

Firenock Review by Peter Babendreie, 21st September, 2008 on ArcheryTalk.com

Firenock GFH (beta), Aerovane™

Initial report on 9/14/2008

3 nocks tested.

1 nock: fired 75 times with 13% failure rate. (10 times it either didn't light or lit but went out after it hit the target.)

2 others nocks: fired 35 times with no problems whatsoever

Accuracy

No impact on accuracy. The one with blazers is shooting exactly like the others from the same batch that have aluminum nocks. That is, within 1/2" of dead center. I hit the exact same hole on 2 successive shots from bench and 1/4" inch on 3rd shot. Completely consistent with results from other arrows. (I can't get absolute performance between arrows but I can get absolute performance from the same arrow). That's at 19 yards.

Illumination

Incredibly bright.

Video 1 shows high noon daylight conditions. Range distance is 19 yards. Far room has 4x48" normal florescent bulbs. Local room has 16x60 watt incandescent bulbs with two small windows at mid day. Additional lighting from the left (off range and out of sight) not shown.

Reliability

Video 2 shows late afternoon/mid morning light conditions It also shows the problem of lit nock on firing, however extinguishing on hitting the target. Two occasions (last two tests of partial failure)

the PCB/battery dislodged from nock. (you could hear it sliding in the tube). All other occasions, nock/ battery/ PCB apparently held in tact. On those other failure conditions, either it never lit, or lit until it hit the target. 3 occasions never lit. 7 occasions lit and extinguished when it hit the target.

Video 4 shows last valid minute shooting conditions from a lighting perspective.

Environment

Range 19 yards

Variable lighting conditions.

Exomax with 20" GT Laser II bolts, brass inserts, field tips.

1 with 2 Aerovanes,

1 with 3 Aerovanes,

1 with 3 blazers.

I like the 2 Aerovane configuration better than the three; but that's another report.

The third Firenock with issues is on its way back to you. Please replace and advise on findings and advise on when you'll have Aerovanes available in production quantity.

Best Regards and Thanks for a first look,

Pete

Update on 9/21/2008

Dorge was VERY quick to respond. I never wound up sending the one nock in for his inspection because there was no need. Work and hunting season have gotten in the way of reporting sooner.

As I said two of the nocks were working (and are working) flawlessly. (I stopped counting shots on those). I'm going to guess 10 more on each.

I now have 105 shots on the first nock. Shots 76-105 have all worked flawlessly. (although I will say that it takes a 'knack' to get used to how you turn each nock off; and they do behave slightly differently).

Now everything is working flawlessly, with the PCB and nock seeing no failures. There was 1 battery failure, which was pretty evident out of the blocks (to Dorge anyway).

Explanation.

The battery post was bad. Dorge and I talked and he suspected that it was bad due to the symptoms in the above e-mail. That didn't however explain the circuit board coming loose from the nock. That happened because I had used the wrong size O-ring on the leading edge of the nock. It was causing too much pressure on that part of the nock. You'll see in the instructions when changing nocks that you need to slightly squeeze that part of the nock in a certain way to free up the printed circuit board for insertion or

removal.

In the end; the problems, except for the bad battery were self induced.

So what I need now are prices for 9 more, or preferably, prices for practice nocks with appropriate weights and o-rings. I have no need/reason to see them light up every time while I'm practicing but I DO need nocks and weights.

I believe every nock will work flawlessly in a hunting environment.

Thanks again Dorge,

GREAT product

Peter Babendreie
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