

— Editor's Mailbox —

Dear Glenn,

In response to calling for articles of interest in your column of the ACTA News, I forward to you two charts for publication:

1. The International Lead Shot Size Chart; and
2. The Number of Pellets in Different Charges of Lead Shot.

Both charts were compiled by Sergeant Paul McFawn (AFP Ballistics) as part of a research paper whilst he was undergoing forensic ballistics training. They have previously been published in the Association of Firearms and Tool Mark Examiners (AFTE) Journal and been assessed by both peers and supervisors. To our knowledge, the charts provided a world-wide "first" and, consequently, were acclaimed by firearms and ammunition examiners to assist in the day-to-day practice of forensic ballistics.

They may be of interest to shotgunners generally and those interested in re-loading. Paul gives his permission for you to publish the charts, if you see fit.

Further to your call of interest, perhaps a question to be asked that will stimulate some research and replies:

"What do the letter designations in "Letter Size Shot" represent?"

Some learned persons in overseas ammunition factories suggest, e.g. that L.G. = large grapeshot; S.G. = small grapeshot; others suggest that S.S.G. = small swan grapeshot and others are just guessing, particularly when it gets down to A.A.A. size and B.B.'s.

The invitation to reply has been extended to many people, some have replied but are unable to quote and validate with reliable references.

Perhaps it is time we opened the question to readers of the ACTA News - the designations are listed on the charts - it might be interesting!

Yours sincerely,

**Ian Prior, Director, Firearms and Ballistics,
Australian Federal Police.**

INTERNATIONAL LEAD SHOT SIZE CHART

| England | Australia | Belgium | Canada | France | Germany | Holland | Italy | Spain | Turkey | Sweden | U.S.A. | mm Diameter ^a in" |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|
| LG | - | - | - | - | II | - | - | - | - | - | 000Buck | 9.14mm 0.359" |
| MG | - | - | - | C.1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8.81mm 0.346" |
| SG | 00/SG | B8 | - | - | III | - | - | - | - | - | 00Buck | 8.43mm 0.331" |
| - | - | B7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0Buck | 8.10mm 0.320" |
| SG Spl. | - | B6 | SG | C.2 | IV | - | - | - | - | - | 1Buck | 7.57mm 0.298" |
| SSG | SSG | B5 | - | C.3 | V | - | - | - | 18/A | - | 2Buck | 6.83mm 0.268" |
| SSSG | - | B4 | - | C.4 | - | - | - | - | 17/A | - | 3Buck | 6.22mm 0.244" |
| SSSSG | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 16/A | - | 4Buck | 5.77mm 0.227" |
| SSSSSG | - | - | AA | - | 000000 | - | 7-8 | 7-0 | 15/A | - | TT | 5.44mm 0.214" |
| AAA | AAA | OV9 | A | 5-0 | 0000 | - | 6-0 | 6-0 | 14/A, 13/A | - | T | 5.16mm 0.203" |
| AA | - | 6-0/OV8 | BBB | 4-0 | - | - | 5-0 | - | 12/A | - | BBB | 4.93mm 0.194" |
| A | - | 5-0 | BB | 2-0 | 000 | - | 3-0 | 4-0 | 11/A | 9 | BB | 4.57mm 0.179" |
| BBB | - | 4-0/OV4 | B | 0 | 0 | 00 | 2-0 | 3-0 | 10/A | 8 | B | 4.32mm 0.170" |
| BB | BB | 3-0/OV3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1-0 | - | 9/A | 7 | 1 | 4.09mm 0.161" |
| B | - | 2-0/OV2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2-0 | 8/A | - | 2 | 3.91mm 0.153" |
| 1 | - | 0 & 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7/A | 6 | 3 | 3.61mm 0.142" |
| 2 | 2 | - | - | 3 | 3 | 4 or 5 | 3 | - | 6/A | 5 | - | 3.43mm 0.135" |
| 3 | 3 | - | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | - | 2 | 5/A | 4 | 4 | 3.25mm 0.127" |
| 4 | 4 | - | 5 | 5 | 5 | G.6 | 4 | - | 4/A | 3 | 5 | 3.05mm 0.120" |
| 4 1/2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | - | 2.88mm 0.113" |
| 5 | 5 | - | 6 | - | - | K.6 | 5 | - | 3/A | 2 | 6 | 2.80mm 0.110" |
| 5 1/2 | - | - | - | 6 | 6 | - | 6 | - | - | - | - | 2.72mm 0.107" |
| 6 | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5 | 2/A | 1 | - | 2.60mm 0.102" |
| 6 1/2 | - | 6 1/2 | 7 | 7 | 7 | - | - | - | - | - | 7 | 2.52mm 0.099" |
| 7 | 7 | - | 7 1/2 | - | - | 7 | 7 | 6 | 1/A | 0 | 7 1/2 | 2.42mm 0.095" |
| 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 7 1/2 INT | 2.38mm 0.093" |
| 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 1/0 | - | 8 | 2.22mm 0.087" |
| 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 2/0 | 00 | 9 | 2.03mm 0.080" |
| 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | - | 9 | - | 000 | 10 | 1.78mm 0.070" |
| 11 | 11 | - | - | - | - | 11 | - | 10 | 3/0 | - | - | 1.67mm 0.066" |
| 12 | - | 12 | - | 11 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 12 | - | 4/0 | 11 | 1.57mm 0.062" |
| DUST | - | - | - | 12 | 12 | - | - | - | - | - | 12 | 1.23mm 0.048" |

^a Note nominal size only.

