

Guns & Ammo, December 2003



Desert Stormy? The Lone Star Lawman can be had in a variety of two-tone polymer configurations. This particular one is light brown/olive drab. It comes in a wooden presentation box.

LSA Lawman

Webmasters Note:

On November 20, 2003, STI International, Inc. acquired all of the physical and intellectual assets of Lone Star Armament. [Click to read more](#)

All parts mentioned in the Guns & Ammo December 2003 article will be upgraded to STI parts at no extra cost.

It was at the National Association of Sporting Goods Wholesalers in Fort Worth, Texas, that I first laid eyes on the Lone Star Armament line of .45 autos. The particular specimen that caught my eye had obviously been designed to do just that. It sported a baked-on, two-tone polymer finish—light brown on top and olive drab on the bottom.

On top of that, it was loaded with the types of

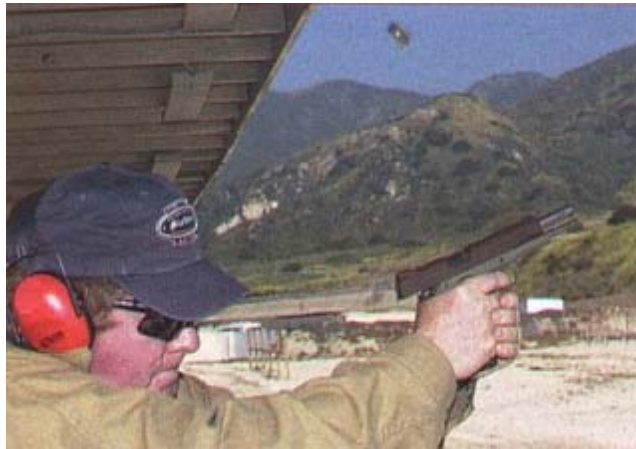
SPECIFICATIONS

Maker:	Lone Star Arms Dept. GA 6420 S Hwy. 377 Stephenville, TX 76401 (254) 968-2735 lonestarams.net
Action:	Short-recoil, semi-auto
Caliber:	.45 ACP
Capacity:	8 plus 1
Barrel length:	5 inches

extras you'd expect from a 1911 in its Wilson-y price range - Nowlin match-grade barrel, McCormick beavertail grip and thumb safeties, presentation rosewood grips and Novak three-dot combat sights. And like most high-end 1911s out there, it featured a guide rod instead of the old plunger arrangement.

Overall length:	8 1/2 inches
Weight:	40 ounces
Sights:	Novak three-dot
Grips:	Rosewood
Finish:	Blued or Polymer
Price:	\$1,475

When I finally got a test sample of the same gun I was ogling at the NASGW Convention (it came, incidentally, in a nice wooden presentation case), I rounded up a bunch of .45 ACP ammo for the inevitable trip to the range. My final selection included Federal 165-grain FMI Expanding, Winchester Supreme 230-grain SXT; Black Hills 230-grain hardball and remanufactured "Blue Box" 200-grain SWC and Speer 185-grain GDHP.



The Lawman was a delight to shoot, featuring excellent sights and a very crisp trigger.

After setting up targets at 25 yards, I proceeded to shoot a series of five-shot groups with everything I had from a sandbagged rest. Although a Ransom Rest might have given better results, I value my range time too much to deliberately deal myself out of the shooting equation. Even so, I was mightily impressed with the Lone Star Lawman.



A finely checkered frontstrap provides an excellent nonslip grip. And it looks good.

The best performers were the Federal, Winchester Supreme and ~Blue Box" Black Hills stuff. The Winchester Supreme and Federal loads stayed at around two inches or slightly under - always featuring three- and four-shot one-inch clusters. The Black Hills SWCs weren't as tight in aggregate, but they gave me enough "multiple shot" cloverleaves that I tried them at 50 yards and was rewarded with four-inch five shot-groups that invariably contained three-shot clusters at slightly more than an inch. Although I was obviously cursed by fliers, I was pretty happy with the gun's performance. The company guarantees 1 1/2-inch groups at 25 yards, and despite my failure to achieve that average, I don't doubt that mine would be capable of that in more capable hands (or from a Ransom Rest).



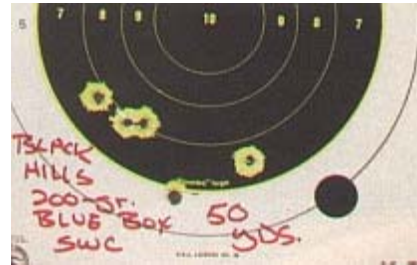
Rosewood grips, match trigger, extended beavertail and Novak sights. What's not to like?

The trigger on my test sample, incidentally, broke at an exceptionally crisp four pounds with minimal take-up. That, combined with the justifiably popular Novak sights, contributed greatly to the results.

During the course of nearly 150 rounds, I experienced only two feeding malfunctions-both with the 165-grain Federal FMJ Expanding stuff. Neither appeared to be the fault of the eight-shot McCormick Power Mag; the gun was a bit tight and probably needed a more extensive "shoot-in" session than I was able to give it.

In a tactile sense, the fine frontstrap and backstrap checkering plus the flat housing configuration provided an excellent hold, and the extended beavertail spared me from hammer-bite (which I am very much prone to; double-action revolver shooting

has left me with a propensity for the highest hold I can manage).



Three loads gave very good results at 25 yards-Winchester Supreme 230-grain SXT, Federal 165-grain FMJ Expanding, and Black Hills 200-grain SWC. The Black Hills loads also grouped well at 50 yards (above).

The Lone Star Lawman is in a class with the wilsons, Browns and high-end Kimbers and Springfields. It's an exceptionally attractive 1911 that shoots.

-Payton Miller