

More Tenching

After my successful trip in early April I was keen to get back for another go. But a week's Carping in France meant no return for three weeks, and what an anti-climax that turned out to be as although I had Tench in the swim I spent the weekend blanking.

For this weekend I had taken Friday off managing to get to the lake Thursday evening and got right where I wanted to be, the spot I had the 15 Tench from a month earlier. I fished the same gravel bar with the same methods but by mid-morning on Friday it was clear that I had not chosen wisely. The harsh lesson learnt here is not to expect the same result from the same swim, I had not had a sniff.

I could have gambled by staying put hoping the Tench would move in, after all I still had two nights left, but I'm no gambler so a move was on the cards.

I had a walk and nothing caught my eye, the Carp anglers I talked to had also not seen very many signs of Tench rolling.

With nothing to go on I decided to move lakes to another on the complex, I've often done this and more often than not I've ended up catching something. Just because one lake is not fishing particularly well it doesn't necessarily mean it the same on the other waters. The other change apart from the obvious one of moving lakes was to search for a different depth of water. I had been fishing on top of a bar in 8ft of water but my new swim gave me a depth of 13ft with a shallow bar on the left and an island on the right, I decided to have all three rods spread across the 13ft deep section. Over this silty area I spombed out a bag of both 1mm and 2mm Sonubaits Fin perfect and 2mm Krill pellets. The rigs being Korum Combi feeders and short paternoster hooklinks with a combo of live and Korum imitation maggots on a size 10 Korum Specimen hook. I opted for this set up as I was picking up light weed and was concerned that the grub feeders might plug out of sight or be sitting on the bottom at an odd angle, fishing a short paternoster set up makes sure the bait is sitting pretty.



Friday evening I had a 6lb 9oz male and then it wasn't until the 7am Saturday morning that I received my next bite a lovely 8lb 9oz. I thought I'd take a pic of this one so transferred it from my Tench net to a Carp net that I keep set up just in case. Whilst I set the camera up I had another take resulting in a 9lb 5oz, a smashing brace to start the day. I followed the 9 with a further three 8s of 8lb 2oz 8lb 8oz and 8lb 6oz. Late Saturday afternoon I was once again doing battle with a heavy fish and what a fish she turned out to be, another 9 at 9lb 11oz. I continued catching through to 7pm by which time in a 12 hour period I managed 13 prime gravel pit Tench. That was to be the last of the action as

Saturday remained quiet. I had hoped to catch a few more before my 10 am departure but the swim had gone off the boil and I didn't have another bite.

