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Angler: Tom Clancy
Fish: Murray Cod
Lure: ZMan Original 3/8oz Chatterbait
Colour: California Craw



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What's New - AFTA 2012

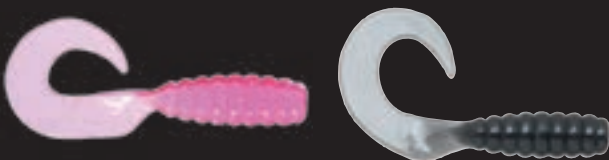
Hi folks and welcome to Tackle Tactics Fishing E-Mag #10. We hope you've managed to find some time to get out on the water and catch a few.

We've been busy gearing up for AFTA 2012 (Australian Fishing Tackle Association Trade Show) and are happy to say that the show went well and we even managed to pick up a couple of awards for 'Best Medium Stand' and 'Best Terminal Tackle' for the new TT Lures 'HEADLOCKZ' jigheads. We are really excited about these new jigheads that have been designed to suit the ZMan plastics, while also being suitable for other brands. HEADLOCKZ will be available from early October, so stay tuned for more info and a few images of the HEADLOCKZ in action.



More on the HEADLOCKZ in the next E-Mag, but in the meantime let's have a look at what else is new as of AFTA 2012.

ZMan 2.5" GrubZ have been proving extremely versatile on a wide range of species and demand from anglers has seen another two colours added to the range. Neon Pink lights up in the water and will be a favourite for surface grubbing and Black is a great contrast colour for dirty and tannin stained water, and is also sure to prove deadly in the fresh.



The ZMan 3" MinnowZ has become one of the most popular models in the range, accounting for everything from bass to barra and flathead to snapper. The three new colours added to the range are - Pearl Blue Glimmer, Bad Shad and Gold Rush. Three awesome colours that will appeal to a wide range of species.



Gold Rush and Bad Shad are both cool colours, so we have also added them to the 5" Scented Jerk ShadZ range.



Neon Pink has also been added to the 5" GrubZ and 9" GrubZ. You will be flat out finding a brighter grub and it is sure to attract some interest from flathead, mulloway, snapper and more.



The lure swim tank was in action again at AFTA and it created plenty of interest.

We even had a Hard Leg FrogZ in the tank, along with a Chatterbait, Rev Head, Spinnerbait and loads of ZMan plastics.

Other features on the stand included a swim tank where retailers could swim the plastics and a UV

box to demonstrate how different ZMan plastics react to UV light.

There was plenty more new gear on show as well... ok, ok, here's a sneak peek at a HEADLOCKZ jighead. It is built on a brutally strong, super-sharp, Mustad black nickel chemically sharpened hook. It features a split grip grub keeper that is separated from the head of the jighead, allowing the ZMan plastic to slide easily over the grub keeper and lock the head of the plastic in place around the hook. This stops this space-age super plastic from sliding down the hook, allowing you to cast hard, work the plastic aggressively and keep fishing even after a strike. HEADLOCKZ are also suitable for other brands of soft plastics.

They will initially be available in 1/8oz - 1oz and in hook sizes 3/0XH, 5/0XH and 6/0XH. Ask your local fishing tackle retailer about HEADLOCKZ, they will be available from early October. The ultimate soft plastic deserves the ultimate jighead!



Other new TT Lures gear released at the show included the new CHINLOCKZ hooks. CHINLOCKZ are designed for rigging plastics weedless for fishing the surface or slowly sinking them into snags. They are perfect for buzzing FrogZ, twitching a StreakZ across the surface or slowly sinking a ShrimpZ into some prop roots. Buckle Up! CHINLOCKZ are available in a heavy duty hook in 2/0, 4/0, 6/0 and 8/0.



We have also had requests for both a lighter and heavier Snake Heads from those fishing snaggy areas. This has seen the Snake Head range grow to include:

- 1/12oz & 1/8oz - 2/0XH, 4/0XH & 8/0XH
- 1/2oz - 4/0XH, 6/0XH & 8/0XH and
- 3/4oz - 6/0XH & 8/0XH



Depth Charge jigheads have been around for a while, but the most popular 'Heavy Wire' version has only been available in one size - 1/2oz 3/0XHD. Requests from anglers have seen the release of three additional sizes - 1/4oz 2/0XHD, 3/8oz 3/0XHD and 5/8oz 4/0XHD.

