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or extraction problems whatsoever.

I've fired Para's .45 ACP Warthog and its steel-framed P10•45 ancestor, and the new Hawg 9 is more of the same, with one big difference: it's a gun you can enjoy shooting all day. Unlike some of the ultra-lightweight pocket 9s, the recoil is quite muted, and young or novice shooters won't be intimidated by it. The sights are of the three-dot variety, with a rear sight that can be drifted for windage after loosening a setscrew. I happen to like a three-dot sight. For those who don't, a black felt-tip marker provides a quick fix. Like every other Para I've fired, there does not appear to be any necessity for a break-in period. Paras

work, right out of the box, from the very first shot. The Hawg 9 trigger broke evenly at five lbs., which seems appropriate for a defensive handgun. Shooting from a rest at 20 yards, I was able to shoot 2.5" five-round groups, which is nice but somewhat irrelevant...the real purpose of this type of handgun is rapid and effective firepower at conversational range. The only nit I can pick with the Hawg 9 is its lack of an ambidextrous thumb safety. As a southpaw, I keep running into that problem. There is a solution, however. Para's excellent customer service department will fit an ambi safety on request, and at a reasonable cost.

'On the outside of the box are brightly colored stickers informing us that this gun cannot be sold in Massachusetts, New York and California.'

The Hawg 9 comes from the factory in a Marine-green lockable hardcase with a whole bunch of goodies. In addition to the extra 12-round magazine, obligatory instruction manual (RTFM), and the warranty card with a lifetime service policy, there's a tube of Mil-Comm lubricant, a hex wrench for the grip screws, a bright green cable lock, an envelope with a fired cartridge for states that

require that nonsense, and a card with a special offer: three-dot Tritium night sights, installed for only \$99. On the outside of the box are brightly colored stickers informing us that this gun cannot be sold in Massachusetts, New York and Cali-

fornia. Must be great to live in a state where they tell you what you can and cannot buy.

The MSRP of the Para Hawg 9 is \$840, and we all know that nobody pays MSRP. If you're looking for a pocket gun that's chambered for a defense-level cartridge, and a gun that's actually fun to practice with, you won't find anything better than the Hawg 9.

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