

# Top Tips!

GOT ANY FISHING PROBLEMS THAT NEED SORTING? DON'T UNDERSTAND TECHNIQUES, TACTICS OR BAIT. OUR PANEL OF EXPERT ANGLERS HAVE THE ANSWERS - ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK...



Mark Sawyer

Dear Mark, 'When pole fishing I catch a reasonable number of carp feeding just pellets and using soft pellets on the hook but seem to get many more bites than fish hooked. I wonder whether a pellet or fishmeal based groundbait would improve my catches. I've seen several anglers feeding groundbait when pole

fishing but don't know how to feed it - with the pellets or on its own, how often and how much, can you help?' D.Morgan. Caerphilly.

**Mark says:** 'A problem with loose feeding pellets is that it has a tendency to bring fish up in the water causing lots of false line bites which is what I think the bites you miss are. By using a pellet or fishmeal based groundbait like Van Den Eynde Carp Dust mixed on the firm side so that you can feed it in walnut sized balls that will go straight to the bottom you can keep fish on the bottom where you should suffer less false bites and so hook more fish. You can feed these baits by hand for short range work or cup them in when fishing at distance. The other successful way to use groundbait when pole fishing for carp is to use a fine fishmeal feed like Ringers Carp Bait and cup it into the swim in loose so that the particles create a large cloud in the water. This draws in fish very quickly and the only pellet in the cloud should be the one with your hook in it. This approach works particularly well when fishing against islands or features.'



Des Shipp

Dear Des, 'When I fish the resident's matches I like to cover all the options but often have difficulty sorting out the best tactics. How do you decide what is the best method?' A.Foster. Dunstable.

**Des says:** 'You need to know the venue and in particular the swim you have drawn, what it usually responds

to and that can change from month to month and even week to week so if you only visit White Acres from time to time have a word with Clint or the shop staff and pick their brains about the swim you draw. A couple of minutes after drawing won't hurt your preparation in fact it could and should be time well spent! If you know anglers who have experience on the water ask them - I'll ask anyone and then weigh up the advice I am given. As for covering options I don't like to confuse the issue by having too many rods and rigs set up, to win you really need to concentrate on one main approach with a back-up method if the first option fails. The only time I'll set up lots of options is in an important team match where a change to a different method could catch me one or two fish and get me out of jail in the section. The secret to individual success at White Acres is to keep putting fish in the net and by this I mean the quality silver fish as well as the carp. The skimmers, tench and roach you can add to a carp bag in the quieter spells of the match can soon add up and an extra 20 lb of fish can make a winning difference to an otherwise "also ran" carp bag.'



eMail your questions to [clint@whiteacres.co.uk](mailto:clint@whiteacres.co.uk) and we'll ask our panel to give their advice. Selected questions and answers will be published in the next edition of Newsreel.



## Clint's LAST CAST

**WE ALL FISH** for varied reasons but the common theme is that we fish because we enjoy it and **White Acres** exists on the back of the public's passion for angling. We pride ourselves on providing you with a first class environment in

which to indulge your passion but please take time when you arrive to familiarise yourself with our rules, respect our fish, respect our facilities and above all respect your fellow angler so we can all continue the enjoyment of fishing.

Before I sign off can I say good luck to the ladies taking part in our first ever Ladies Angling Festival Week I hope you all enjoy it!

*Clint*

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