SEPTEMBER FISHING ADVICE

TACTICS

In a way September is a slightly sad month as the creeping onset of autumn marks the end of summer. But for the angler the shorter days alert the fish to hard times ahead and Keats' 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" becomes a time to seek out the eager feeding fish.

With the passing of the summer the mornings will have a chill to them, so there is less urgency to be on the water early or stay late. All the chalkstreams will be at their lowest level and flow rates but with no weed cuts this month expect perfect clarity and clear surfaces.

Tactically this is a month to change flies often and treat every fish on merit; there is masses of food in the river so a nymphing fish won't bother with a dry and visa versa. Likewise if they ignore your fly or take a look it is best to change immediately rather than flog away with the same pattern.

TACKLE TIPS

With so many different hatches it is not alwys easy to pick out the insect species. A small sampling net (there are stowaway versions) may save you hours of guesswork!

HATCHES

September is a month to see a multitude of hatches; it is common enough to see clouds of five or six different insect groups simultaneously. Top of the list are the Olives (use a Kite's Imperial), then the Baetis (Tups Indispensable) and Sedges (Caperer). You will often arrive in the morning to find nothing is happening, so take a look at the cobwebs which are the most perfect insect indicators known to man.

Large Dark Olive

After a summer break the large dark olives are back and this is a chance to use one of the modern chalkstream classics, the Kite's Imperial made famous by Olly Kite in the 1970's.

Kite's Imperialsize14Sawyers Pheasant Tail Nymph14









Kite's Imperial



Pale Watery

This is an imitation to put in your box from mid-September that will stand you in good stead for the remainder of the trout season and grayling into November.

Tups Indispensable	14-16
Sherry Spinner	14-16
Parachute Adams	14-16
PVC Nymph	16

Midges

Midges or 'buzzers' are incredibly prolific and the staple for stillwater anglers, but are equally effective on rivers where they are less commonly used. Fish the bloodworm close to the river bed, but try the buzzers at varying depths.

Deep Nymph	Bloodworm	12
Common Nymph	Buzzer/Midge Pupa	14-18
Emerger	CDC Shuttlecock	14
Adult	Knotted Midge	16

Sedges

There are over 30 British caddis species, but by September you will really only put on a Caperer or maybe the Cinnamon early in the month.

Caperer	10
Cinnamon Sedge	12
Klinkhammer	16 (Emerger)
Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear	12

Terrestrials

Ants and Daddy-Long Legs are some of the most fun patterns to fish. Ants are the less common of the two, but always carry a few because on the rare occasions a swarm gets blown onto the water the trout will go mad for them. Daddy-Long Legs are far more common (there are 300 species native to Britain) and trout view them as easy pickings. Fish this fly in the surface film rather than cocked on the surface.

Daddy-Long Legs 12 Black Ant 16



Baetis











Midge Pupa



CDC Shuttlecock



Caperer









Tups Indispensable

Pale Watery

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