

Flicking plastics for bass around Borumba

■ Lake Macdonald ■ Sounder talk



John Noble with two Lake Macdonald bass.



Another saratoga falls to a Cultiva Zipp n Ziggy.



Steve Noble, the ABT grand final winner, holding a couple of nice bass.

BORUMBA Dam has to be one of my favourite places to cast soft plastics around.

You can target bass on both the edges and in schools so I thought I'd give you some tips for catching bass on plastics in both schooling and edge bites.

Bass on edges are great fun to catch.

They seem to put up a good fight when they're close to weed or timber.

My favourite technique when fishing around the Main Basin of Borumba where heaps of weed surrounds the edges, is to cast right up into the weed.

Don't be afraid to do this because the bass love hanging in or around the weed as this is where they can ambush their prey.

Once you have cast your plastic start to slow roll it out but hold your rod high.

You might pick up some weed when you're slow rolling so try to whack the plastic out of the weed.

When you do this you are more than likely to hook up to a bass.

It seems to be more of a reaction bite for the bass when you rip the plastic out of the weeds.

I also like doing a lot of little jerks once I have the plastic away from the weed because the bass will sometimes follow the lure out and when you jerk the plastic the bass will usually hit it really hard and you will hook up.

Bass on timberline edges are also great to catch.

I like to hop the plastic down the bank, getting the lure as tight to structure as possible.

The bass like to hang around the base of trees.

Berkley jigging grubs would have to be my favourite when using this technique because they have got the added scent.

This means you can let the plastic sit on the bottom for up to 10 seconds or longer and still catch fish because of the Gulp scent.

Bass in schools are my favourite targets because there are usually heaps



Freshwater Luring
by CALLUM MUNRO

My favourite technique when fishing around the Main Basin of Borumba where heaps of weed surrounds the edges, is to cast right up into the weed. Don't be afraid to do this because the bass love hanging in or around the weed as this is where they can ambush their prey.

of fish in a school so you're more likely to catch plenty of fish.

There are a couple of different ways to target these bass.

Sometimes they will be holding along the bottom but other times they will be suspended.

The bass along the bottom are usually the easiest to catch as all you have to do is cast your plastic out and let it hit the bottom, and then do a nice slow roll across the bottom.

Just make sure when you start getting a hit not to strike at the fish because the bass in schools seem to hit a lure plenty of times before you get a hook-up.

Bass in suspended schools are some of the hardest to catch.

This is because you have to count your lure down to the required depth where the bass are.

Knowing what depth is made easier if you check the back of your Nitro jig head packet.

It will tell you the count, so follow this and with practise you should be successful.

If you're coming past Davo's Compleat Angler at Noosaville, drop in and see me and I'll take you through this soft plastic technique and set you up with the right gear.

Lake Macdonald

Lake Maccas has been a bit slow but anglers in the know have been catching around 15 bass per session which is still

although they are very hard to tempt.

The lure that has been working the best there has been the Smak Mini Coops in the IB colour.

There has also been the odd Mary River cod being caught at the Bubble Trail, which is a very good sign.

And there have been reports of three to four saratoga a session being landed too.

Try casting Megabass Anthrax and Cultiva Zipp n Ziggy lures.

Humminbird SI combo

As we all know, having confidence in your sounder plays a major role in locating fish.

One thing I haven't had much confidence with is the side imaging.

I've found it easy to use for barra but difficult to decipher what I am actually looking at for bass.

I was talking with Tim Morgan from Hum-

minbird recently at the Tackle Trade Show and discussed this with him.

He spent half an hour taking me through how to read and use a Humminbird side imaging sounder.

Tim explained how vital a role side imaging plays in his professional fishing career.

On his advice we recently purchased the new 898c SI Combo from Humminbird.

How good is this sounder! After having it on the boat for only a short time my confidence has grown and I can now more easily find suspended fish from a distance.

The down imaging is brilliant as well.

Hope you all have a great Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Happy fishing!
Cheers J

very good.

There have been some good schools of bass turning up around the Botanical Gardens which you can catch on soft plastics, blades or even spinnerbaits.

Steve and John Noble have been having a ball out there fishing blades and soft plastics.

The trick has been to burn the blades and soft plastics along the bottom so they get a reaction bite.

These guys have been getting bass up to 45cm and quite few of them as well.

There have still been heaps of bass holding up in the Three Ways area



These bass were caught on Berkley Jigging Grubs.



Saratoga love eating surface lures early in the morning.