Depth Charge jigheads provide additional realism and attraction to your plastic and the hook is suitable for jighead destroying species such as snapper.



Curly Tails in the Deep

By Keith Stratford



Chris Stratford with a solid river jewie taken on a ZMan 5" GrubZ

The cooler months can be a real lottery for anglers throwing lures around the rivers and creeks around Brisbane and in many other parts of the country. Most bites around Brisbane will be from the humble flathead, but plenty of other species will turn up as well. jewfish, cod, bream and trevally are common and don't rule out a threadfin salmon or a cold water mangrove jack.

Flathead are fairly easy to find during winter, with most sandbanks and drop offs holding a few fish. These areas are easily visible to the eye, but I prefer the deeper water at this time of year where a bit of variety is on the menu. A lot of baitfish school in the deeper holes during winter and that's where a lot of the bigger fish prefer to feed. I've been using the new 5" GrubZ lately and they've been working a treat. A 1/4oz or 3/8oz 4/0H TT Lures Tournament Series jighead matches perfectly to these plastics. Use the lighter head when there is less current or the fish are feeding higher in the water column and switch to the heavier jighead in deeper water or when the current is stronger.



The easiest way to find a fish in deep water at this time of year is to sound the bends of the rivers looking for bait schools. The fish won't be far away if there is bait in the area. Cast the 5" GrubZ past where the bait is holding and work them back through it making sure you keep in close contact with the bottom. If the bait is holding off the bottom, try working these curly tail plastics higher in the water column. Jewies and threadfin will rise to the surface in the right conditions, so be prepared to work the lure through every depth. Tailor and trevally won't be far away either and the flatties love to sit under a bait school, picking up the scraps and knocking off any fish that swim too close to the bottom. If you find you're getting a lot of smaller bites that won't hook up, it's worth downsizing to a smaller curly tail like the 2.5" GrubZ or 4" StreakZ Curly TailZ. Bream will most likely be the culprit and if it swims past a bigger fish, they'll still eat it.

Fishing the deep water during the cooler months can be very rewarding. There's no need for heavy gear either, a 2-4kg spin rod matched to a 2500 size spinning reel, with a smooth drag to handle the big runs of a threadfin or jewie will do fine. Use the lightest leader you think you can get away with, as it will produce more bites, especially from the bigger fish. I normally use a fluorocarbon leader around 12lb. The range of ZMan curly tail plastics have been smashing everything lately, so grab a few different sizes in your favourite colours and make sure you carry a range of jigheads in different weights and hook sizes to cover all depths. Winter doesn't last long in my part of the world, south east Queensland, so it's time to get out there before it's all over.



Tempting Winter Redfin

By Robbie Alexander



The author with a winter reddie on the 2.5" GrubZ

Winter redfin fishing is usually reserved to the deep water in some of the regions lakes during the coldest months here in Victoria. My favourite little redfin stream fished really well until we started getting decent frosts in early May, and by the middle of May fishless trips were the norm.

Two weeks straight of frosty nights including one of -5 saw the water temperature plummet and the redfin just switch completely off. I fished this creek twice at the end of May and never had a touch and rendered the creek out of action until at least September.

In the middle of June I got my hands on some ZMan 2.5" GrubZ and was keen to give them a go. I headed off to my favourite little creek, knowing that following almost a month straight of frosty nights and dry conditions, I had absolutely no chance of picking up a redfin. The purpose of the trip was to see how the ZMan lures swam.



Sam Murdoch joined Robbie for some fun on the winter reddies

The first few casts impressed me, the action of the ZMan GrubZ was great and I knew that as soon as the weather warmed up I would catch fish on them. After a few casts I replaced the 1/6oz jighead with a smaller 1/12oz jighead in order to really slow the plastic right down. On top of this I coated the plastic with a bit of lure scent. Without the word of a lie... the very first cast after making the changes resulted in a nice redfin close to 30cm. I could not believe my eyes. In the middle of June in a small mountain stream I had caught a redfin. So I walked downstream to where I knew there was a nice deep hole. I applied another coat of lure scent and I kid you not, the very first cast resulted in another fish.

Now let me just say to be fair that I have never used lure scent as I always thought it was a bit "Gimmicky" but after that day, I now carry it with me everywhere and have a lot of faith in it, especially when the conditions are a little tough.

