field test

Nokta/Makro Anfibio Multi
Part 1: Initial tests and preferred settings – Sid Perry

ANFIBIO MULTI

Specifications:
Operating principle: VLF
Operating Frequency: 5kHz/14kHz/20kHz
Audio Frequencies: 150 Hz – 800Hz (adjustable)
Search modes: 9 (GEN, 2 Tone, 3 Tone, 4 Tone, 5 Tone 99 Tone, Beach, Deep, Cache)
Audio Tones: 5
Tone Volume: Yes
Tone Break: Yes
Notch Filter: Yes
Ground Balance: Automatic/Manual/Tracking
Pinpoint: Yes
Frequency Shift: Yes
Vibration: Yes
Gain Setting: 00-99
Search Coil: Waterproof DD Search Coil – 28cm/11” (AF28)
Display: Custom LCD
Backlight: Yes
Keypad backlight: Yes
Weight: 1.7kg (3.7ibs) inc. the search coil
Length: 76cm – 136cm (30”–53”) adjustable
Battery: 3700mAh Lithium Polymer
Warranty: 2 years
Price: £849

The Anfibio Multi is the first product to be released under the merger of the two companies, Nokta and Makro Detection Technologies. Both have previously released some top end detectors and I couldn’t wait to see what was in the box.

What’s included?
1. Control unit
2. Strong triangular shaped stem with quick release camlocks
3. Waterproof 11”DD search coil and coil cover
4. USB cable and data cable
5. 2.4 GHz wireless headphones (green series)
6. AC charger
7. User manual and warranty certificate

New features
After a very simple build (taking approximately 3 minutes!) I could tell straightaway that the new stem was very different to the Multi Kruzer, and a huge improvement. The quick release camlocks worked really well and eliminated any movement within the stem instantly. What I really liked was the quick release adjustable arm cup. This basically involved a quick slide of the latch, which you can adjust to suit with ease.

One benefit is most of the Kruzer accessories and coils fit the Anfibio. Compared to the Kruzer, this new stem is slightly heavier but this is a plus when stubble bashing or swinging through water. However, you do have the fitting on back of the stem for the external battery pack which balances the machine really well when attached.
Initially, I questioned why they had left the cable wrapped around the exterior of the stem but then I realised, it’s an underwater detector and would need the flexibility to be able to reduce in size when diving.

The **new design 11” coil** looked great and I thought it would easily achieve more depth. I quickly got the Anfibio on charge, eager to find out how it performed.

**Features and functions**

The Anfibio Multi has 9 Search Modes all with slightly different settings to suit every scenario you may come across; in the field, at the beach or underwater. **Gen Delta – motion mode with threshold and metal separation.**

- **2 Tone**
- **3 Tone, Gain set 1–90 for a faster recovery speed, 90–99 is a slower recovery speed but achieves more depth**
- **4 Tone**
- **5 Tone**
- **99 Tone**
- **Beach**
- **Deep**
- **Cache (non-motion without Threshold, single adjustable tone)**

**9 settings adjustments**

- **Gain**, 01–99.
- **Disc**, 00–99.
- **Notch**, 01–99.
- **Notch Volume**, 00–05.
- **Tone**, adjustable depending on mode. **Tone volume**, 00–05.
- **Tone break**, adjustable depending on mode.
- **Threshold only used with Gen Delta mode.**
- **Isat**, 00–10.

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**9 options**

- **Frequency**: 5kHz, 14kHz, 20kHz.
- **Volume**: 00 – 10.
- **Brightness**: 00–05 backlight goes out depending on setting, C1–C5 backlight constantly on.
- **Vibrate**: 00 is off, 1–5 activates Vibration (with 1 being strongest and 5 weakest).
- **ID Depth**: low – in – hi a Sensitivity setting for target ID.
- **Tracking**: 00 is Off 01 is On.
- **Frequency Shift**: 01–05.
- **Factory Default**: Press left < for factory default, press right > to save settings.
- **Wireless**: 00 is off and 01–19 is the selectable wireless frequencies.

**Extra Underground Depth (EUD) is activated by double pressing the select button.**

On the control unit you also have large TID display, Battery life, Depth, Mineralisation and Ground Balance readout. Also in the bottom left corner you can see FLO, FMED, FHI, which is to notify you what frequency you are using.

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The bottom left button is for pinpointing. Bottom right is the Ground Balance button. All buttons have a backlight and will light up whenever the screen LCD is on.

**Test bed**

First of all, I’d like to start with the feel of the Anfibio Multi. It’s built to a high standard and feels solid without being too heavy. The overall weight is 4lb but the balance of the machine feels good and it’s ergonomically comfortable.

The quick release armcup is excellent. Combined with the quick release camlocks on the stem, it means you can easily adjust to your personal arm length for maximum comfort.

