

Fishing for Big Tench

What with the very mild start to spring I actually started my Tench fishing two weeks ago, however despite seeing Tench rolling on my previous two visits I had not managed to bank any. These weekend certainly made up for those blank trips, ive an amazing haul of 15 Tench with not one under 6lb.

Fishing the famous (in Tench fishing circles) Larkfield lakes I targeted an area that has an 8ft deep gravel bar dropping away to 14ft either side at a range of 50 yards. The bar travels parallel to the bank so it was easy case of working out the distance for all three rods, one on top, one just beyond and one just in front. Along the bar I initially spombed 3 pints of Sonubaits 2mm S Pellet, 3 tins of Sonubaits Hemp n Krill and 3 pints of red maggots. Rigs for the session were the marvellous Korum grub feeders with a length of Avid Thread n go tungsten tubing and for hooklink a short 4" length of xpert 8lb power mono to a size 12 xpert specimen hook with a Korum red imitation maggot threaded onto the shank and over the eye of the hook with three live red on the bend.

I had arrived for my session on the Thursday evening and had just enough time to find my swim and get baited up before dark, it wasn't until first light the next morning that fish arrived on the bar, rolling all along it. It was the bait on top of the bar that was to go first resulting in a 7lb 4oz, I decided to put all three baits on top of the bar. I am happy to have all three rods quite close together, usually one in the middle of the feed and one either end. It was to prove a good more as these moved rods provided two further Tench of 7lb 3oz and 7lb 2oz. At 3 in the afternoon I had a 6lb 10oz followed 30 minutes later by something that felt considerably more weighty. I knew I had hooked a special fish as soon as I saw her mighty shoulders breach the surface, I had hoped to break my pb of 9lb 13oz this season and id only gone and done it in early April with a magnificent 11lb 2oz.

Through the afternoon the Tench continued to feed as I had a further three 6s to 6lb 12oz and another 7lb 9oz. This was turning into an absolute dream session. After each fish I put one mini spomb of each pellet, hemp n maggots back out on top of the bar

Friday night remained quiet but as soon as dawn broke on Saturday the bites started again with a couple of 6s. At 8 I hooked what again felt a heavy fish and after good scrap another big Tench lay at the bottom of my net, this one weighed in at 9lb 6oz, fortunately Simon the fisheries manager had just walked

into the swim, perfect timing to take some photos. The rest of the morning was quiet, it wasn't until 3 in the afternoon that I received my next bite, this time an 8lb 7oz. That was all the action I received on Saturday. Saturday night again remained quiet and my last action of the weekend was at 6 on Sunday morning with yet another good Tench of 7lb 15oz.

It was an amazing weekend and im itching to get back down there, unfortunately this won't be for three weeks as im of to France for some Carp fishing.



