

## Remington 870 Express SM Turkey

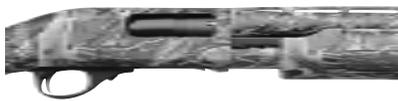
Price.....\$400

### SPECIFICATIONS

Warranty: 1 Year

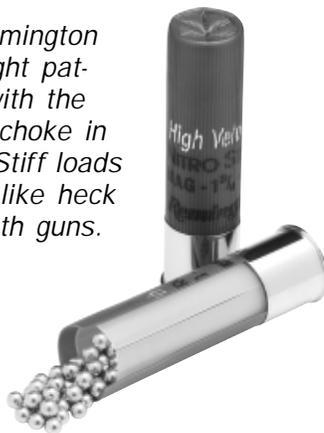
FINISH .....	RealTree Camo	MAGAZINE CAPACITY .....	3 or 4
WEIGHT (EMPTY) .....	7.25 lbs.	STOCK MATERIAL .....	SYNTHETIC
LENGTH (W/O TUBE) .....	43.5 in.	STOCK LOP .....	14 in.
LENGTH (W TUBE) .....	44.5 in.	STOCK DROP @ COMB.....	1.3 in.
BARREL LENGTH .....	23 in.	STOCK DROP @ HEEL .....	2.0 in.
ACTION TYPE .....	Pump	TRIGGER PULL Wt. ....	5 lbs.

**Our recommendation: The 870 is still the standard for pump shotguns, and it's still worth the money.**



The Remington's magazine held three 3.5-inch shells, four 3-inch shells or four 2.75-inch shells. Metal fit on the gun was above average, and most moving parts had only a small amount of play. The action design keeps the pump's stroke length the same shell to shell.

The Remington shot tight patterns with the Turkey choke in place. Stiff loads kicked like heck with both guns.



buttstock for maximum recoil reduction. Also, we found that greasing the recoil pad and its mating surface in the stock made it much easier to get the pad on and off.

Cosmetically, the RealTree camouflage pattern was well applied, and it was on every visible surface except for the detachable buttpad, the flat black magazine tube, the trigger, and the dull-finished loading gate. We thought the camo finish did a superb job of breaking up the gun's outline in the Idaho woods. We liked the serrations Benelli put onto this gun at the grasping surfaces. It covered almost all of the forend and pistol-grip surfaces. We thought it looked appropriate for this modern design, and it worked well.

We found a potential sore point with the Benelli's action. After the round in the chamber has been

fired and the slide has been pulled rearward to eject the spent shell, the upcoming round is very loose inside the gun. If you hold the chamber open and hold the gun with the ejection port facing the ground, the fresh round can fall out of the gun. We admit this is not a natural position, but we did have a live round fall out when attempting to cycle the action with the gun pointing nearly straight up...though we couldn't duplicate this problem afterward. Another thing we didn't like is that as soon as the chambered round fires, the forend slide is immediately released and the gun immediately opens, whether or not you want it to. This is more of a design feature than a fault, but we prefer to be in control of all functions of our gun at all times. In fairness, you might like this feature, because it makes

for very fast field reloading.

The Nova's patterns were well centered with all loads tested. You get three options for choke with the Nova. They are Full, Modified, and Improved Cylinder. Benelli says you are not supposed to use steel shot with the Full choke tube, but it's okay with the other two. We suggest you pattern-test your individual gun with your chosen loads. This gun would not be our first choice for upland hunting. It was a bit sluggish for that, and at 7.8 pounds empty (recoil reducer removed) it is too heavy for that purpose, in our estimation. However, it would be right at home in a duck boat or turkey blind. We thought the double beads on the flat-camo finished high ventilated rib made alignment very precise. The weight of the gun was well balanced, and the barrels tracked flying targets well. It was not easy to stop the swing once started. We'd like this gun a lot for waterfowl shooting.

### Remington 870 Express Super Magnum Turkey

**Our recommendation: Reliability and market acceptance are the keys to this shotgun's acceptance. For its intended uses, the 870 is still as good as it ever was.**

The 3.5-inch Turkey Camo came with a 23-inch barrel, the nearest length we could find to the camo Nova with its 26-inch tube. It's currently the only camo finish in the 1999 Remington Super Magnum line, being bracketed by the Synthetic Turkey (not our first choice for a gun name), a matte-black model otherwise identical to the Turkey Camo; the Super Magnum, a black metal-and-wood model with a 28-inch barrel; and the Super Magnum Synthetic, an all-black gun with a 26-inch barrel. However, a new model in the Special Purpose line, the Model 870 SPS-T Super Magnum Camo, is virtually identical to the Super Magnum Turkey Camo product, except the SPS-T