

Crucians

Iv had an interest in Crucians this season since reading about the Crucian campaign by the Angling Trust to get more fisheries to introduce or reintroduce them to their waters. They are not a fish that I had previously ever set out to catch. This season would see my first attempts.

I am most certainly not a traditionalist angler in so much as I'm not a floppy hat, center pin and quill angler. So the Crucian fishing purists should look away now. I'm a modern angler sponsored by a modern, forward thinking company who make just the tackle I need to fish as efficiently as possible.

For this session I've used 11ft .75tc Korum Xpert rods with reels loaded with 6lb line. One rod on a method feeder with Sonubaits Match Method mix and very short hooklink the other rod with a small running rig, 1ft hooklink and a small pellet cone of compressed 2mm Stiki pellet. For hookbaits on both rods iv used the Sonubaits Oozing boilies. On both rigs iv use Preston innovations 0.17 reflo hooklink to a size 16 PR39 with a quick stop .

The session started with no lose feed and just fishing for a bite. 2 hours later all iv had is a Tench and a nice roach. A report from the other end of the lake of a number of crucians being caught got me making a quick pack up and moving swims. If you think it, do it, a phrase fellow Korum Consultant Dai Gribble once said to me, I always act on it.

Following the move this time I decided to put a bit of bait in so mixed up half a bag of Sonubaits Supercrush Green to which I added a handful of the 2mm stiki pellets. Having not brought the spod rod I used the largest Korum cage feeder and made 20 casts with it to a clip to get a bit of a carpet of bait out there. Plenty of smell but not a lot of food.

An hour later the running rig and cone was away with a nice tench, 3 more soon followed before eventually i connected with a fish on the method feeder that fought quite differently. Sure enough a golden flank rolled over the net cord in the shape of a fine 3lb 3oz Crucian, my best to date. Apart from a double figure carp of 8lb a few hours later nothing else occurred, I feel the fish came to the bait and I should have rebaited but with only an hour or two until leaving I decided against it.