For that day I ended up with 12 lovely redfin and gained a lot of respect for lure scent. On that day I "Cracked the code" and the winning formula in the icy cold conditions was a 2.5" ZMan GrubZ in Violet Sparkle colour, with lure scent and a size 1/12oz TT jighead fished incredibly slowly, just gently bounced off the bottom.

To prove that it was not just a once off, I returned to the creek two days later with my friend Sam Murdoch and although the fish were a bit slower we still managed four lovely redfin using the exact same formula including Sam's personal best redfin of around 35cm.



The author with a quality
Somerset Bass taken on a
TT Lures Golden Boy
Switchblade



Winter Bass Tactics **By** **David Brace**

Big Bass, crisp, cool nights with clear skies, camp oven cook ups around the campfire and sharing laughs with mates is all part of the winter bass fishing and camping experience.

It's well documented that schooling Australian bass within impoundments of Queensland's south-eastern reaches, as well as in other dams around the country, can make for an easy option and fun day on the water during the winter months. Even though the bass cannot spawn in these environments, female bass school up as if they were downstream below the dam wall in the brackish water, where breeding is possible. These female bass can grow to trophy sizes, in excess of 50cm, and increase dramatically in bulk, due to feeding on the large amounts of baitfish that are in abundance within these lakes. During these cooler months, female Australian Bass put on lots of weight as they fatten up and produce roe during their seasonal breeding rituals. Bass of this size are sometimes as round as they are long and their large caudal fin can displace a lot of water, making for some exhilarating fishing once the fish is hooked.

Techniques used include jigging blades and ice-jig lures in the schools once these fish have been located. Schooling Bass will take a variety of lure presentations, from blade lures and soft plastics, to spinnerbaits and Chatterbaits. ZMan and TT Lures have a wide range of these types of lures for all situations when targeting Australian Bass in these landlocked environments.



During these cooler months schooling Bass can be located off points, in deeper water averaging 7 to 10 metres. Using your fish finder, search for old creek beds that once wound their way through the catchment area. Once these fish have been located it's a matter of changing lure presentations and varying techniques to see what they are inclined to be attracted to.



Unfortunately Australian Bass do shut down easily and go off the bite once a few fish have been caught from the particular school of fish you have been targeting, especially when releasing caught fish back into the school. To prolong the bite period, some anglers place their catch in a live well, remembering regulations limit the number of Australian Bass per person that can be in the angler's possession at any one time. Once a school has shut down it's best to leave the area you have been targeting and find another school where the fish are more likely to be in a feeding mode. Returning to the original school throughout the course of the day may find switched on and feeding fish once again.



In the past couple of years due to Queensland's flood events, the eco-systems and structure of these impoundments have somewhat changed and where anglers were catching 40 to 50 bass in a session, fish can be harder to find. We as anglers also need to learn to adapt to these changes within these environments and sometimes thinking outside the box can be very effective and beneficial to having a successful day.

Just recently, whilst camping at Lake Somerset with many friends on the water's edge, this was the case. I was advised that almost nothing could tempt these schooling Bass to take any lure presentation. Prior to visiting the lake the catchment area had received copious amounts of rain, turning the water to a real muddy colour and cooling the water temperature quite considerably, to a point where the lake was on the verge of turning over. A very different game plan was set in place even before launching the boat. After setting up camp late in the afternoon there was a very small window of opportunity to target these Bass before the sun set on yet another day. A decision was made to target Bass in deep water against a steep rocky cliff face in about five metres of water, where the water temperatures were elevated slightly due to the sun baking the rocky formation throughout the duration of the day. Coincidentally and to my advantage as the sun became lower in the sky, shadows from this outcrop of rocks were cast over the water, which Bass also take a liking to. Upon searching for Bass on the fish finder within this area, it became apparent that many old trees had fallen to the watery depths producing some sensational structure to target. Instead of viewing schooled Bass on the fish finder's screen, single fish were obvious and actively swimming up and down in the lower reaches of the water column within this area.



Tying on a 3/8oz California Craw ZMan Chatterbait gave me the confidence needed to come up tight to one of these Australian Bass in the short time I had left before sunset. The darker coloured lure was chosen to produce a deeper silhouette within this murky coloured water. It didn't take long and within three casts, slow rolling this extremely active lure through the deeper water columns of this area, a notoriously hard-hitting Somerset Bass had taken a liking to the lure. That awesome sound of the drag screaming and line being pulled off the reel was a tremendous relief and I soon found that adrenaline had me trembling as I got first sight of this big Bass. A quick measure of the fish on the bragmat, before a quick photo and release, revealed the fish was a solid 53cm specimen. I persisted, casting lures a little while longer, but to no avail. I headed back to camp to join the communal camp cooking around the campfire. On the menu was roast lamb with vegie's or beef casserole, washed down with your beverage of choice.

