

## **Tackle changes can bring results!**

I fished a June week that was free, inviting my friend, Kevin, to join me. Daytime temperatures were extremely high, so after two days both Kevin and I changed to night fishing only. Kevin was fishing the top of the lake and I fished to three spots on the dam wall that I always fish to. At about 7pm each evening, when the sun had moved round to cast a shadow across the lake, Kevin would start to catch, but the shadow didn't reach the far margins at the dam wall end until about 11-11.30pm when I would start to catch. We would finish the following day at about 10.30-11am.

Lots of fish were showing in the top bay, where some were still spawning, and also many were cruising on the surface and in the open water near the dam wall, but I found it extremely difficult in the first part of the week to get a pick up. My usual hotspots, where I was feeding crumb only, were producing zero fish, even though they were rolling, although not necessarily over my spots. I was trying my new claw rig again, but only catching a limited number of carp anywhere at the dam end. My careful observation of the water drew my eye to a clump of weed on the far bank where I saw several fish rolling. I moved a single rod to that area and that night I had seven fish off that spot. I was using the same end tackle on all my rods and none of the others produced anything.

For the rest of the week all my rods were made up ready to cast out, but I only fished a single rod to exactly that same spot. (as they say when angling sometimes "less lines gets more fish") As soon as I had caught and landed a carp I put another made up rod on the same spot before weighing the landed fish and I caught every night. Once all the rods had caught a single carp I stopped fishing, whatever time of night that was. Unlike Kevin, who was fishing the top bay on a well spread out number of spots, I had to find that tight feeding spot. Although he was unable to catch on the one rod he had that was approximately 2-3m away from my area. It proved to Kevin and me that anglers should never assume that fish aren't feeding, because if they are unable to locate these tight spots on the lake, they will be sitting behind rods that aren't catching. I managed to bank 17 carp up to 39lb in a very challenging 6 days, end tackle and tactical changes can bring results.