

Some Answers to That Question

'Wha-Didja-Catchem-On?'

"Wha did ya catchem on?" is a many syllabled word that's mighty familiar to the empty-stringer-fisherman casting a glance at a full limit of bragging bass down at the boat dock.

The answers to the fisherman's universal question vary in detail and honesty, but one answer being heard more and more is: Spinner baits.

What are they and why do they catch fish? Only the fish know the answer to the latter question but as to the first... a lead weighted jig body with a hair or plastic skirt attached to a "safety-pin" type wire with a spinner on one end describes it.

Maybe the spinning spinner blade attracts the fish. Maybe the vibrating noise of the blade attracts them. Maybe a lot of reasons, but the fact is that spinner baits catch fish from top to bottom.

Here's how to fish them:

ON TOP is called "Buzz'n" and it's deadly in the spring and certain times of the fall. A fast retrieving reel like the 808 or Zebco One that's capable of bringing in 18-22 inches of line at a single crank is a big asset. The bait has to stay on top over logs and through stick-ups. Another big asset a buzz'n bait fisherman can have in the boat is one of these reels loaded with Golden Stren line. That's right! Yellow-looking line that helps track the lure through the brush.

Versatile, Accurate Watch Necessity

If your sport is diving, flying or auto racing, check your wristwatch. It's an important part of your gear. Ask yourself, "What does it do for me - what should it do?"

One of the foremost names in Swiss timepieces, Movado, made by a Zenith Radio Corporation subsidiary, has some timely advice.

Divers must have total "bottom-time" accuracy. A stop watch will help - one that resists water and corrosion and features a luminous dial and a numbered bezel.

A rotating bezel is marked in one minute intervals to keep track of the time spent under water while the stopwatch chronograph times other operations under water.

Whether you're a private pilot or a professional, the proper watch will help convert time into speed instantly, convert time to international zones and read speed of moving objects for a given distance.

Sports car enthusiasts need a tachometer and elapsed time bezel to check instant car speed on the track. The stop watch records the speed from the calibrated tachometer over a measured mile - no mathematical computations or guesses.

FALLING is another way to fish the spinner bait. It's a variation of the first. When the lure reaches the log or stick-up or is over a drop off, let it fall. When it falls to the depth you've figured is the right one, raise the rod tip and crank the 808 to get it back up. More times than not the strike comes when the lure is falling.

JIG'N the bottom is a variation on the falling technique. This method of fishing the spinner bait is used night fishing during the summer or cold water fishing in the winter months. Most often the type water you'll be fishing will fall into the general categories of rocky bluffs or points. Cast to the bank or out on the point. Don't engage the reel but rather let the line flow freely. If you're using heavy spinning gear like the Cardinal 6 or Cardinal 7, leave the bail open. When the bait reaches the bottom, jig it back keeping it close to the bottom.

How do fish hit these baits? On top with a buzz'n

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Zebco has a booklet that tells you what you need to know to catch a world record bass.

For a copy of Worm Fishin' for Bass by Sports Afield Editor Homer Circle, write Zebco, Dept. G.O. P.O. Box 270, Tulsa, Okla. 74101.

bait they kill it! Falling they'll usually simply "twitch" the line very lightly. When jig'n the bait many times they'll "twitch" it when falling or simply stop it.

Experiment with these baits in size, color and blade configuration. Some days it may be a green striped 1/2 oz. Doll Spin and the next day a red and yellow Bass Rat with a red blade. How important is the blade? For two weeks in the spring of '72 on one Oklahoma lake white skirted baits with red blades did the trick. Try 'em. They like 'em.

Camp by Air!

One of the more popular recreational pursuits being enjoyed by growing numbers of pilots and their families is camping by air, combining the joy of flying with the invigorating experience of

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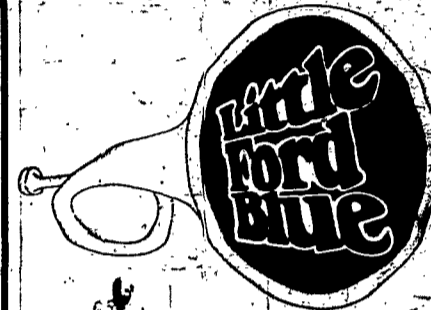
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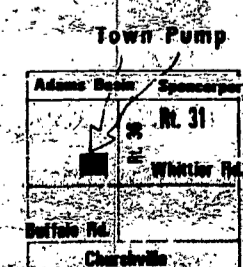
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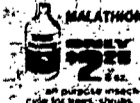
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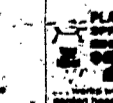
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