A brand new day on the water saw the boat take a bee line to the exact spot where I had caught that nice Bass the previous day, along the rocky cliff face. Noticing that the fish had moved on, as there was very little activity on the fish finder, it was over to Plan B. Plan B was targeting schooled Bass in deeper water off a number of points. A couple more fish were caught around the 40cm mark. Varying techniques were used but jigging a 1/4oz TT Lures Switchblade through the schooling Bass was most productive. The session was shortened to say goodbye to mates who were heading home early and to pack up camp on what had been a fantastic couple of days of camping and fishing at Lake Somerset. It was encouraging knowing that there are still some larger Australian Bass that reside in the waters of the lake and we are very enthusiastic about returning to lure a few more of these quality fish.



Pan size snapper are often referred to as squire in QLD waters. Let's join TT Pro Angler Ryan Dixon as he gives us some tips for chasing pan size snapper on plastics.

For me, squire were a species I had caught reasonable numbers of whilst chasing bream in my local waters of Redcliffe, but had never got around to focusing on as my target species. As those cold, chilly, glassed out mornings became more persistent, I turned my focus to species that I loved catching but didn't know a hell of a lot about. What I did know about squire was that they love eating lures, they fight hard and that there's no better sound than a screaming drag once you set the hook into a solid fish.



By Ryan Dixon

SQUIRE on FIRE

After hearing word of good numbers of fish turning up in the Brisbane River and being limited to where I fish (as I don't have a big boat), I took the time to work out the best tides, depth and what to look for when chasing squire. Using my basic knowledge learnt from chasing other species, I soon had a system worked out where I could catch a good number of fish on a regular basis. The most important thing I have found when chasing river squire is to spend the time to locate bait on your sounder, fish the incoming tide and fish where there is a double or secondary drop off. Every time I've had success I have located large schools of squire on my sounder, sitting on the bottom side of a 3-6 metre drop off, followed by another school on the secondary drop off of around 6-9 metres. Although it isn't always easy to locate fish in large numbers, I have found if you put in the hard yards to crack a pattern, you will be rewarded more often than not.

The Brisbane River is a perfect spot for those wanting to learn more, as I did, or for those who already know about catching squire. The thing I love most about fishing the river is that although I haven't caught many fish over the 50-60cm range, there is always plenty of fish on offer and it's not uncommon to catch upwards of 15 legal fish in a few hours. Another thing that makes me keep going back is the thought of the by-catch whilst chasing squire. Sizeable jewfish and threadfin salmon inhabit the river at the same time of the year and there's one thing for certain, if you find plenty of bait the jewies and threadies won't be too far away.



