

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.

TIPS TO MATCH THE HATCH

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 Imperial #14

Sawyers Pheasant Tail Nymph #14



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



Tups Indispensable

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 #14-18
Emerger – CDC Shuttlecock #14
Adult – Knotted Midge #16



Knotted Midge

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 #14-16 (Emerger)
Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear #12



Caperer

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



Daddy-Long Legs