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# TREASURES

*World's Leading How-To Magazine For Metal Detectorists Since 1966*

Volume 54  
MARCH 2020

## Field Test



**Anfibio Multi**



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# FIELD TEST

Metal Detectors  
**Nokta | MAKRO**  
DETECTION TECHNOLOGIES



*With all its new settings and features, plus 7 optional coils to choose from, the new Anfibio deserves a closer look.*

## Testing The Nokta/Makro Anfibio Multi

By Clive Clynick

**Anfibio** [an-fib-ee-o] (Italian: meaning “a creature that spends part of its life on land and part in water.”)

It's great to see a detector company that's universally as well regarded as Nokta/Makro. Since inception in 2001 Nokta/Makro

has gained a reputation for producing high-performance, feature-rich detectors based upon feedback from top hunters. Based in Europe, they also have a great reputation for lightning fast service returns if needed.

I credit their products with opening up all of my

local *hunted out* silver sites after many years of being *worked out*. My first Nokta/Makro detector allowed me to go back to all of these iron infested sites and pull out the deepest, oldest silver coins that every other brand of machine had missed.

This is a company that can only be described as dynamic in that they continually seek to build upon the best features of each detector they make. The new waterproof Anfibio Multi is an example of this ongoing refinement. One only needs to look online to read what's being said about this machine. When guys who have used about every machine that's come out in the last 40 years are impressed—I listen. All of us are particularly impressed with the Anfibio's overall build and new stock coil, an

11" DD configuration that gives both depth and precise separation in iron.

Relic and inland hunters also point to this machine's great audio and performance in iron. One top hunter's description I liked called the Anfibio a "juiced up waterproof Impact with a lot of great new features." This is apparent when you switch on and hear the *sparky* sounding audio. I like detectors with this *raw* sound in that they can be run *on edge*— a big advantage in heavily hunted or iron infested sites that lets you

hear more marginal targets. This is a detector that sounds, and is, powerful. Many confuse this kind of audio on a detector with instability. I disagree. I believe that a single frequency detector like the Anfibio can be run *hotter* with less susceptibility to interference. This is especially true with the larger coils. A single frequency is a *clean*, simple signal that also gives more precise size and shape information on targets.

The Anfibio Multi offers three selectable frequencies: a deep 5 kHz set-  
→



*Author, treasure hunter, Clive James Clynick searches for gold jewelry using Anfibio Multi's 14 kHz mode at a busy sunbathing beach area.*



*This old iron-infested picnic grove has yielded coins dating to Victorian times—the perfect place to test the Anfibio Multi. It didn't disappoint!*

ting that's good on deep silver and larger objects, a stable, general usage 14 kHz one for coins and jewelry and my favorite, a 20 kHz mode that's super fast and nimble in dense trash or iron and highly sensitive to gold, small coins or relic items.

Just having this choice alone is a huge deal in terms of the versatility it offers.

For example, I've had great results with this 20 kHz setting in dense black sand—going in behind other hunters and bringing up deep one and two dollar



*The Anfibio features a sleek, rugged design that collapses to dive or pack length in seconds.*

coins—and even nickels that were stained purple—best clad hunting day in years!

### Overall Physical

There has also been a lot of excitement about the Anfibio's rod system. It's triangular, not round. Because of this rigid shape, it can be built lighter. This also means that it's rock solid, with a very sturdy, well-made feel—not too heavy, but not at all flimsy. The three sections adjust by way of cam locks and the top elbow brace also can be moved to suit your exact preferences, and to better balance different coils or stem lengths. I also liked the comfortable grip made from a touch, easy-to-grab rubber. The Anfibio's rod system also telescopes down to 30" (78 cm) for ease of carrying or packing for transport without disassembling the unit. This short configuration also works for diving.

The Anfibio's interface and display are also very well thought out. The interface panel is now backlit for night or in-water work. The *point and shoot* style menu makes customizing the Anfibio fast and simple by way of two visible menu lists, **Settings** and **Options**. There are four arrow keys to *navigate* **Ground Balance** and **Pinpoint** keys, and a single depth boost; bad



*The Anfibio's great array of search modes, features and settings are all available at a glance on this well thought out display.*

ground button. (More on this later.) **Discriminate/Notch** settings are shown on a bar graph at the top of the screen. A cursor on this graph also shows the conductive range of current targets. The Anfibio's search mode, ID (number), target depth, battery strength, the ground conditions (mineral) and your ground balance settings, are also visible at a glance.

