

for Sport Shooting? ³⁷

Madsen, magazines were available for \$4 apiece. Later, I paid \$6 each for some with more finish remaining. The only magazines for .45 ACP subguns I've seen in that price range were M3



"Grease Gun" mags, and they've recently started to increase in price. More than a few

9mm subguns use Sten magazines, which are still cheap.

While they have to be loaded with a loading tool, the Madsen mags I have are reliable and tough. I've dropped them and left them loaded for long periods of time without ill effects. One of the original batch I bought failed to feed. A gunsmith I met at the Wisconsin match took it apart, cleaned out some sand, and put a little moly lube on it. After that it worked fine.

Cheap ammo is another advantage 9mm subguns have over larger caliber guns. I've sometimes bought brass-cased FMJ ammo for

to buy, and cheaper still if you save it up after firing factory loads. I've made subgun loads with both 125-grain lead bullets, and bulk 9mm FMJs. The only problems I've had with reloads were with truncated-cone-shaped lead bullets. They didn't feed as well as jacketed or lead round nose bullets.

My .45 ACP subguns shine at shooting steel plates. A 230-grain lead .45 caliber reload just gets a plate's attention! Two or three 9mm slugs on target will also do the job, and an easy-shooting 9mm subgun can make hitting plates easier.

At my last shoot two novice (but safe) shooters with Browning Hi-Powers and I went after 11 steel plates. I gave the two a five-shot head start, and then began shooting with the Madsen. I fired three- or four-shot bursts and knocked down most of the plates. My daughter says she got one heart-shaped one, but I have my doubts. Spending time fighting the recoil of a .45 subgun might have let them pick up more plates.

The 9mm buzz gun I'm most familiar with is the Madsen, but I've fired others. These include a UD 42, a Smith 76, several MP5s – including a suppressed model, a Beretta M38/42, an Erma, a UZI, and a suppressed MAC 11. The

Erma had problems with light firing pin strikes, the MAC didn't impress me, and UD 42 magazines are scarce and expensive. I think any of the others would make fine guns for sport subgun shooting. The UD 42 would, too – if a rich uncle died and left you a pile of mags. MACs with the TASK slowfire modifications are supposed to be a lot better for match shooting than standard MACs. I may get a chance to try one out soon. I'd also like to shoot the Suomi-type subguns made by BRP Corp, but don't know anyone who has one.

For military and police use there may be subguns – and rounds – that are better than the 9mms, but for sport subgunning, 9mm subguns rule!



Ingram M6

around \$109 per thousand. With gas prices on the rise, transportation costs will make ammo more expensive, I suppose. But, so much 9mm is available that



Madsen M50

economies of scale will probably still make it the cheapest subgun ammo available. Military surplus 9mm should also help keep the price down.

Nine-millimeter reloads are also cheaper to make than .45 ACPs. Nine-millimeter brass is relatively cheap

Reising and Madsen they have for photos at www.autoweapons.com.