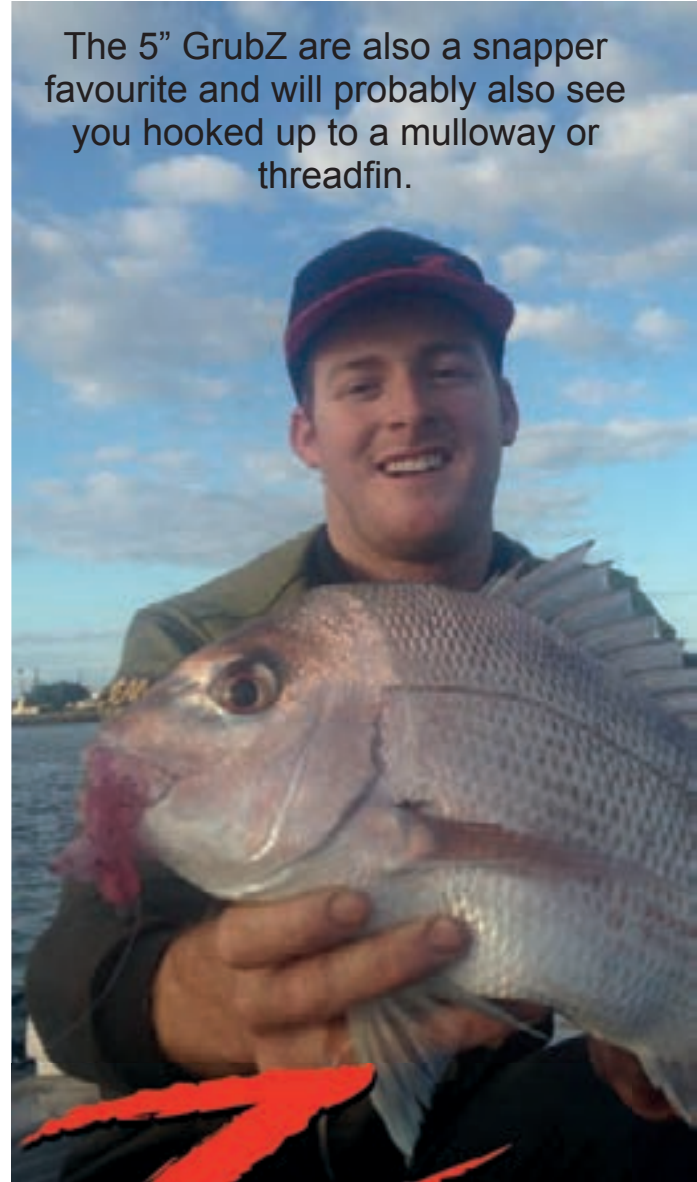
Ryan with a nice, pan sized river snapper that couldn't resist the ZMan 2.5" GrubZ



I'm sure anchoring on a drop off, berleying and floating back unweighted fresh baits would be a more than effective method of catching squire and other species, but the best technique I've found is fishing light line and casting soft plastics. When I first started fishing for squire I used the same gear that I use when I chase bream, 4 pound braid with 4 pound leader. I know it might sound a bit light but the amount of fish I hooked was a lot more than when fishing heavier leaders. I have since upgraded to 6-10lb leaders and I have found them to be plenty heavy enough.

One of my favorite all round soft plastics is the 2.5" ZMan GrubZ. Match one of these jelly bean size baits with the appropriate weight, size 1, TT Lures jighead and if there's squire in the area they won't be able to resist. Also I find the 4" ZMan StreakZ Curly TailZ to be a perfect presentation for hungry squire, again rigged on the appropriate weight, 3/0H, TT Lures jighead. The best retrieve I have found is to wait until your lure comes in contact with the bottom and just leave it sit for at least ten seconds. If nothing grabs it lift your rod tip up no more than 50cm and then let the lure make contact with the bottom again, letting it sit again and keep repeating.

The 5" GrubZ are also a snapper favourite and will probably also see you hooked up to a mullet or threadfin.



Will Lee landed this snapper on a Zman 4" Finesse ShadZ



It doesn't sound like much, but the action of a single tail ZMan plastic sitting on the bottom is better than any action you will create with your rod tip. The natural buoyancy of ZMan plastics will have the plastic sitting head down with the tail sitting upright curling and moving around with the current. I find that by super gluing your plastic to the jighead, fish are unable to pull the plastic down from the hook, which makes sure your plastic is always perfectly presented.

Hopefully these few tips will assist anyone wanting to try fishing for squire, not just in the Brisbane River, but anywhere you may target them. These techniques have given me great success and I hope they can do the same for you. Cheers.



ZMan 2.5" GrubZ, 4" StreakZ Curly TailZ and 5" GrubZ are all effective options.



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One of Australia's most popular fish is the bream. They fall under the *Acanthopagrus* family and will generally respond to soft plastics at some stage during the day. There are many sub species of bream in Australia, with the most commonly targeted being the black bream, yellowfin bream and the pikey bream. All are popular fish and very viable lure targets. It has been well documented the type of structure that bream will congregate around. This ranges from vast sand flats, to canals and marinas, deep holes, rocky points and walls, with bream even pushing into the brackish and fresh backwaters.

Recently I had a good session down at my local wharf vertical jigging ZMan 2.5" GrubZ on a 1/16oz jighead. The bream seemed to be hanging a bit deeper on the day and were schooling up too, meaning that the wharves were a bit of a hit and miss affair. Once a school was located, a hit would follow shortly after, which usually resulted in a feisty bream trying to bury himself in his oyster encrusted home!

