

Wilko's Week Out: Detectors and Coils - Field Depth Tests.

Detectors used and corresponding coils in test.

SDC 2300 – Standard Coil

GPZ - 14" Standard Coil

GPX 4800 - with the following 3 Coils;

Detech 15" ultimate spiral DD

NF Advantage 18" Mono

NF 25" X DD

[Coils that were expected to be part of this fun test were the 18" European Concentric coil plus the new Coiltech 22" DD but they were not onsite, it would have been great to include them and compare notes].

Lead weight targets were buried in hard repacked Dunolly ground.

Speaker used by the operator and not headphones.

Torpedo shaped running sinker lead @ 21.5 grams = one @ 20cm

Smooth round Ball Sinker 25mm @ 28.6 grams x 4 in all other depths. See pic.

All tests in Factory Preset unless PS indicated = Personal Setting "without radical deviation" from FP.

Ground Balance in Tracking because of original hard / alongside disturbed repacked stamped ground

GPX is FP - Medium track and slow motion.

Y = Yes

N = No

Y TN = Yes - Too Noisy to use this setting.

Y ikit = Yes minimal response; or because "I know it's there".

Y SPE = Yes and Definite: Steel Phase Enhancer 1 signal gain response. (Only used with the GPZ).

<u>Weight</u>	<u>21.5 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>
<u>Depth</u>	<u>25cm</u>	<u>30cm</u>	<u>35cm</u>	<u>40cm</u>	<u>45cm</u>
<u>SDC</u>	Y	Y	N	N	N
<u>GPZ 14</u>	<u>21.5 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>

	<u>25cm</u>	<u>30cm</u>	<u>35cm</u>	<u>40cm</u>	<u>45cm</u>
High Yield Diff	Y	Y	Y	N	N
General Normal	Y	Y	Y ikit Y SPE	N	N
Gen Norm Difficult	Y	Y	Y	Y ikit Y SPE	N
Deep Normal	Y	Y	Y ikit Y SPE	N	N
Deep Difficult	Y	Y	N	N	N

<u>GPX 4800</u>	<u>21.5 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>
	<u>25cm</u>	<u>30cm</u>	<u>35cm</u>	<u>40cm</u>	<u>45cm</u>

15" DD

Normal General	Y	Y	N	N	N
High Mineral	Y	Y	N	N	N
Mono	Y	Y	Y ikit	N	N

A very good coil; I use Iron Reject (with respect to what does shallow loud gold sound like...dig it)!

	<u>21.5 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>
	<u>25cm</u>	<u>30cm</u>	<u>35cm</u>	<u>40cm</u>	<u>45cm</u>

18" Mono

Normal General	Y	Y TN	Y TN	Y ikit TN	N
Enhanced	Y	Y	Y	N	N
High Mineral	Y	Y	Y	N	N

I enjoy the mono's. I try to stay in NG as long as I can. I think the evolution series compared to the advantage series would show an improvement but I didn't have one to test and compare.

	<u>21.5 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>	<u>28.6 gram</u>
	<u>25cm</u>	<u>30cm</u>	<u>35cm</u>	<u>40cm</u>	<u>45cm</u>

25" DD

General Normal	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
High Mineral	Y	Y	Y	N	N
Mono	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y ikit

My new NF 25" DD usage notes....

Small .22 hollow Point bullet @ 1.22 grams was lost @ 20cm or deeper.

Only dug 3 x .22 long rifle bullets and a ball of tin foil at lesser than 20cm deep. No small gold of sub 2 grams detected going over the ground where the small gold (pictured) was found.

A large electronic field emanates from this coil. With my preferred settings with my other coils I have the field reaching vertically up the (long extended) lower shaft to 10cm higher than the two shaft's joining knuckle. This coil is 15cm higher again. I was getting signals to pull me up without noticing I was sneaking up on a drink can or trash 30cm in front of my swing!

I had no practical difficulty detecting with the 4800 and this coil for 6 hours. I have it all suspended from my bungee cord and usually carry / lift none of its weight with my arms or hands.

It is probably not suitable in heavy brush country naturally, but I think I can handle the coil in most areas - the go around and come back in front of obstacles covers most ground. If my maths is right it is a 7% step up in flat plane mass from an 18" jobbie.

The iron reject function for use after digging the top layer out to confirm an already rejected target will save a lot of digging big holes for non-gold targets, those that get the mono operator cursing!

Importantly, I found the Normal General (medium track / slow motion) setting to become movement noisy in the mid- afternoon warmer ground condition. And I wasn't out in hot weather. I could manage the coil noise by turning the rx gain down from 8 -> 6. In summer I think it would require 6 -> 4 but allowing target volume setting to come up. This is important as I find the High Mineral setting incurs an immediate loss of depth but it is quieter this way. Rx gain lower than 4 is to switch to High Mineral and therefore higher Rx. This loss of depth shows up on the table above.

Lastly, we had the Steel Phase Enhancer in action. This is a serious piece of must have kit for the detectorist in my opinion. The audio gain in target signal response was impressive. No noise, interference or any kind of distortion or hum was evident on the day; only the clear quality of increased response and also impressively, the raising of the coil off the ground in swing elevation to maintain the signal was considerable. Oh well on the shopping list eventually. But – most impressive, for me - a must have one done deal.

Cheers, stevewilko.