

THE OFFICIAL ARCHIVE FOR INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN HUNTING



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Ruben Velatta (Italy) took this Alpine ibex from Switzerland in October 2011.

At 7:15 a.m. we were finally at the top, with day breaking. It had been really hard, because in order to reach the top in a great hurry we took the most impassable and dangerous route, but we are mountain hunters, so let's go! We took up our stands on the ridge and waited for the record ibex I hoped I could hunt. There was nothing to do, and at 8:30 a.m. we understood that it was getting late and there weren't any beautiful ibex around.

Now, we had to decide what to do, or we could stay there until sunset, when the ibex would come back up. Or, we could go downhill and then climb again to look for ibex on another ridge. It was up to us! Unfortunately for our legs, my friends and I have only one thing wrong... we can't be still for a long time, and so, in a hurry we descended with ropes and crampons. Before arriving at the bottom of the valley, we walked across and we started to climb again. Finally, at about 4 p.m. and almost at the end of our strength, we

reached the next ridge top. The ibex were 400 meters away from us, but we decided to go nearer up to 250 meters.

Eric, our guide, watched the animals through the stektive and it seemed that not one was good enough to shoot. Even if I live not so far from Switzerland, sincerely I still have too many animals to hunt and maybe one life is not long enough! So, I decided to be satisfied with a mediocre ibex.

I used the telemeter and the angle of the shot was incredible. I calculated and shot. The animal fell, with a really perfect shot. I used a Blaser R93 rifle with Swarovski scope Z6I 3-30 x 50BT, loaded with the cartridge Remington Power Level III, Swift Scirocco 180 grains.

Ruben Velatta (Italy), president of the **European Chapter** of Grand Slam Club/Ovis (from whom you have already seen one report in this issue), hunted in Switzerland during October 2011 and then filed this report:

Switzerland – what a hunting paradise! I love it for its extreme cleanliness, its people, its severity in observing the rules and respecting its own country.

My friends (and hunting mates) Ivo and Gianpiero and I were in Saillon, a little thermal resort located between Sion and Martigny, Switzerland. We arrived the day before to relax in a thermal station before the hunt. We had a good dinner in a racletterie, and once ended, immediately went to sleep!

Wake-up time was 3:30 a.m., a one-hour drive and then we started off among the mountains. We had a long walk, and don't be fooled, because it is true that in Switzerland the mountain trails are clean and well marked, but the mountains are the same all over the world: steep and tiring.