

## Improving Quail Habitat

Chevy Silverado at work with Quail Unlimited



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# OUTDOOR LIFE

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## SHOT SHOW

### Air Guns Heat Up

*Hi-tech comes to the air-guns market, and so does an apparent new classic.*

By Michael Bane

The air-gun market is off and running! One of the hottest new developments is the increasing sophistication of AirSoft guns, licensed replicas of various firearms that fire both plastic pellets and small 6mm paintballs powered by air. The guns, made by KWC and UHC in Taiwan and Western Arms in Japan, feel and operate like an actual firearm; the air reservoir and pellets are in the gun's magazine. The magazine is inserted into the gun, the slide is racked, and it's ready to shoot. Each pull of the trigger causes the slide to reciprocate just like a real firearm.



#### CROSMAN

The Walther P-99 Soft Air gun, imported by Crosman, is part of the AirSoft boom.

Competition shooters are already flocking to the new technology, which allows them to practice with "raceguns" in the winter. The AirSoft guns are also in increasing demand from police departments. They can use the guns as trainers in force-on-force simulations with paintballs without the liability of using actual firearms that could chamber a live round.

### Airforce Airguns

Talon SS Series: AirForce Airguns continues to refine its Talon SS series of adult air rifles. The Talon series features interchangeable barrels, refills

from either a high-pressure hand pump or scuba tanks, accessory mounting rails and a unique adjustable power setting that allows for low-power practice. "It's got all the bells and whistles," says Yvette Hicks of AirForce. (877-247-4867; [www.airforceairguns.com](http://www.airforceairguns.com))

### **Caspian Arms, LTD.**

**AirSoft Guns:** The latest generation of AirSoft guns from Specialized Distribution ([www.airsoftSD.com](http://www.airsoftSD.com)) can be seen at the Caspian Arms, Ltd. booth. (802-472-6454; [www.caspianarms.com](http://www.caspianarms.com))

### **Crosman Corporation**

**Walther P-99 Soft Air:** Crosman's offering, similar to AirSoft, is the Walther P-99 Soft Air. (800-724-7486; [www.crosman.com](http://www.crosman.com))

### **Soft Air USA**

**Soft Air:** Soft Air USA is offering another look at the AirSoft type gun, theirs being distributed under the name Soft Air. (408-774-1136; [www.cybergun.com](http://www.cybergun.com))

### **Daisy Manufacturing Company**

**1894 Winchester Lever Action:** Veteran airgun maker Daisy Manufacturing is jumping with both feet into cowboy-action shooting with an 1894 Winchester lever-action air rifle. Basically a "carbine-copy" of the legendary Winchester, the new lever action has a 15-shot BB magazine. This new air rifle, recommended for ages 10 and over with adult supervision, has all the earmarks of becoming a "Red Ryder" for the new century. (800-643-3458; [www.daisy.com](http://www.daisy.com))