INTERNATIONAL LEAD SHOT SIZE CHART*

| Weight Grams | 43 | 41 | 39 | 37 | 35 | 34 | 32 | 30 | 28 | 27 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 18 | 16 | 14 |
|----------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-----|
| Weight Ounces | 1 1/2 | 1 7/16 | 1 3/8 | 1 5/16 | 1 1/4 | 1 3/16 | 1 1/8 | 1 1/16 | ONE | 15/16 | 7/8 | 13/16 | 3/8 | 11/16 | 5/8 | 9/16 | 1/2 |
| LG | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| MG | 11 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| SG | 12 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| SG Special | 16 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| SSG | 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 |
| SSSG | 30 | 29 | 28 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| SSSSG | 38 | 36 | 34 | 33 | 31 | 30 | 28 | 27 | 25 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 19 | 17 | 16 | 14 | 13 |
| SSSSSG or AAAA | 45 | 43 | 41 | 39 | 38 | 36 | 34 | 32 | 30 | 28 | 26 | 24 | 22 | 21 | 19 | 17 | 15 |
| AAA | 53 | 50 | 48 | 46 | 44 | 42 | 39 | 37 | 35 | 33 | 31 | 26 | 26 | 24 | 22 | 20 | 18 |
| AA | 60 | 58 | 55 | 53 | 50 | 48 | 45 | 43 | 40 | 37 | 35 | 32 | 30 | 27 | 25 | 22 | 20 |
| A | 75 | 72 | 69 | 66 | 63 | 60 | 56 | 53 | 50 | 47 | 44 | 41 | 38 | 34 | 31 | 28 | 25 |
| BBB | 90 | 86 | 83 | 79 | 75 | 71 | 67 | 64 | 60 | 56 | 53 | 49 | 45 | 41 | 38 | 34 | 30 |
| BB | 105 | 100 | 96 | 92 | 88 | 83 | 79 | 74 | 70 | 65 | 61 | 57 | 53 | 48 | 44 | 39 | 35 |
| B | 120 | 115 | 110 | 105 | 100 | 95 | 90 | 85 | 80 | 75 | 70 | 65 | 60 | 55 | 50 | 45 | 40 |
| 1 | 150 | 144 | 138 | 131 | 125 | 119 | 113 | 106 | 100 | 94 | 88 | 81 | 75 | 69 | 63 | 56 | 50 |
| 2 | 180 | 173 | 165 | 157 | 150 | 143 | 135 | 127 | 120 | 113 | 105 | 98 | 90 | 83 | 75 | 67 | 60 |
| 3 | 210 | 201 | 193 | 184 | 175 | 166 | 158 | 149 | 140 | 131 | 123 | 114 | 105 | 96 | 88 | 79 | 70 |
| 4 | 255 | 244 | 234 | 223 | 213 | 202 | 191 | 181 | 170 | 159 | 149 | 138 | 128 | 117 | 106 | 96 | 85 |
| 4 1/2 | 300 | 287 | 275 | 262 | 250 | 237 | 225 | 212 | 200 | 188 | 175 | 163 | 150 | 138 | 125 | 113 | 100 |
| 5 | 330 | 316 | 303 | 289 | 275 | 261 | 248 | 234 | 220 | 206 | 193 | 179 | 165 | 151 | 138 | 124 | 110 |
| 5 1/2 | 360 | 345 | 330 | 315 | 300 | 285 | 270 | 255 | 240 | 225 | 210 | 195 | 180 | 165 | 150 | 135 | 120 |
| 6 | 405 | 388 | 371 | 354 | 338 | 321 | 304 | 287 | 270 | 253 | 236 | 219 | 202 | 186 | 169 | 152 | 135 |
| 6 1/2 | 450 | 431 | 413 | 394 | 375 | 356 | 338 | 319 | 300 | 281 | 263 | 244 | 225 | 206 | 187 | 169 | 150 |
| 7 | 510 | 489 | 468 | 446 | 425 | 404 | 383 | 361 | 340 | 319 | 298 | 276 | 255 | 234 | 212 | 191 | 170 |
| 7 1/2 INT | 532 | 510 | 488 | 466 | 444 | 422 | 399 | 377 | 355 | 339 | 311 | 288 | 267 | 244 | 222 | 200 | 178 |
| 8 | 675 | 647 | 618 | 591 | 563 | 534 | 506 | 478 | 450 | 422 | 394 | 366 | 338 | 309 | 281 | 253 | 225 |
| 9 | 870 | 834 | 796 | 762 | 725 | 689 | 653 | 616 | 580 | 544 | 508 | 471 | 435 | 399 | 363 | 326 | 290 |
| 10 | 1275 | 1221 | 1168 | 114 | 1062 | 1009 | 957 | 903 | 850 | 797 | 744 | 691 | 637 | 584 | 532 | 478 | 425 |
| 11 | 1560 | 1495 | 1430 | 1365 | 1300 | 1235 | 1175 | 1105 | 1040 | 975 | 910 | 845 | 780 | 714 | 650 | 586 | 520 |
| 12 | 1875 | 1797 | 1719 | 1641 | 1563 | 1484 | 1406 | 1328 | 1250 | 1172 | 1094 | 1016 | 938 | 859 | 781 | 703 | 625 |
| DUST | 2550 | 2444 | 2338 | 2231 | 2125 | 2019 | 1912 | 1806 | 1700 | 1594 | 1488 | 1381 | 1275 | 1168 | 1063 | 955 | 850 |

* All charge loads are approximate.