

THRASHED

ITP GNCC Tires

Aftermarket and OEM engineers know the best place to research and test products is on the racing circuit. Here, the best riders in the business subject products to the most extreme of conditions and put them through the wringer. For example, The Grand National Cross Country (GNCC) series begins in Southern Florida and, after 13 different venues along the East Coast, ends in Crawfordsville, Indiana. It would be difficult to find a series that has a larger array of terrain than the GNCC, and this is why I was a bit surprised to see design veterans at ITP name a tire after this rigorous series. With a name like GNCC, there's much to live up to.

During our testing, we experienced a few weeks of crazy Georgia. On one hand, I've found myself riding in 105-degree weather on intense hardpack trails. On the other hand, I experienced pure slop after a few surprise thundershowers. This is typical in my area and is also the reason it's difficult to find the perfect general-purpose tire for my needs. I prefer to spend my days on tight wooded trails, but when any obstacle or MX track is fixed in my line of sight I find it difficult to pass up. This is where the GNCC tire shines as

it truly performs well wherever you may find yourself thrashing about this weekend.

Kudos to ITP with this design as traction is superb with predictable slide characteristics. I was especially impressed with the performance of the front tires due to their responsive nature on the track and trail where missing a corner may result in missing teeth. With a blip of the throttle the proven X-pattern lug inherited from the original Holeshoot digs in and grips launching the machine off the line all the while continuing to bite through every gear. Straightline stability proved to be undisputable even at high speeds where correct balance is most desired. This is where a lesser tire may begin to shimmy and bounce creating an unstable feel that's usually preceded by backing off of the throttle. A meaty six-ply construction keeps you at the top of your game by resisting puncture and sidewall damage that would otherwise leave you stranded with shredded rubber.

Like the saying goes, "You have to pin it to win it," and if you can't get the power to the ground, you'll be left to eat your competitor's dust. No tire will be perfect for every type of trail condition



that could possibly be encountered, but ITP's GNCC was designed to provide your machine with the best possible features to broaden the range of use with a single tire. Paired with a set of ITP's T-9 Pro Series GP wheels, this combination has proved to be unstoppable.

TIRES 91

Traction	25/30
Weight	20/20
Handling	18/20
Durability	9/10
Price	19/20

BOTTOM LINE: A lightweight tire that performs equally well in any weather condition Mother Nature has in store.

ITP TIRES: 909/390-1905; www.itptires.com