Sunday night the plan was set into action. I hit my mate up for a fish on the Mooloolah River as I was in need of a bream session. We organized to meet at the Spit on Tuesday at 7:30am, but after my belated rising, we started fishing at 8 instead. I quickly tied on a ZMan 2.5" GrubZ in Chartreuse Sparkle rigged on a 1/16oz jighead, while my mate whacked on a little hardbody.

L BREAMING **By Tarran Richards**

Reader's Story



Tarran with one of many bream landed fishing vertical

We flicked around the multitude of trawlers and pylons for ten minutes, failing to raise a hit. This all changed for us though when I spotted a school of ten or so big bream, suspended under the jetty we were on. I sang out to my mate to get a cast in, while I flicked my GrubZ toward the school, only to see them descend into the depths. Not to be put off, I dropped my plastic just in front of the jetty where the bream were last spotted, let it hit the bottom and then proceeded to give it small hops as I brought it up through the water column. I noticed some followers as the plastic neared the surface, so I flicked the bail arm over and watched my GrubZ descend again, this time with bream hitting it on the way down.

Once I couldn't see the plastic, I closed the bail arm, gave the plastic a few delicate hops and it got creamed. Milliseconds later 8lb braid was ripping from my reel as the fish dashed for the nearest group of pylons. A bit of thumb pressure and some neat rod angles later there was a 30cm bream flapping around on the jetty. Not a bad start to the day! Another two fish fell in the session to a very similar technique, which I'll outline shortly. Both fish went over 30cm and were chunky and in great condition.

As illustrated above, the vertical jigging technique is an important and effective retrieve to have in your arsenal, but knowing when to use the retrieve is important. There would be no use trying to jig bream up on sand flats! The water that was being fished on the day ranged from about 3.5-7 metres and was exposed to some current, but it was not a raging torrent. There were also many vertical pylons in the area, providing a growth point for aquatic weed and mussels, attracting the baitfish and in turn the bream.

These deeper waters that have some current flowing through them and vertical structure nearby are ideal for this style of fishing. The deeper water gives the bream a sense of security but the slower currents allow the plastic to get into the strike zone, while still looking as natural as possible and the structure provides an anchor point for food. Too much current will require a much heavier jighead, giving the plastic an unnatural sink rate and the fish won't touch it.



Structure like this will definitely attract bait and bream



Shady pockets that provide shelter are worth a cast



Since the fish suck the lure in on the drop, maximum sink time is required, but the ZMan still needs to hit the bottom. For this reason carrying a range of jig heads from 1/20oz through to 1/12oz is desirable. This allows versatility, especially when the tide slows or the water depth changes. The technique is quite simple and after you discover how effective it can be, you will find yourself using it more and more.

I find a suitable location, similar to that described earlier and drop my ZMan GrubZ right next to the structure, allowing it to fall and hit the bottom. It's important that you watch your line as it descends as a bream could smack it at any time. Once contact has been made with the bottom, close the bail arm and give the plastic a few small hops off the bottom and wind up some slack slowly. Let the plastic sink down again, without allowing it to hit the bottom. Repeat this process until your plastic is near the surface. This way the entire water column is covered. If there are any followers, let the plastic sink a little then begin to repeat the process. If no fish is hooked and there are no followers, move on.

Now we'll move to the gear. I prefer to fish a little bit heavier than what I normally would for bream, since there will be some structure very close by allowing the fish to wrap you up in the blink of an eye if you aren't quick. For this reason I fish a 3-5kg Daiwa Sol rod matched to a 2500 Daiwa Aird. On this I have spooled 8lb Stren, with 6lb Fluorocarbon leader. This leader may seem light for fishing around structure, but I usually fish in clearer waters, so it is required to get the bite. If the water was dirtier, or the fish were XOS, I would upgrade to 10lb or even 12lb fluorocarbon.

Hopefully you have as much success as I have had with this technique and remember to tighten your drag up a bit otherwise you'll be stitched up in seconds by a fat, oyster munching Bream.



Chatterbaitin' Bass

By Aidan Robertson

Australian Bass are one of Australia's outstanding freshwater sportfish; they are a beautiful freshwater fish found in the high upper reaches of creeks and streams. They live in remote, picturesque locations of fresh to brackish water and are a popular species to chase out of a kayak. Bass are an aggressive fish when they want to be and provide a great fight for the angler, it is their hard hit and incredible pulling power that keeps anglers coming back for more.

