

The Newsletter of the E&LCAC October 2010

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Times

The nights are drawing in. The weather is colder. There is no doubt that autumn is upon us. The last match of the summer league took place on Sunday 26th of September. The next match on the last Sunday of October will be the first match of the winter league. If the meteorologists are right you had better dig out your winter woollies and thermals. We are being threatened with an unusually early snow fall. Global warming or what?

On a more serious note: For a very long time now I have been producing your monthly Newsletter, not an easy job but willingly undertaken. Why take this up now? Do you realise that rarely if ever do I get any feed back for my efforts. Do you want to carry on? Do you want to change anything? For example would you like a letters page? A Q& A page or perhaps you would rather have only the forum? It is all up to you the club members. Think things over and let Geoff or I know.

In this Issue: Non wiggly Baits A-Z

Comments

Meetings are once again being very poorly attended. The last meeting at the beginning of September saw just two members of the committee and one member appear. With only two apologies and one known worker that is a total of six members accounted for.

Meetings are an integral part of the club scene. They are where we not only make decisions affecting the club but also to talk and discuss other matters.

This is the part of club life which is just NOT happening.

There would appear to be two solutions.

Firstly that we could change the date and venue of meetings which would no doubt upset some members.

Secondly to stop having normal meetings and just hold committee meetings until the AGM.

The decision is yours but you need to attend a meeting to make your views known.

Foul language and litter are no longer subjects for discussion. Except for certain members both have almost stopped.

We are now coming into the winter league. I have fished winter league matches since we started so wrap up warm; wear multiple layers rather than just one heavy layer. If it warms up during the session with multiple layers you can take something off. With one heavy layer you just have to grin and bear it. Don't use alcohol; it is a depressant which works on the body's heat regulation system.

Above all enjoy being out.

Finally this month's main article on non wiggly baits is aimed at some potential members who cannot bring themselves to touch things that are slimy or wriggle about. I hope that you will find it interesting.

Phil

Non Wiggly Baits an A-Z

Bread

Bread used as bait can be in the form of flake, punch or paste.

Flake

A good bait for chub and carp. Usually used on rivers but will work well on still waters. Take a piece of bread about the size of your thumbnail and fold around the top of the hook. Do not obscure the hook point.

Pole, leger or float.

Use small bits of bread as free offerings.

Paste

Slices of bread without crust soaked in water and then squeezed in a clean tea towel. Use directly on the hook. Do not obscure the hook point.

Small pieces of breads or paste can be used as free offerings.

Punch

This method relies on the use of various size bread punches. Steam a couple of slices of white plastic bread (according to Nuddy, Tesco's is the best) for about 10 seconds then roll out to about 1/8 inch thick. Punch pieces out of the slice. The bread will dry out very quickly in a wind. This bait is usually fished on the pole because of its rather fragile nature. Liquidised bread or punch crumb used as both free offering and ground bait.

All bread can be fished over brown or white crumb as ground bait.

Caster

This is the pupae of the bluebottle as it changes from maggot to fly. It doesn't wiggle and the most fastidious can use it. Place a caster on the point of the hook as with a maggot or bury the hook inside the grub.

Fished over ground bait with sinking caster used as free offerings.

Leger, float or pole.

Chick Peas

Sometimes known as pigeon peas or carlins depending where you buy them. Soak for 24 hrs. Then boil until the flesh is soft and the skin still tough. Add sugar and bicarbonate of soda to the water to sweeten and blacken the peas.

Fish over hemp or ground bait with crushed hemp.

Pole, leger or float.

Cheese

Cheese as a paste is a very old bait. Excellent as a bait for chub and many other species. A piece of blue cheese soaked and squeezed into a soft paste or with a little bread added it becomes a stiff paste which can withstand casting. Always use blue cheese but

experiment with mature cheddars. The smellier the better because the smell is the attractant.

Pole or Float.

Sweet corn

This is a very popular bait for all silver fish. Sometimes difficult to put on a hook especially if you want to fish very fine. A size 16 or larger is the hook to use.

A variant to the corn grain is to use only the skin. Gently squeeze a grain of corn and the pulp will pop out. Add the pulp to your ground bait.

For both variants grains of corn can be used as free offerings or mixed with the ground bait.

Pole, leger or float.

Hemp

Hemp is usually thought of as an additive to ground bait but it is an excellent hook bait as well.

Find a grain which has just split. Squeeze together the pointed ends and insert your fine wire hook in the gap which will appear. The bites on this bait are very fast. Use hemp as free offerings trickling 6 or so grains around the hook every put in.

Pole or float.

Maize

The Native American name for sweet corn. Use as for corn although you will find it a lot tougher, harder to hook but even harder for the fish to remove.

Pasta

Spaghetti, vermicelli and macaroni are probably the best but you can try any or all the others. It is best to just soften the pasta so that it will go on and stay on the hook. Small fragments of cooked pasta can be used as free samples. Spaghetti in tomato sauce proved very popular with carp.

Pole or float.

Paste

An extremely good bait for carp and on waters where it is used a lot most silver fish will take it. Can be purchased ready made or in powder form. Some ground baits and softened pellet can be used as paste. Small pieces of paste are used as free offerings/ground bait

Pole.

Pellet

Possibly the most widely used non-wiggly bait on commercial fisheries. A well known attractor for carp and silvers.

Used over feed pellet can be very successful.

Pole or leger if the hook bait is protected from the shock of hitting the water.

Rice

Rice used to be a bait for roach. A part cooked grain of rice on a small hook would look like a squatt to the fish. Not used a great deal today but could become a good bait once the fish have turned onto it.

Pole, float.

Tares

Tares look very like chick peas. They are used in the same way as chick peas but always over a bed of hemp.

Can be fished on the pole, float or leger.

Wheat

Like rice this is a once popular bait that lost its appeal when the modern baits came into use. Wheat needs gently simmering until just soft enough to accept a hook. Fished single grain on a fine wire hook it can be deadly. Like hemp drop a few grains around the baited hook.

Pole, float or leger.

Others

Par-boiled potatoes (small) or tinned used whole for carp.

Raw potato pellets cut with a bread punch and coloured with cold coffee.

Nuts banned on most commercials but check the waters rules.

Luncheon meat or "meaty bites" banned in matches and on some commercials again check the fishery rules.

Currants

Raisins

And finally the common Elderberry.

Having looked at all these baits it would be best if a person wanting to use them consulted other anglers, magazines or books to better understand the mechanics of using non-wiggly baits. Practise is the way forward.