This is one of the most efficient and well laid-out info screens I've seen recently on a detector. This is very important in that I see so many new or intermediate hunters who buy high

performance machines but end up using them only in the pre-set modes because the adjustment menus are too involved. They become *stuck*. With the Anfibio, just decide what you want to change and there it is, right on-screen to adjust. There's also a *last adjustment return* feature that lets you *tweak* settings over targets to accept, reject or test to better hear faint ones.

### Coils

As touched upon earlier, the 11" DD coil is a new product made especially for the Anfibio. The size of this coil is what attracted me to this detector initially, and it did not disappoint. It's big

enough to give excellent coverage and depth. At the same time there is a lot of discussion online about this coil's great small object sensitivity and separation in dense iron. There's a great English magazine's YouTube video showing the Anfibio with this 11" coil to be several inches deeper than anything else on the market. It's great to see the results that U.K. hunters are getting with this machine at Roman and other old sites with this coil's depth and the Anfibio's excellent audio. One touch I especially liked on this coil was the two *ears* where the wand attaches are very thick and solid. I frequently see hunters who snap these on other machines and have to scrap the coil.

There's also a great array of accessory coil options available tailored to your exact site/application needs and preferences—seven in all. I know of no other manufacturer that offers so many choices of both size and coil configuration. There's two available large coils for deep hunting in more open ground: the DD 35 x 33 cm / 13.5" x 13" and the DD 40 x 35 cm / 15" x 14".

For dense trash or highly mineralized ground there is an impressive choice of small coils. Each size category offers both a DD,



*The Anfibio's new 11" Double D searchcoil had both great depth and razor-sharp separation in dense iron.*

Elliptical or concentric round option.

The DD's include a 13 x 13 cm (5"), an elliptical 19 x 10 cm / 7.5" x 4", and a larger elliptical that I've gotten great results with in black sand and iron with the 24 x 13 cm / 9.5" x 5".

The Mono coils offered include an 18 x 18 cm (7") that's very highly regarded by both beach and relic hunters. There are several top hunters who have stated that this coil will pick out targets in iron that no other detectors they've used can see. (More on this coil later.)

There is also a 23 cm (9") that provides a concentric alternative to the stock 11".

It's worth noting here that used with the Anfibio's 20 kHz setting, the smaller

of these coils make the detector wholly gold-field (or river) capable. Of the ones I've tried, I found the 9.5 x 5" to be a great gold jewelry coil—super sensitive in 20 kHz—a great

edge machine, and again, very, very sharp in iron. It's easily the most effective detector set up I've used for these *carpet of nails* type conditions.

### Audio

Every Nokta/Makro detector I try seems to have better, cleaner, more informative audio than the last. The Anfibio is also what would be termed a *high bias* detector in that when you learn to listen for extension in the response, you can become very accurate. This sharp, clean audio lets you hear a real lot of detail about what is under the coil. There are several U.K. YouTube videos out of hunters placing nails right on top of coins and still being able to detect the coin with the Anfibio.



*The Anfibio Multi's standard Notka/Makro Green Edition wireless phones pair in a second and have clean, loud audio.*



*The 7" KR18C has surprising depth for a small coil. In particular, it makes an excellent gold jewelry coil for the water's edge or busy sunbathing ground. The Anfibio's 20 kHz option gives it even more gold sensitivity.*

This is a great demo of just what this machine's fast processing speed and high-bias performance can do for your find count at old sites.

I credit the operating characteristics of Nokta/Makro detectors while teaching me how to effectively use coil control target testing. This has found me a lot of deep gold and silver. With the speed and *clean* metal bias of a machine like the Anfibio this testing is much more effective, that is, when you use the coil to check a signal by going to the *cross-sweep*—iron and other corroded targets don't *stay in*. Misshapen objects like scrap lead or can slaw are also more likely to give a broken tone. Again, good, non-ferrous responses have *exten-*

*tion*. What I learned was that there's a whole other level of skill building, accuracy and effectiveness available to you with this clean audio and super-fast signal processing.

### **In-Ground Features**

The Anfibio's Ground Balancing feature also offers you choice. You can balance automatically, or manually, and when the Auto sequence completes, the machine stays in all-metal for several seconds in case you want to make fine adjustments to tune higher for more depth (louder response) or *undertune* to settle the threshold down in bad ground or salt sand. The manual option is also available for tough ground and there's also a tracking fea-

**“The Anfibio Multi kit comes with coil cover, wireless phones, charge cords (also for firmware upgrades), car and Euro plugs, hardware spares and manual. There's also an optional water-proof alkaline pack.”**

ture for where you have soils of mixed composition or moisture levels.

