

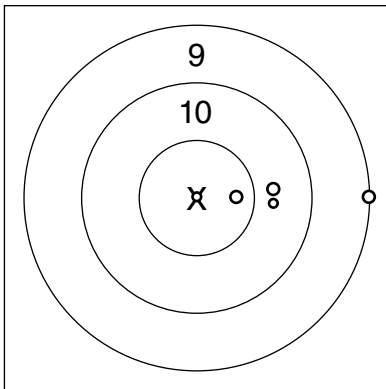


It's Not the Size of the Dog in the Fight

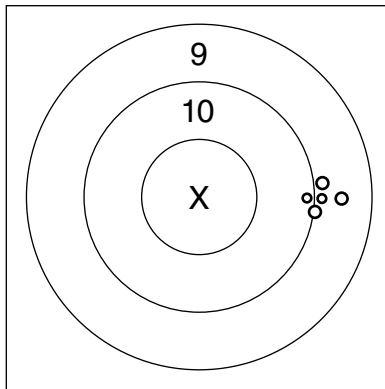
Equal? Equal! On notebook paper. The truth on the target paper is influenced by how reliably the 80gr .224 will perform in your rifle. The spikey JLK® 80g bullet [front left] flies easily as well as the much bigger Sierra® 175gr [back left].

The Hornady® 75gr matches up about on the money with the 168gr Sierra® considering the additional velocity of the .22. If you thought the 168 Sierra® was okay at 300, you'll think the Hornady® 75 is just as okay. The AR15 has an edge over the M14, however you want to measure it.

The illustrations below represent the relative amounts of wind drift in a 10 mph cross and an "unseen" wind speed change at 600 yards, with the best bullet serving as the "zero." I rounded up drift to the nearest inch so don't anybody start kicking about what other programs might otherwise say. I went with claimed BC except for the Sierra® 80 which was extended the .484 Derrick Martin calculated from 500 yard chronographing because the factory claim of .420 is very low, so says experience. All any such pen and paper meanderings are is speculation. Don't forget that. Oh, and don't forget to watch the wind: no bullet will sanction inattention.



10 mph cross



2 mph pick up

We're always assuming that the shooter is going to pop the spindle from the spotter on the next shot, but reality is that he's always shooting a group. Group size added to wind drift (which will be a plus and a minus) shows what really might happen with better or worse

The principles [from left]: JLK® 80 VLD at 2750 feet per second (center x); Berger® 175 VLD at 2550; Sierra® 80 MatchKing™ at 2650, Sierra® 175 at 2550; Sierra® 168 at 2550. Not scorching velocities, but they won't scorch primers either: they're realistic from Service Rifles.

bullets. The question is how close to each edge do you want to be? More: add one more mph to that change and they're all well out.

The North Forty

What about 1000 yards? Theories aside, yes, .22s can shoot the big span. Anytime we're discussing 1000 yard shooting, as could also be said for any other shooting at any other distance, it's the shooter that matters the most. Most people writing about "what matters" at 1000 yards are not good shooters, so observing what wins, we see that "what matters" could be nothing, really. All manner of [continued]