Arrow Tagging and Analysis

To give yourself the best chance to achieve as an archer, your quiver should only contain your best grouping arrows.

The process of identifying and selecting your best arrows, is commonly known as "Arrow Culling".

The basics of arrow culling are simple but ideally you should be a consistent shot and be able to identify bad shots, which could affect how your arrows group.

To plot your arrow groups, you can either use a pen and a paper target, or an app, such as ArcherySuccess.

With ArcherySuccess you can plot, assign arrow numbers to plotted points, and quickly analyse your plotted arrow groups.
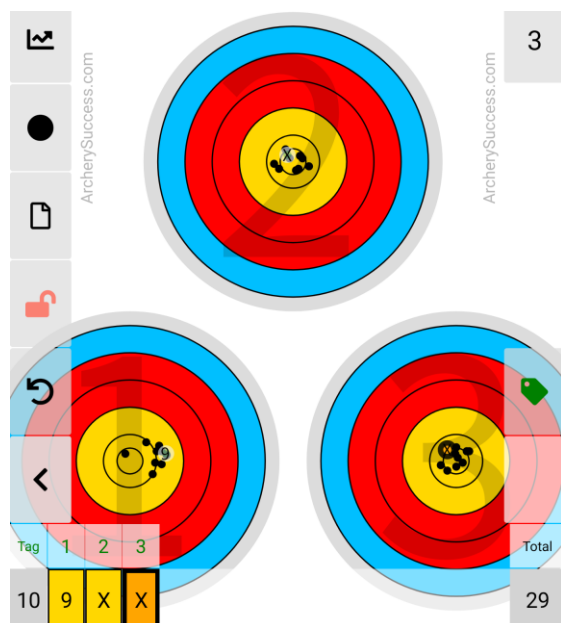

Figure 1 Arrow plot. The assigned arrow number is shown as a Tag (numbers in green above the arrow score).

Arrow Culling steps

One: Weigh your arrows. Arrows should be the same weight and configuration.

Two: Write a unique number on each of your arrows. ArcherySuccess supports arrow numbers 1 to 24.

Three: Shoot, then plot and tag each arrow. Assigning the arrow number, or "tag", to plot points will help you reference back to your physical arrows, fig. 1. The process of plotting and tagging arrows is built into ArcherySuccess.

Important: Wayward arrows which results from bad shots should not be tagged, as this does not reflect the behaviour of the arrow.
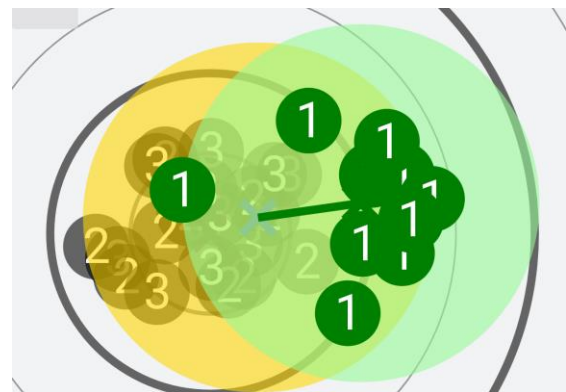

Figure 2 Plot analysis showing arrow 1 grouping.

Four: Repeat step 3 until you are confident that your plots reflect arrow behaviour.

Five: Do a plot analysis, fig. 2. Look at where an arrow with a specific tag (arrow number) groups in relation to the 'all arrows' group. Arrows which do not group or tend to group to one side of the main group are the ones to further investigate and adjust.

For more info, see "How do I do Arrow Tagging" on archerysuccess.com, the FAQ page.