You also have an SAT (Self Adjusting Threshold) control to adjust how fast the machine retunes. This speed can be opened up (slowed) in benign ground for more depth or sped up to smooth out the operation.

### **Search Modes**

What makes the Anfibio a truly *world class* machine are its well thought out search modes. These may seem involved to begin with but are very simple to use and give you a ton of versatility and choice. This is a detector that can be run anywhere to search for anything.

**Gen:** This is the basic All Metal mode. There are some great YouTube demos

of this mode being used in specially brought-in tough soils. In this ground the Anfibio in **Gen** mode sounds off on coins that none of the other test machines hear— period. **Gen** mode also gives you an on-screen ID— all-metal depth with on-screen target info— a beach hunter's dream.

Now we come to the Anfibio's Tone ID modes. The machine's clean, sharp audio transitions make these modes highly effective in junk. In that all of these *tone breaks* are adjustable. Many top hunters prefer to use no discriminate, or notch, and operate by *ear* alone. This is a highly effective way to hear good targets in dense trash. The *unhindered* signal is also deeper.

**2 Tone:** This is my favorite— simple, with a single adjustable tone break to take you up above iron or light foil if preferred. I find this to be a great-sounding, raw, deep way to use the machine on the beach, especially with the elliptical 9.5 x 5 or other small coils.

**3 Tone:** This mode is for general usage when you require some iron and mid-range ID. It features a special, faster *separation mode* when used at lower sensitivity and slows down when the gain is up above 90. This allows you the choice of *faster* or *deeper*. My tests



*This 1936 nickel was a pleasant surprise.*

also show **3 Tone** to be a good choice where there is strong EMI.

**4 Tone:** This is a setting for more dense trash environments that can be customized to suit. (As can all the tone ID modes.) Using the Discriminate options (as described below) you can change the width, tone or volume of each segment.

**5 Tone:** This is also for those hunters who want to hear detailed target information— segmenting low foils and gold from mid-range objects from high coin responses.

**99 Tone:** This mode gives a more fluid and detailed multi-tone response. It's great for ID'ing alloys or corroded objects such as rusted bottle-caps or tin. Anything that's blending with the ground will not hold a consistent sound in **99 Tone**. It makes

a great *checker*.

**Beach:** This **2 Tone** mode is for salt sand or highly conductive soils. It's designed to groundbalance anywhere and has a single pre-set tone break that's up higher to eliminate ground and iron noises. This tone break can be adjusted lower to give more depth in mild ground or higher for more stability. A trick I've learned is to use **Beach** mode to balance in tough environments, then run another set-up of your choice.

**Deep:** **Deep** mode is a slowed down setting that lets the detector take a longer, more detailed look at the ground. Used with a slower sweep speed it gives stunning depth and is preferred by many deep coin and relic hunters, used in conjunction with the 5 kHz setting. In all the YouTube comparison-type videos I've



looked at, **Deep** was the search mode that none of the other detectors tested could touch.

**Cache:** This is also entirely new to the Anfibio. **Cache** mode is aimed at larger, deeper targets—an even slower non-motion mode that is focused upon high conductors.

All of these modes can be run in any frequency you choose to target certain types of object or get best performance in a given type of soil. Again, the faster settings such as 14 and 20 kHz are best suited for iron, black sand or where there are multiple, co-located targets.

**EUD Mode:** **EUD** stands for Extra Underground Depth. This is a special **2 Tone** boost that lets the detector penetrate more deeply in bad ground or where there is coke or hot rocks. It also has great potential for black sand beach hunting—down in the gullies where the gold is most often found. It can be snapped on to check marginal responses or set to be used as a search mode.

This is a detector that offers an array of well thought-out modes that are all simple to access and use. There are several YouTube videos of testers getting great depth with the Anfibio using just the stock settings, silver dimes at 14 in-ground. Just push the *down* arrow to

scroll through and select one from the on-screen list on the left side of the screen. At the same time, you also have the option of making changes for specific site challenges, applications or problem targets. I especially like the fact that your sensitivity, discriminate and *notch* settings are for that mode only—you can jump from one to another to cross-check responses.

### Discriminate Options

I see so many YouTube videos of hunters who are using high-performance detectors but still more or less digging random targets! The Anfibio offers many features to help you use its power with accuracy and effectiveness. Let's suppose you want to hunt in **3 Tone**. You can begin by adjusting the width of each tone break. You might want to bring the first break up above light foils. I've also gotten good results running the second tone break up above zinc and copper pennies, up at "83." This lets me focus upon quarters, (up here in Canada we have \$1 and \$2 coins) and silver. When I hear the high tone the odds of the target being one of those are pretty good.