The rubberised handgrip feels great and the ease of access to all of the buttons with just the use of your thumb. Everything is there in front of you on the large LCD display and it’s really simple to navigate.
Depth test
The reason I carry out an initial Depth and Recovery speed test is to see the potential of the machine’s capabilities. Adjusting the settings at this stage provides you with a better understanding of what helps you wrinkle up the goodies when in the field. It’s not a truly accurate test, BUT it does help get a better understanding of the machine potential.

I initially started off with a bag of about 50 copper and bronze coins (all pre 1947), all buried at an impressive 19”. I tried all of the different modes and they got the target with ease. However, I found Deep Mode really hit hard on the coins, giving out a strong loud audio ... I was even able to raise the coil 5” above the ground and the Anfibio Multi still emitted a good signal. So an overall depth of 24” was achieved!

Next I buried a George V penny at respectable 12”. I was using 3 Tone Mode with a Gain of 99. I wanted to see what depth was gained and the Deep Mode had over the 3 Tone Mode. I was surprised to see that the 3 Tone mode did so well and was able to get 4” above the ground so 16” overall. I tried Deep Mode with Gain as high as possible, without too much falsing from EMI (Gain at 90) and was able to get an extra 2” depth over the 3 Tone mode – so that’s an impressive 18” overall!

Recovery Speed test/masking
For this test I used an Edward III penny, a thin silver hammered coin and two iron nails about 1” in length.

I started with the coin and positioned it in a clean area, free from any iron and the nails approximately 6” either side of it, from left to right. I used the fastest mode, the 3 Tone mode, with Gain at 89.

The Anfibio Multi passed the test with ease! You can hear the ‘grunt–beep–grunt’, no matter how fast you swing the coil across the targets.

I repeated the test over and over again bringing the nails closer each time to the coin, until I had one nail touching the coin and the other just on top. You could still clearly hear the good target!

This clearly showed me that the Anfibio Multi coped extremely well with the Recovery Speed AND the iron wasn’t masking out the target. I was very impressed.

My preferred settings
1. General searching
   3 Tone Mode
   Gain: 95
   Disc: 04
   Notch: 05
   Notch volume: 02
   Tones: Z1 15, Z2 50, Z3 68
   Tone volume: Z1 02, Z2 05, Z3 05
   Tone break: Z1 05, Z2 50
   Isat: 01
   Frequency: 14kHz
   ID depth: Hi
   Tracking off: Manual Ground Balance

2. Ancient sites with lots of iron contamination (looking for small targets amongst iron)
   3 Tone Mode
   Gain: 89
   Disc: 04
   Notch: 05
   Notch volume: 02
   Tones: Z1 15, Z2 50, Z3 68
   Tone volume: Z1 02, Z2 50, Z3 50
   Tone break: Z1 05, Z2 50
   Isat: 01
   Frequency: 20kHz
   ID depth: Hi
   Tracking off: Manual Ground Balance

3. Deep pasture (quiet ground)
   Deep Mode
   Gain: 95 or as high as possible without to much chatter
   Disc: 14
   Notch: 15
   Notch volume: 00
   Tones: Z1 15, Z2 50
   Tone Volume: Z1 00, Z2 05
   Tone break: Z1 05, Z2 50
   Isat: 01
   Frequency: 05kHz
   ID depth: Hi
   Tracking off: Manual Ground Balance

3 Tone Mode is my preferred mode and it works really well on historical sites with the Gain below 90. The Recovery Speed is lightning fast.

Yes, it has a little less depth but when on ancient sites the land is usually covered in small iron nails. You need this speed to be able to get in-between the iron to hear the good targets.

With the Gain above 90 you’ll get a slightly slower Recovery Speed, which provides more depth. Ideally this should be used on sites with moderate iron contamination.

My Deep Mode setting works fantastically on quiet pasture terrain. If you’re struggling to get a signal, just switch to Deep Mode to gain those extra few inches where the desired targets are just out of reach with the other modes. It can have a little ‘chatter’, but with my tweaked settings, I found it made this less noticeable. Adjust the Sensitivity until it’s as stable as you like it. Don’t be afraid to run it even as low as 75 as you’ll still be punching deep!

To see how the Anfibio Multi did on my test bed, please check out our FREE thesearchermag YouTube Channel. The video is called ‘Anfibio Multi, impressive depth and recovery, metal detecting’.

Look out for Part 2 in a future issue!

ANFIBIO MULTI

(Scores out of ten based on price category)
Ergonomics (weight/balance): 9
Simplicity/user friendliness: 9
Build quality: 9
Weather resistance 10
Discrimination Performance 9
Overall detection Performance 9
Value for money (£849.00): 9

The Searcher Rating