

THE WEEK'S BEST TACTICS

NEW 18 PAGE SPECIAL

TACTICS | PELLET BINDER HAS

EDGE AT CROSS DROVE

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PELLET BALL TAKES £1K IN A WEEK!

Golden nuggets put cash in top matchman's pocket

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A match angler who pocketed over £1,000 in just a week of action has revealed the secret to his impressive run of success was feeding flavoured balls of pellets.

Daiwa star Amer Jawad has been in great form at Suffolk's Cross Drove Fishery, and capped off a stunning run by bagging the four-figure sum over three events.

While most of his rivals have been introducing loose micros to attract the shoals of carp, F1s and goldfish, he has been lacing his freebies with the new Bag'Em Matchbaits Krill Pellet Fix Binder Powder to create small nuggets of bait.

Although the tactical trick may seem like a minor alteration, it has helped him edge his rivals out time and time again, and Angling Times caught up with the man of the moment at the complex to find out just why this edge has worked so well.

With hidden bays and vast amounts of natural vegetation it was easy to see why the water is widely considered as a 'thinking anglers' paradise', with careful tactical

preparation essential. "The fish in this venue are very finicky and I needed a way to get them going confidently. I felt that adding scent into the water while keeping the feed in a tight area would help," explained Amer.

"I experimented with the pellet binder during a practice session and I couldn't believe how effective it was - I caught fish from the off," he added.

With a whole host of features throughout the peg, he was spoilt for



Amer with proof the tactic works.

Pellet Binder is a great invention.

choice as to where to target and eventually settled on a three-pronged attack - a line to the left towards a small clutch of reeds, one directly in front against the island and another to the right that can only be described as snag city!

"It's not a venue where you can plunder one line all day - you need to keep chopping and changing to put a winning weight together. I'm going to pot a small ball into each zone and fish double corn over the top," said Amer.

It didn't take long for the action to begin on the left-hand target zone, and a 1lb goldfish was soon in the net. The next drop produced a similar specimen before the bites died off.

A small top-up was placed over the area before he switched zones.

"It's important to form your pellet balls in a certain manner. If you are fishing in fairly shallow water, a slight squeeze will keep it together until it reaches the bottom, but if you are in a deep swim a firm squeeze is needed to keep it intact," explained Amer, who was using black Hydrolastic and 0.15mm mainline straight through to a size 16 hook.

With the fish in a fickle mood, Amer was forced to create a way to spot positive indications from the negative taps, and revealed he often goes against a well-known rule of thumb.

"We are always told to dot our floats down to spot bites, but I sometimes do the reverse. The fish here often nudge the bait around so a tiny pinprick of a float-tip would disappear regularly and you

HOW TO MAKE FLAVOURED BALLS OF PELLETS



1 Take a bag of micros and place them into a bait tub or mixing bowl. The 2mm versions that can be bought in any tackle shop are perfect for this process.



2 Wet your hand before running it through the bait to dampen the micros. Allow them to stand for a few minutes so that they soften a little.



3 Take a spoonful of Bag'Em Matchbaits Krill Pellet Fix Binder and add it to the dampened pellets before stirring it in thoroughly.



4 Let the pellets soak in the flavouring then squeeze a small ball together. This will sink quickly and prove too tempting to the fish in your local water.



Amer's fishing has been highly profitable of late.

would end up foul-hooking fish.

"I leave a bit more bristle showing, ignore the little dips and only strike when it hammers under," he revealed.

It was a tweak that worked well, with big F1s to 4lb falling foul of the winning attack from all three areas throughout the day.

By the end of the outing Amer had used a pint of pellets and just a single teaspoon of the Krill pellet binder to manipulate his freebies, and had placed over 50lb in the net.

"If you feed micros loose then line bites will become a problem at a lot of venues. With this additive you keep the fish on the deck and add an attractive scent to the water that will ultimately help you bag up on your next session," he concluded.

FISH THE VENUE
Day tickets are available at Cross Drove Fishery for £7. For more details call 01842 828102.

WIN £250 OF BAG'EM BAIT

Angling Times has teamed up with Bag'Em Matchbaits to give away three bait packages worth £80 each! The new pellet binder, pellets and groundbait will be included in the prize hampers. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this one simple question:

What size hook did Amer use during the feature?

Send your answers to Bag'Em Matchbaits Krill comp, Angling Times eds, Media House, Lynchwood, Peterborough, PE2 6EA. Closing date is May 11.

