

Alabama Fall Test

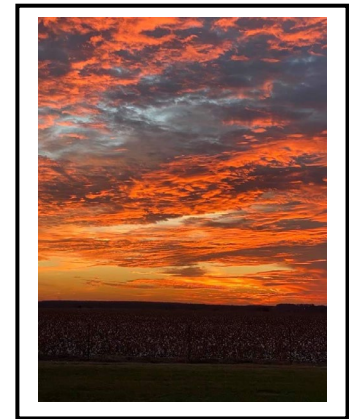
by Tyler Silcox



The DKGNA held an HZP/Solms/AZP/Zuchtschau in Frisco City Alabama on October 9-11. This is the first DKGNA test held in Frisco City. The Test director was Jörg Kaltenegger, Test Director, Francois Aldrich, Senior Judge, Diane Calandra and Apprentice Mike Grimes.

The HZP was run Friday with three dogs testing. The weather was warm and humid as is typical for this time of year in south Alabama. All three dogs were handled by first time handlers and the scores were quite respectful with 172, 173, and 178.

Saturday's The Solms/AZP took place and the weather proved to be more complex. Bands from Hurricane Delta extended to the test grounds a few hours before daylight and the whole area was under flash flood and Tornado warning until 10:00 AM. An excellent call was made by the Test Director and Senior Judge to postpone the test until the weather had cleared. Handlers and dogs meet at the test grounds at 11:00 AM to start the field portion of the test. The rain had stopped but conditions remained warm and humid throughout the test day. Three dogs ran the test (2 AZP and 1 Solms). The two AZP dogs scored Prize 1. The Solms dog failed on the rabbit drag retrieve.



Sunday the weather cleared somewhat and there was a bit more wind but still warm. Of the three AZP dogs that ran two received a Prize 1, with 4h's in search behind the duck. Unfortunately, the other dog failed on the blind retrieve for the duck.

The test grounds were great. The field search ground was conducted in CRP fields with mowed strips. The drag fields were fallow fields between peanut fields that had been graciously mowed a week before the test by the farmer.

The water was a combination of flooded timber and heavily vegetated water with open pockets. This environment provided the opportunity for some great duck searches from the dogs.