Where:

Bass are an aggressive fish that live in the uppermost reaches of creeks and streams consisting of brackish to freshwater. They can be found in the deepest holes to the shallowest of rocky flowing creeks. They are generally found living in the undercut banks or around submerged structure such as trees and logs, often on the deeper side of the creek / stream and usually hiding in the shade. In saying that, they are occasionally caught in the open sunny part of the creek.

Early morning or late afternoon is generally a favourable time for targeting Australian bass. They prefer to live under cover so casting your lure as close to the bank, or structure, as possible helps to increase your chances of catching one.

Chatterbaits:

Chatterbaits are an effective lure when targeting Australian Bass as they can be worked a number of different ways, from shallow to deep, depending on how long you let them sink. They provide great vibration through the water and enough colour and flash to spark an aggressive bass to bite. Whether the water is clear or dirty, the ZMan Chatterbaits are a stand out lure for Australian Bass. The **Chatterbait Mini 1/4oz** is a perfect lure for the smaller bass found in shallow flowing rocky pools and for the big wild bass the **ZMan Chatterbait Original 3/8oz** is a must have lure in your tackle box!



Aidan with a backwater bass taken on a ZMan Chatterbait



Technique:

When chasing Australian Bass ensure that you are quiet when fishing so the fish are not spooked. Sneaking up on them in a kayak is the perfect way to provide stealth. When looking for places to cast your lure, look for overhanging trees, grassy plants overhanging the water, deep dark undercut banks, logs running into the water and fish activity. When casting at the bank ensure that you are landing the lure as close to the structure as possible, even bouncing your lure off it every now and then can be an effective way to entice an angry bass to bite. There are many retrieves that are effective with the Chatterbaits; one stand out has been casting out, allowing it to sink for a second or two and then commencing a steady slow retrieve. The bass can attack the lure on the drop or any time after you start winding. Depending on how heavy the structure is that you are fishing, leader from 4lb-15lb is suitable for bass fishing with Chatterbaits.

Pro Tips:

Make sure the Chatterbait is landing as close to the structure as possible, there is only a couple of centimetres difference between being in the strike zone and being out of it.

Retrieve with a slow wind; retrieving with a slow wind keeps the lure in the strike zone longer. Another tip is to retrieve it slow all the way to the kayak, boat or bank as many fish have been caught just before lifting the Chatterbait out of the water.

When retrieving a snagged Chatterbait paddle over the back of it and it will generally pop off. If not give the lure some light flicks; never lock up on a snag and try to bust it off as it will only dig the hook deeper into the structure... if nothing else works a lure retriever is an essential item when bass fishing.



Chatterbaitin' Cod

Tom Clancy is a keen angler that contacted ZMan Lures Australia to let us know that him and his mates had been having some great success using the ZMan Original Chatterbaits. The photos speak for themselves; some amazing countryside, awesome fish and great adventure away with mates, enjoying the sport that we all love.

Tom sent us a quick wrap up of his adventures, outlining the success they had on the Chatterbaits.

'Here are the photos of the fish from the last trip that we nailed on ZMan gear. Very impressed with the Chatterbaits, they pulled fish out of water that had been well done over with a hardbody from one of the other lads. Also surprised at the aggression the fish showed toward them; we had cod almost beach themselves at some stages chasing the lures - all in winter too, which is worth noting as the fish are normally very sluggish during this time of year.' Cheers, Tom

Chatterbaits combine the erratic action of a hardbody, profile and water movement of a lead head jig and the flash and vibration of a spinnerbait to create one deadly presentation.

The 3/8oz Original Chatterbait is perfect for cod and larger bass, golden perch and saratoga, while the 1/4oz Mini is perfect for average size bass, golden perch, saratoga and sooty grunter. Not just a freshwater option though, anglers are thinking outside the box and using Chatterbaits successfully on flathead, barra, flathead and more. Rig a ZMan 3" MinnowZ as a trailer and you have even more action!

Tom Clancy with a solid Chatterbait cod





Brandon Willmann and Toby Back with a couple of solid Chatterbait cod



For more on TT Lures & ZMan including back issues of the E-Mag, Facebook and You Tube links, Gear Guides, Fact Sheets and Pro Angler Profiles, check out -

www.tackletactics.com.au



Chatterbaits create flash, vibration and noise that cod find irresistible. Toby Back with an awesome Chatterbait crunching cod.