

Riverina Sportfishing Report

26th June 2008

Casting spinnerbaits is an active fishing pursuit combining finesse, casting accuracy, as well as the anglers ability to read where fish lay in ambush, to ensure success.

This method of fishing forms a large part of my guiding activity with many of my clients boarding my boat somewhat disheartened by spinnerbaiting. After a day or two's tuition I fill in the knowledge gap and a whole new world of fishing is opened up.

My consistent results on spinners this season was primarily due to the support of my sponsors, namely Mudguts Spinnerbaits and Angler Tech spinnerbaits (who are both based in Wagga). Mudguts and Angler Tech both offer a high quality product and are willing to break from their core product lines to trial and develop new products.

The biggest development this season has been the advent in this region of large bladed spinnerbaits. These spinners use massive Colorado blades giving an extremely strong vibration through the water and importantly, up the rod where the angler can feel the blades spinning.

When spinnerbaiting the speed of retrieve is critical. With smaller bladed lures, it can be nearly impossible for a new angler to 'feel' the blades spinning. The result is that they retrieve too fast so the action is amplified enough for the angler to feel the lure working. When you use a blade (or blades) as big as a large table spoon, the vibration is akin to using a small hard body lure, allowing the angler to easily tell whether the lure is operating at the correct speed.

In addition to teaching anglers retrieve speeds, large bladed spinnerbaits catch fish where other spinners fall short. This season my primary weapon has been a purple skirt with oversize copper colorado's. I have also been using the black nickel blades with significant success on days where the fish are more timid. The deep flash of the copper is a great fish attractor, but at time a lesser presentation offered by the shiny black nickel will fool fussy eaters.

The ability to create a spinnerbait to suit your own taste is a feature of their modular construction, so think creatively. Mudguts and Angler Tech are flexible and when given time, can create your perfect weapon.

Spinnerbaits are a great tool for freshwater fisherman, and oversize blades are another option that work too well not to include in your arsenal.