You have your basic *sound or no sound* discrimination and *notch* which lets you knock out a specific tar-

get range, both quick and simple to adjust. As well, you can customize the volume or tone of each bin—eliminating some altogether if preferred. The Anfibio is easily the best example out of just how far detector discrimination has come, even in the last few years.

The Anfibio also features adjustable Target ID Depth. This lets you control the detail and reactivity of the "ID" numbers—a useful tool in picking out good targets in iron, or recognizing junk alloys by the wide pattern of numbers they produce.

This feature can also be used to mediate the meter response at high sensitivity levels for simpler readings.

The iron volume or tone can also be changed. Some relic hunters prefer to hear the iron so as to zero in on where there was activity (or better hear what's mixed in with it). Another method is to mute the iron—to make more desirable metals jump out.

All of these may sound involved at first but the Anfibio's display makes them fast and simple to do and keep track of at a glance. Again, the pre-set modes work well in a variety of situations, but it's great to have these trash-busting options to try as you develop more skill and want to hunt tougher sites. →

## Air Test and Initial Impressions

While I'm the first one to say that air tests don't tell much, I did immediately see that the Anfibio with the 11" coil sounded a lot more powerful and deeper than the Macro Kruser, also a great machine. I air test with the same targets: a silver dime, a medium gold band and a small square gold pendant. The first test I did with this detector was to note just how different the sensitivity to these objects was in the various frequencies—quite an amazing difference—with a lot of potential. These testers also give me a consistent idea of just how big of a field a given machine puts out. Especially in **Deep** mode, the Anfibio hit my test ring well past the 18" mark. I test in a basement with a running furnace and an electrical panel. The Anfibio's stability in that environment was

also very impressive.

## Cutting Edge Features

It's amazing how much detectors have advanced and the Anfibio is a prime example of a machine with the most modern features. For example, the rechargeable Lithium Polymer cell is built in to the handle and can be charged fully in 4-6 hours. It then runs up to 19 hours, depending on your settings. A typical run time is about 15 hours. There is also an optional waterproof cell pack that attaches under the armrest which allows you to run the unit on alkaline cells. You can also use a *Power bank* to charge, even in the field with the machine running on the cell pack.

The Anfibio also comes with wireless phones, no more pulled or shorted cables. These are not waterproof but have great, clean sound. They pair instantly, simply, every time. There

are also waterproof phones available.

## Field Testing

I'm a great believer in the power of trial and error, and have gotten great results that way. When you have a machine like the Anfibio that has a lot of power and speed, being able to direct this performance with an effective array of features is a great feeling. Of course, this takes practice. For example, during the winter I had watched a YouTube video of a highly skilled Anfibio Multi hunter coax a 1940s half dollar out from under the *null* of two big spikes—very well done! I was eger to try this detector at some of my own nail infested sites and begin working on these same great skills.

## In the Water

My first time in the water with the Anfibio Multi had a lot of pleasant surprises. It felt solid, great to swing and adjusted for my height in an instant. It auto-ground balanced in a second and ran quite smoothly given the patchy black sand at this beach. This site had all the trash favorites: aluminum, slag, spikes, tin, wire, caps and tabs—a very tough environment that had driven me out in frustration many times. My first test was the **Gen D** mode.





*Fully submersible up to 5 meters (16.4ft) and protected from total dust ingress.*

Bringing the Sensitivity up to “94,” I focussed upon small narrow responses and the first faint, deep sounding target actually was very deep. Although it was just a rusty beer bottlecap, just how far down it sounded off from well over 15" convinced me right away that this detector and its new coil were *very* powerful. I then tried **4 Tone** as several online reviews had said that it was the deepest of the multi-tone modes. What was great was that it had this nice bleed in the tones which made hearing much of the alloyed junk easy. These were wavering, inconsistent sound. Good responses *locked* on really well. The Anfibio’s high bias broke up a lot of the alloyed and misshapen junk (can slaw) on the cross-sweep—just great ears and rejection. A few

aluminum signals that could have just as easily been gold came up clean, smooth mid tones. As well, the meter responses were very telling—caps were *wild* scattered numbers whereas the coins and a couple of stainless rings and aluminum objects were more tightly clustered. Many responses with corrosion or iron went way up into the

high “90/s”—obvious junk. Just being able to focus upon this mid conductor range was a huge deal with a lot of beach gold potential. After hitting three oval tabs in a row I decided to use the *notch* to knock out the digits “31” to “33.” This was easy to do and did the job in a second.

