

RSE Enterprises

Performance Airguns

Daisy Model 880 Powerline “Mini Review”

By: R. Sauer



Manufacturer's Specifications

- **Weight:** 3.70 lbs
- **ACTION:** Multi-pump pneumatic
- **SIGHTS:** TRUGLO® Fiber Optic Front, adjustable rear
- **SAFETY:** Crossbolt trigger block
- **MAX. MUZZLE VELOCITY:** 750 fps./BB; 665 fps./pellet
- **CALIBER:** .177 (4.5mm) BB or pellet
- **OVERALL LENGTH:** 37.6 in.
- **STOCK/FOREARM/GRIP:** Monte Carlo-styled, molded woodgrain
- **RECEIVER:** Engineering resin with dovetail mount for scope
- **BARREL:** Rifled steel
- **CAPACITY:** 50 shot/BB; single shot/pellet

Good Points

- Same solid action as the Powerline 901
- Easy to pump
- Accurate out to 30 yards
- Perhaps a good first gun for a youngster

Bad Points

- Terrible plastic
- Poor fit and finish of the stock and forearm
- Occasionally pinches the index finger of the pumping hand

General Notes

I purchased this rifle after my positive experience with the Powerline 901. Since they are both based on the same action, it seemed reasonable to expect similar quality. Besides, for only \$35.00 how could I go wrong. Well as they say, you get what you pay for.

Fit and finish

When compared to the 901, the plastic on this gun belongs in a toy store. **The receiver and stock are both made out of low grade plastic and it is very prone to fracture.** The stock is hollow and sounds like it. The forearm trim does not fit well at all and will flex under anything but the lightest grip leaving one the impression of a very cheap gun. Due to the light cocking effort, the plastic lever can easily handle it's task however, it does not feel very confident in action. Another issue encountered with the lever is the fact that it sits flush with the action when in the stowed position. This may result in pleasant looks however, it can also result in **pinched fingers during pumping** as witnessed by several shooters during this test.

Internals

The pump assembly is a mirror image of the 901. It is entirely steel with a readily available o-ring seal. The chamber also uses this type of seal as well as one parachute design. No hammer to be found in this gun like in the Crosman. Daisy uses an interesting fork design to actuate the valve which is why the gun must be cocked before pumping. This results in better use of the air and more noticeably, less noise. The valve also features a spring loaded end piece that eliminates wasted head space in the pump. The design results in a more effective pump and less pumping effort no matter how many pumps you put in the gun. The only down side is that this also seems to limit the amount of pressure the valve can store.

Velocity and accuracy

The bottom line, the gun shoots Crosman Premier **7.9 grain pellets at 646 fps**. With only a few fps variation at 86 degrees. I doubt it will ever see the quoted 715 fps without using more than 10 pumps. Speaking of extra pumps, anything more than 12 actually reduces the velocity of this gun so doing so is wasted effort. This puts the gun in line with the Crosman which showed similar velocities once broken in. For accuracy however, this gun beats the Crosman hands down with **grouping at 20 yards of under .5 inches** using the factory sights! Although the test was performed using a bench, the barrel is responsible for most of the accuracy. While the Crosman barrel is allowed to flop around within the steel barrel shroud, the Daisy is well supported for it's entire length and is better attached to the breach.

The bottom line

Currently for sale for as little as \$35.00, this gun is certainly not bad for the money but I wouldn't expect it to stand the test of time. Although the internals are robust, **the furniture is bound to be it's weakness**. I have relegated mine to BB use only in order to spare the barrels of my nicer air guns. The longer pump lever does make it easier to pump than the 901 however, **I would still suggest spending the extra money and getting the 901 instead.**