

# Bow Report

By Bill Krenz

## Sims LimbSaver DeadZone

In 1999, Steve Sims stunned the archery industry with the introduction of the LimbSaver, the most effective bow-dampening device ever offered. Since that time, the company has continued to pioneer new ground with a host of additional bow dampeners, silencers, stabilizers, grip wraps and strips, shelf pads, cable slides, cable-guard dampeners and even spray-on Silent Armor coatings. Archers who sought to squelch noise and vibration grew understandably confident in reaching for Sims LimbSaver products.

In recent years, Sims has reached out even more, developing and introducing an impressive array of archery sights, bowquivers and a wonderfully quiet drop-away arrow rest. So I doubt that it actually surprised anyone that this innovation-based company would eventually make the jump to bows. It made sense. If you already offered nearly everything to make everyone else's bows better, why not design your own bow?

Brand new for 2008 from Sims is the LimbSaver DeadZone Compound Bow.

The design objectives behind the LimbSaver DeadZone bow were lofty. "We wanted a deadly-fast bow," says Steve Sims. "But at the same time, we demanded a bow that was unusually accurate and, of course, it had to be quiet and shock-free."

To obtain all that, Sims and his elite team of archery engineers started from scratch. They built the new DeadZone from the ground up, utilizing a relatively straight riser with very little reflex for improved shooting stability, a brand-new cam system for surprising arrow speed and revolutionary extended limb pockets with no-contact limbs for maximum noise and vibration dampening.

The result—the 2008 LimbSaver DeadZone—is a surprisingly fast, accurate and quiet bow. What else would you expect from Steve Sims and LimbSaver?

### Shooting Results

I have to admit that I was taken off guard by just how fast the new LimbSaver DeadZone shoots.

I fully expected that a Sims-developed bow would be quiet and accurate, but the speed surprised me. My favorite carbon hunting arrows tend to weigh around 370 to 400 grains. With any of those arrows and the new DeadZone, my arrow speed was well above 300 feet per second. That's fast. Or, as Steve Sims likes to say, that's deadly-fast.

The typical way to get that much arrow speed is to combine an aggressive cam system with a low brace height and a highly reflexed (backset) riser. The problem with that is that the low brace height and the radically reflexed riser both tend to make the bow a bit less forgiving to shoot. Sims didn't want that.

While the cam system on the new DeadZone is decidedly aggressive, the riser is relatively straight with just one inch of reflex at the grip, and the bow's brace height is a generous 7.25 inches. What that means is that while fast, the Sims LimbSaver DeadZone also seems to be a particularly forgiving and accurate bow. I found it an easy bow to shoot with arrow-stacking accuracy, particularly at longer distances. At 40, 50 and 60 yards the DeadZone was almost boringly accurate.

To get all that speed, the draw cycle of the DeadZone is a bit stiff. But it's far from harsh and letoff comes easily. The valley is typically short, although the back wall is firm. Pulling into that wall at full draw proved comfortable and reassuring for me.

Sims wisely opted to tie everything together on the new LimbSaver DeadZone with Winner's Choice Customs Strings. That's, well, a great choice. Throughout extensive testing, I saw no string or cable stretch whatsoever, and the peep sight I'd installed always came back true.

The brand-new LimbSaver DeadZone Compound Bow is yet another archery product from Steve Sims that works.

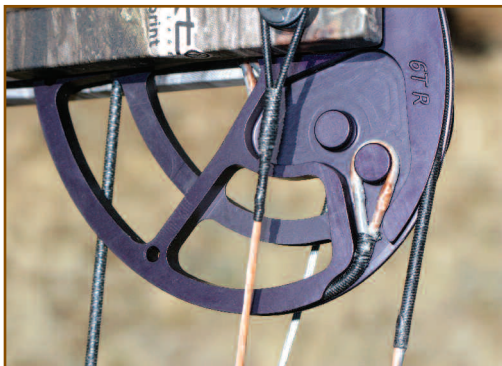
### Key Benefits

#### RELATIVELY STRAIGHT RISER

The DeadZone riser features barely one inch of reflex (backset) at the grip. That translates directly into a more stable and forgiving shooting



Extended limb pockets enable the LimbSaver DeadZone to utilize longer limbs for greater efficiency. They also extend limb life because those limbs are bent over a longer curve.



