OCTOBER FISHING ADVICE



TACTICS

There was a time when trout fishing in October was frowned upon but whether it is due to changing weather patterns or social morays times have changed and sneaking that extra last day on a crisp autumn morning always seems that little bit special.

This is the month that you will notice the trout and grayling competing for food. It will not be uncommon to see a shoal of fifteen or twenty grayling around a single trout. From the anglers point of view the competitive element can help, but shoals are easily spooked and their headlong dash up river may put down every fish in the vicinity.

With this in mind be very stealthful, casting only when necessary. Use the finest tippet and cast well upstream or away from your target fish letting the current do the rest for you.



TACKLE TIPS

It sounds a statement of the obvious but it gets dark earlier than you think. A small torch is a great help for tying on that last fly at dusk or even navigating your way around the fishing hut at going home time.



HATCHES

By October it is getting easier to match the hatch as there are fewer and fewer hatching species as we approach the end of the year.

Iron Blue

A catch all term for three different species but you will have to be a true entomological anorak to notice the difference. These are insects that like to hatch on cold, wet blustery days so ideal for the autumn.

Lunn's Particular size 16 Iron Blue Dun 16 Sawyers Pheasant Tail Nymph 16



Iron Blue Dun

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 Imperial 14
Klinkhammer 14-16
Sawyers Pheasant Tail Nymph 14

Pheasant Tail Nymph

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.

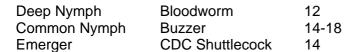




Parachute Adams

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.



Adult Knotted Midge 16



Bloodworm

Shrimp

Shrimps are one of the most common creatures trout eat and about the only one they actively search for. You will see both grayling and trout rooting around at the riverbed trying to dislodge shrimps amongst the gravel.

Weighted shrimp 12-14



Green Shrimp









Black Midge

Iron Blue

Shrimp

Olive Nymph