't normally get into endorsing hunting equipment, but I will pass along some personal observations on a couple of lower priced rifles that are impressive. We have a lot of hunters at the ranches where I guide and we always encourage them to check their rifles at the shooting range before going into the field.

Ruger offers their Ruger American Rifle with a Redfield Revolution 3x9 rifle scope as a package. As most of you know, Leupold bought the Redfield name and reintroduced the Redfield line of scopes, range finders and binoculars.

I have the 10x42 binoculars and the compact range finder and both are quality products. The Ruger American Rifle and Redfield scope are 100% American made in Oregon.

The rifle is a synthetic stocked clip fed unit that is no 0Beauty Queen0 but the ones I have shot are amazingly accurate. The

Accu-Trigger is clean and breaks smoothly.

The Redfield lifetime full warranty on this scope is a huge plus! You won't have to jump through hoops to find out who to contact if you should have a problem. The Leupold factory is in Oregon and they actually have friendly and knowledgeable personnel answering the phone that speak English!!!

Another good choice for economically priced rifles are the Savage models 110 and 111.

I recently shot one on the range in 7mm-08 caliber that was excellent. It was topped with a Leopold VX-1 3x9x40 scope with Federal Premium 140 grain bullets off of my lead sled at 100 yards. The group was about 3/4 not bad for a right out of the box factory hunting rifle.

I realize that the trend these days is towards the AR style semi-automatic rifle but I still like the bolt action conventional hunting rifles. Conventional bolt action rifles are not as pricey as

the black guns and they normally shoot much more accurately without having to go through a

custom shop. I know many shooters won't agree with my assessment, but I still haven't

seen any AR style guns priced under \$1,200 that I would feel comfortable hunting with.

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