

than the trendy great towers on certain rivals. The characteristically over-sized top elevation dial is precisely and simply marked up with 1-24, and carries rotation indicator markers, which is brilliant, to keep track of any major adjustments made, and eliminate any disaster where the turret has been altered, then is sitting a complete revolution out of zero. I've seen this done, although admittedly a more likely error in FT, but a great feature, nonetheless. In addition, it can be set to '0' once the zero point has been set, by slackening a small grub screw and rotating the loose cap (now free from the mechanism) as necessary. As for the windage turret, this is marked up to show L and R movement from 1-12 in each direction, and again, can be zero set, once the mechanism has been adjusted.

Having used my famous old West German made, Zeiss Diavari-C 3-9x36 (an obvious benchmark) for many a year, few scopes can compare for the sheer robustness of the turret mechanism and build quality in general, not to mention the image quality. This March is on an equal footing, which is top praise believe me. Twist either turret and the firm resistance and positive click is all you need to appreciate the integrity of the engineering on display. Yes, of course, you're paying for the privilege, but this is an exceptional piece of kit.

In use

Zeroing this model is simple enough, and there's plenty of adjustment on offer- 1/4MOA clicks, 100 clicks in a revolution, and over eight full rotations possible in each turret. Opt for a Mil Line reticle, and the values change to Mil Radian. Image quality is pin sharp edge to edge, and the MTR5 reticle fitted to my test model is an interesting option. There is of course a choice of reticle with these scopes, and for the full range and specifications of what



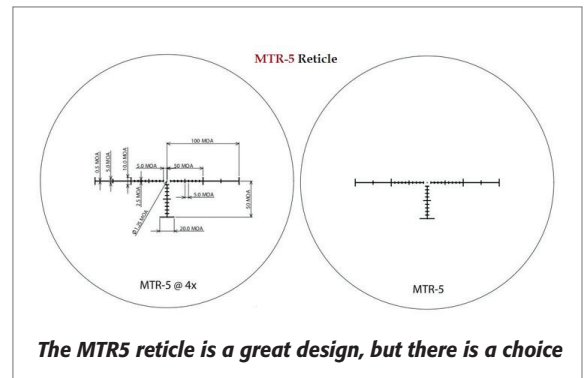
An exceptional telescopic sight that cost three to four times the price of an average air rifle



The spec of 1-10x42 is more than enough for many needs, especially with those quality optics



Turrets are clearly marked and offer some generous corrections in several formats



The MTR5 reticle is a great design, but there is a choice

"March scopes are specified as guaranteed for five years"

is possible, see the March website at marchscopes.co.uk. The MTR5 as shown, offers a floating central dot, and stadia extending left right and down. The small subdivisions on the horizontal are 2MOA when viewed at 10x magnification, and this is of course an ideal mag for HFT shooting, where, as previously mentioned, the scope needs to be set and then left for the course of targets.

Parallax can be corrected via the drum on the left of the saddle and there's reassuring resistance as it turns; likewise, the magnification collar, which won't be shifting accidentally any time soon. Reticle illumination is activated via the subtle pressure switch in the centre of the parallax drum, and this takes the normal coin-type battery. Just the central dot lights up, and there are four brightness levels of red, before it turns off. With the focus set to around 25-yards, and shooting on 10x mag, I found clarity very usable indeed through the ranges for HFT – 8- to 45-yards. As expected, some

blur at the closest distance, but usable, at both 8- and 10-yards, then fairly clear at 15, and pin sharp thereafter. Minimum parallax is 10-yards if adjusted out, for the record.

Conclusion

March scopes are specified as guaranteed for five years, but

once you come to appreciate the quality, it's clear that this time frame is academic. I've used my old Zeiss for over 30 years now, and it looks good for another 30; not sure about me! March feel in a comparable league, and if the RRP doesn't bring you out in a cold sweat, then this wonderfully compact 1-10x24 model represents a serious and sound investment. **GM**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Model:	March 1-10x24 (model no. D10V24T1)
Reticle:	MTR 5
Focal Plane:	Second
Weight:	20.14oz
Length:	10.4-inches
Click Adjustment:	1/4 MOA @100-yards
Field of View:	35.27m-3.49m @100m
Eye Relief:	3 3/8 - 3 7/8-inches
Body Tube:	30mm
Min Focus:	10-yards
Turrets:	Low profile, Tactical finger adjustable
Clicks per rotation:	100
Number of Full Rotations:	8.25 in windage and elevation
Price:	£2073.40 inc. lens covers
Options:	Non-illuminated reticle/Mil Line reticle model with Mil Radian adjustments
Contact:	March Scopes. marchscopes.co.uk