

ELEY LTD.

SPORTING & MATCH

Eley Ltd. has been producing some of the world's finest match-grade rimfire ammunition for a number of years. Located in England, this ammunition manufacturer has a diverse line of rimfire ammunition, ranging from pistol to rifle, subsonic to high-velocity, with all competitive shooting disciplines covered. Their manufacturing standards ensure that CIP standards (SAAMI-like standards) and a high degree of precision are maintained. The only other ammunition producer to come close to their achievements is Lapua, Eley's Finnish competitor. Most top-level shooters use Eley ammunition for competition, and this established Eley as the standard to which other competition ammunition is compared. Of course, this quality comes at a price, and the Tenex Ultimate EPS Red retails for about \$13.00 per 50-round box. For shooters looking to reach the top of the sport, it's a necessary expense.




Tenex Ultimate EPS (red)

The Tenex Ultimate Enhanced Production System (EPS) round is a recent offering from Eley Ltd. The most visible feature of this Tenex round is bullet design, but there is more to its evolution than just a different bullet. Eley re-engineered its manufacturing process for Tenex ammunition and incorporated improvements, such as squared case mouths and more precise crimps, along with improved priming techniques.

The EPS bullet differs from the typical round-nose bullet used in most match-grade ammunition in that there is a small point at the end of the flat-nosed bullet as well as a wide raised lead band that encircles the bullet's major diameter. There are two faint cannellure lines encircling the bullet. This 40-grain bullet is virtually free from noticeable blemishes or

manufacturing errors, as is its highly polished brass case. The EPS Red, like other premium rounds, appears essentially faultless upon inspection. The wax-like lubrication is thicker on the tip of the bullet but without a trace on the case, which leads me to believe that the bullet is still dipped in wax, but with a high degree of precision. Dimensional measurements further supported Eley's manufacturing precision. Bullet diameter and length both demonstrated low deviation.

Tenex Ultimate EPS Red printed outstanding groups during testing. The clusters were tight and round with no hint of vertical stringing or wind drift. The velocity deviation was low with a 5 fps average. Some shooters question whether the flat nose bullet design will be sta-



Eley
Tenex Ultimate EPS Red

#020

MATCH

SPECIFICATIONS

Bullet Weight and Design: 40-grain lubricated lead round-nose solid

Average Overall Length / Deviation: 0.9772 / ± 0.002

Loaded Round Weight / Deviation: 51.55 grains / ± 0.097 grains

Average Rim Thickness / Deviation: 0.0405 / ± 0.0005

Average Bullet Diameter / Deviation: 0.2225 / ± 0.0005

Tested Powder Weight: 1.3 grains

Tested Bullet Weight: 39.2 grains

Tested Case Weight: 10.8 grains

TESTED RESULTS

Average Group Size / Deviation: 0.2984 / ± 0.0775

Average Velocity / Deviation: 1072 fps / 5.33 fps

ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE NOTED



ble in windy conditions. I have not witnessed any undue problems with this round in the worst of conditions during Benchrest matches. The raised lead band seems to hook into tight bore barrels nicely, and since the major diameter of the bullet is set just a bit further back than traditional bullets, it fits easily into tight match chambers. Another feature of the EPS bullet is that its flat point cuts clean holes in the target, making it easy to score. The fouling group measured 0.356 inches for ten shots and was also