The DeadZone's H.E.A.T. Cam System includes a second bowstring post within each cam that allows you to shorten the bow's draw length by approximately one-half inch.



## Specifications

### Sims LimbSaver DeadZone

Axle-to-Axle Length	32 inches
Brace Height	7.25 inches
Riser Geometry	1 inch reflex
Mass Weight	4.0 pounds
Letoff	75%
Draw Lengths	26 to 30 inches
Draw Weights	50#, 60#, 70#
Finish	Next G1 Camo

For more information, Circle #156, log onto [limbsaver.com.com](http://limbsaver.com.com) or call LimbSaver at (360) 427-6031.

## Arrow Speed

Sims LimbSaver DeadZone set at 29 inches (by factory) and adjusted to 70 pounds

28-inch Arrows	Shaft: Grains/In	Arrow: Total Weight	Kinetic Energy	Arrow Speed
Easton XX78 Alloy 2512	10.3	448 gr.	80.8	285 fps
Easton Full Metal Jacket 400	10.2	425 gr.	80.5	292 fps
Beman Black Max 400	9.6	417 gr.	80.5	294 fps
Carbon Tech Whitetail 65/80	9.5	411 gr.	80.0	296 fps
Gold Tip XT Hunter 400	8.2	385 gr.	78.5	303 fps
Carbon Express Maxima 350	8.2	380 gr.	78.5	305 fps
PSE Radial X Weave Hunter 300	8.6	378 gr.	78.1	305 fps
Easton LightSpeed 400	7.4	365 gr.	77.9	310 fps
Gold Tip Ultralight Pro 400	7.4	360 gr.	78.3	313 fps
Carbon Tech Cheetah 400	6.4	348 gr.	78.2	318 fps
High Country Speed Pro Max	5.5	305 gr.	75.6	334 fps

All bows weighed with an Easton Bow Force Digital Scale. All tests conducted with a Spot-Hogg Hooter Shooter Portable Shooting Machine and a Competition Electronics Pro Chronograph.



Part of the DeadZone's dampening package is a Sims Arrow Shaft Impact Strip factory-installed on the front of the bow shelf, along with a handy Sims Fall-Away Arrow Rest Pad. Also shown is a Sims Arrow Holder.

platform. Slight foibles in grip position and shooting technique tend to go unnoticed with such an accuracy-oriented riser design. Also contributing to this bow's amenable shooting nature is its 7.25 brace height. That middle-of-the-road brace height means that the arrow leaves the string quickly, and that, too, boosts the DeadZone's forgiving nature.

### EXTENDED LIMB POCKETS

The single most distinctive feature of the new LimbSaver DeadZone is its extended limb pockets. Those revolutionary pockets allow for the use of longer bow limbs in conjunction with a forgiving straight riser and a 7.25-inch brace height. That groundbreaking configuration enables the DeadZone to use

each limb to greater efficiency and also extends limb life as each limb is bent over a longer curve.

### HIGH-EFFICIENCY ACTIVE TRANSFER (H.E.A.T.) CAM SYSTEM

The DeadZone's H.E.A.T. Cam System is essentially an aggressive cam & 1/2 eccentric arrangement. As such, it significantly reduces cam timing issues and boosts arrow speed. The DeadZone is available in 26-, 27-, 28-, 29- and 30-inch configurations. Each draw length sports its own individualized cam design to maximize performance at that draw specific length. A second bowstring post within the cams enables each DeadZone's draw length to be shortened by approximately one-half inch.

### SIMS DAMPENING PACKAGE

There are no less than 12 separate Sims vibration-dampening accessories on the new LimbSaver DeadZone. On the bow's limbs are Sims Ultra Quad LimbSavers. Sims String Leeches grace the bowstring, while Sims Cable Leeches are factory-installed on the cables. There are two Sims Cable Guard Dampeners, and on the riser is a Sims Arrow Shaft Impact Strip and a handy Sims Fall-Away Arrow Rest Pad.

### WINNER'S CHOICE STRINGS

High-performance bows demand bowstrings and cables that can withstand the extra stresses that such bows set up. The DeadZone is equipped with first-rate, pre-stretched Winner's Choice Custom Bowstrings and Cables. It would be hard to do better. 