

First carp session of the year

Its been so mild this winter that I really should have had a few carping sessions in amongst the pike trips. With March arriving it's definitely time to put the pike tackle away and get back in the carping groove again. To iron out the cobwebs I decided on a day session on one of the big coastal pits I am a member of, this one in particular has loads of 8lb to 15lb commons and is always good for a bite or to.

The pit is deep with one decent feature, a plateau around the size of a tennis court where the water rises from an average depth of 15ft to 7ft on the plateau. This area appealed, with a hot couple of days leading up to my trip I felt sure a few carp would be looking to get into this shallower water.

It's a time of year when I would realistically expect a few bites but the carp will certainly not be ravenous. With this in mind I decided to give them a little bait but not a lot, more along the lines of attraction to hopefully get them rooting about. I soaked a pack of Sonubaits 2mm Fin perfect pellets to which I added a tin of Sonubaits natural hemp. It is essential to give the pellets a good soaking, if you don't the pellets will dry the hemp out making it float. To prevent the drying out I tend to make this mix up in small batches and keep in a covered bucket.

Three or four midi sized spombs start the session with a top up of one spomb every fish. Rig wise ive opted for a fluorocarbon mainline and fluorocarbon hooklink with a 360 rig. For bait a simple 10mm Sonubaits white chocolate action pop up.



I like the way the 360 makes for a nice low pop up making the bait sit just proud of the bottom, perfect when fishing over a light scattering of hemp n pellets.

I fished for 8 hours and managed 6 small commons to 12lb, the perfect start to spring carp fishing. The next few weeks will be spent getting to know our chosen venue for this years British Carp Angling Championships with round one being at the end of March.