I also tested **Deep** mode—and once I got used to slowing down my sweep was able to find several deep questers, one well below the 10" mark in the hand-packed black/grey sand. I also tested the **EUD** mode, a special deep boost feature for bad ground. Turning this on and off over a signal produced a noticeable *clean up* effect on faint targets, showing a lot of potential for the black sand areas of my beach.

I resolved to try the tuned-for-gold 20 kHz in

this capacity next time out. My indoor tests with this setting show great small gold and chain responses.

### **Park Field Test**

For me there’s nothing better than seeing if a machine can come up with something at the toughest *proving grounds* one knows. This old site was where the cars were fixed going back to the 1870s, if not before. I started with **4 Tone Sens 94**. This seemed a bit too high with the electric lamp standards present so I went down to 85. There just seemed to be a lot of good signals, shocking considering that the last time I was in one chunk of reloader scrap was the only dig. These signals were short, clipped responses—many up in my set high tone (over “79”) range and the third one was a silver 1960s dime. A deep 1936 nickel also came up from right in the middle of this heavily worked section. The audio transitions were great—telling me even the difference between silver and copper—with the highly accurate meter giving me another clue as to the best responses to dig. While more practice was for sure in order, I was well on my way to being able to cherry pick a few more silver coins with the Anfibio’s accurate, telling audio. With the site’s age in mind I know this machine has a ton of poten-

<p><b>Nokta Makro Anfibio Multi</b> Waterproof Metal Detector with 11" DD Coil + Wireless Headphones (Multi Frequency 5kHz/14kHz/20kHz) + Free Nokta Waterproof Pointer + Baseball Cap + Digger (shown below when you add to cart)</p>	<p><b>Nokta Makro Anfibio 19</b> Waterproof Metal Detector with 11" DD Coil + Wireless Headphones (Single Frequency 19 kHz for Relics and Gold Jewelry) + Free Nokta Waterproof Pointer + Baseball Cap + Digger (shown below when you add to cart)</p>	<p><b>Nokta Makro Anfibio 14</b> Waterproof Metal Detector with 11" DD Coil + Wireless Headphones (Single Frequency 14kHz for Coins) + Free Nokta Waterproof Pointer + Baseball Cap + Digger (shown below when you add to cart)</p>
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tial here. There were a few spike and cap high falses, but these pinpointed with a flat, wide sound— again, more practice needed. Although my hunt time was limited that day I also tinkered with the Notch, Iron Volume, and Tone Break features to *tweak 4 Tone* for more accuracy and quieter operation. This worked well, and towards days end I was knocking out a lot of mid-range aluminum junk but still hitting some of the more unusual stuff like keys, dog tags and a few unusually large tabs.

### Conclusions

Anyone who has read one of my books knows that I'm big on adaptability. As I began to hunt with the

Anfibio it became clear that this was a detector for exactly my style of searcher. With this machine, Nokta/Makro has set out to provide the hunter with maximum choice. It's also the most versatile detector I've seen, one you can take in any number of directions hunting beaches, inland, relics, etc., even *sniping* for placer gold in rivers or high bank areas.

Overall, I had the sense of an extremely powerful detector, but one with the well thought out tuning and discriminate features to let you harness this power and direct it accurately. This means huge potential for those prime *worked out* sites (the older the better) as one learns to go deeper and work

more effectively in iron and junk. It's a machine you can evolve with over time, beginning with the simple-to-use factory pre-sets.

The Anfibio Multi *kit* comes with coil cover, wireless phones, charge cords (also for firmware upgrades), car and Euro plugs, hardware spares and manual. There's also an optional waterproof alkaline pack.

There are also two single frequency models offered, the Anfibio 14 kHz— more of a coin and general purpose version, and the Anfibio 19. This 19 kHz model is a specialized gold/beach version that is also a favorite of relic hunters because of the high frequency's in iron separation. It also features an expanded iron discrimination range (0 to 40) that lets you knock out small nails while still accepting iron implements. Both feature the same great depth, target separation and audio at a lower price than the Multi. All models feature a 2-year warranty.

The Nokta/Makro Anfibio line is available worldwide. For more information on this amazing detector e-mail: [info@noktadetectors.com](mailto:info@noktadetectors.com) or visit: <https://noktadetectors.com/>

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