A further object of the invention is to provide an improved dart for blowguns which has a basic body structure with interchangeable heads including (1) a sportsman's head for hunting and having a hollow needle connected with a reservoir for fluid for injection into the animal; (2) a needle point for adult target practice; and (3) a felt ink marker for children's target practice.

In the drawings:

FIG. 1 is a central section taken through a blowgun of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a side elevation of one of the darts with a lethal head;

FIG. 3 is a side elevation of the insert for the dart of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a side elevation of a dart using a needle point;

FIG. 5 is a side elevation partially in section of a dart employing a felt marker.

The combination of the present invention includes a blowgun element or blowpipe, as it is sometimes called, being designated as 10 and a dart 9. The blow dart shown in FIG. 1 is conventional in shape and contour. The gun barrel is preferably made from fiberglass reinforced resin having a through bore 12 with a smooth, mirror-like inner surface. The tube is of seamless construction and is produced from glass or resin and is heavily reinforced with continuous fiberglass filaments. It can also be made from polyester, phenolic or melamine resins.

The improved dart 11 has a streamlined body section 14 with a feathered tailpiece having three or four equally spaced feathers or vanes 16 and further has a bored 18 extending inwardly from its forward end, the front portion of the bore being threaded at 19. The contour of the body section is one which has the least resistance to air during its forward travel and may have a section 17 of reduced diameter just to the rear of the forward, full diameter section which closely fits to bore 12 in the barrel. Of the three interchangeable heads the first one 20, which is the sportsman's dart for hunting, has a threaded intermediate section 21 which is screwed into the forward threaded section 19 of the bore, and a hollow needle 22 extending forwardly therefrom. Extending rearwardly from the thread section is a rubber receptacle or container 24 similar to an eye dropper but of shorter length. This container extends rearwardly about one-half the length of bore 18 and in the rear section of the latter there is a steel ball 26 which, due to inertia, is positioned at the rear of the bore 18 during flight, but when the dart finds its mark and its forward movement is arrested, the ball, still due to inertia, moves forwardly and strikes the rear of the receptacle, causing the liquid (not shown) contained therein, to issue from the forward end of the needle under pressure.

The second removable head shown in FIG. 4 consists of a rear threaded section 28 and a needle 29 secured to a threaded stud similar to section 21 of FIG. 3. This assembly is used for target practice.

The third head shown in FIG. 5 is a children's target dart with a colored ink marker and consists of an externally threaded plastic cap 32 with a central opening 34 receiving the tailpiece 35 of a felt ink marker 36. In this case, bore 18 forms an ink reservoir.

While there have been described herein what are at present considered preferred embodiments of the invention, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that many modifications and changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention. It is therefore to be understood that the exemplary embodiments are illustrative and not restrictive of the invention, the scope of which is defined in the appended claim, and that all modifications that come within the meaning and
range of equivalency of the claim are intended to be included therein.

What we claim is:

A dart-like projectile for a blowgun and comprising a generally cylindrical body section, and feathered guides at the rear of the body section, said body section having a bore extending inwardly from its forward end and a projectile-like head removably positioned within said bore, said head including a fluid tight receptacle at its rear end and a hollow needle projecting forwardly from the receptacle, wherein a ball is slidably positioned within said bore to the rear of the receptacle and arranged to strike the latter upon impact.