

Riverina Sportfishing Report

28th August 2008

At last we have clear, still days perhaps heralding the end of winter. The frosty mornings may persist but by lunchtime the warmth of the sun has many down to a T shirt.

The change in season also sparks activity in fish which have been almost dormant for the past few months. Lengthening days and warming water trigger the fish to feed and gain condition lost over the winter.

The increase in fish activity is universal, however there are several locations where attention should be focussed this early in the season. Blowering is the standout choice in this regard. Large golden perch patrol the edges of the lake usually in water less than three metres and redfin are schooling in deeper water.

In order to catch the goldens you need to alter your technique to suit the clear water. Shallow running lures such as 8cm Nilmaster's, small Rapala's and even shallow running Extractors & AC Invaders will all work, but they need to be run well back from the boat. Electric power is also an advantage so a stealthy presence can be maintained.



The redfin are best targeted with ice jigs or small yabbies bobbed in approximately fifteen metres of water. If you can isolate a tightly packed school careful anchoring will enable you to sit over them, but drifting is a good option whilst trying to pinpoint the reddies location.

The Murrumbidgee hit a low of six degrees last week, but with a lot of casts I was able to extract a few cod from the snags on spinnerbaits. Earlier in the week I spent a few days further west along the river where the water has more chance to warm up and the accordingly the fish were biting better with cod to 60cm snapping at the spinners.

With the close of cod season upon us, it's worth targeting goldens in the first kilometre or so below any of the weirs along the Murrumbidgee. Goldens swim upstream in large schools in the Spring and the barriers to their migration corral them in the tailrace.

Fathers Day is almost here and what better present to buy dad than a days fishing with Riverina Sportfishing (www.riverinasportfishing.com).

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