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Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S
FISHING CITATION

is available without charge, to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and their immediate families, who catch any of the fresh-water game fish, of the prescribed species and size requirements. Citation, showing exact date of the catch, will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of the following application form that has been properly filled out and signed.

**APPLICATION FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE FISHING CITATION**

The Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE

Date

Please send me the Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation with the inscribed data listed below:

Name (please print)

Address

City State

Type of Tackle

Species

Weight Length

Boat or Lure Used

Where Caught

in County

Date Caught

Catch Witnessed By

Registered, Weighed By

(Signature of Applicant)

CUT OUT AND SAVE THIS APPLICATION BLANK

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**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

**SPECIES**

**LARGEMOUTH BASS**

... 8 pounds or larger

**CHAIN PICKEREL**

... 4 pounds or larger

**BLUEGILL (BREAM)**

... 1½ pounds or larger

**SHELLCRACKER**

... 2 pounds or larger

**BLACK CRAPPIE**

... 2 pounds or larger

**RED BREAST**

... 1 pound or larger

All fish must be taken from the fresh waters of the state of Florida, as defined by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Fish must be caught on conventional fishing tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness. The catch must be weighed and recorded at a fishing camp or tackle store within the state by the owner, manager, or an authorized agent of the respective establishments.

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**FLORIDA WILDLIFE**

**VOLUME 14 NO. 11**

**APRIL 1961**

*Published monthly by the

FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION
Tallahassee, Florida

* Dedicated to the Conservation, Restoration, and Protection of Our Game and Fish

**BILL HANSEN, Editor**

WALLACE HUGHES, Art Director

C. L. SATTERFIELD, Circulation

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The Florida Audubon Society makes its permanent headquarters in "Audubon House," which is located on the shore of a small lake and bird lovers can do a great deal of watching right on the headquarters premises.

Although affiliated with the national society, the Florida group is a separate entity. Their program is termed "Conservation in Action."

Directors selected to serve until the next annual meeting are: Charles W. Aweod, Bradenton; Howard R. Blak, Winter Park; Benjamin A. Carpentor, Orlando; Thomas T. Coxon, Vero Beach; Mrs. Woodrow Dickinson, Orlando; J. C. Dickenson, Jacksonville; H. E. Khalil, Daytona Beach; Mrs. Robert L. Faring, Gainesville; Gen. Charles H. Gerhardt, Winter Park; Samuel G. Gries; Mrs. W. W. Hendrickson, Jacksonville; Mrs. Winfield Lott, St. Petersburg; Miss Hedwig Michel, Estero; Mrs. James Nisbet, Ft. Myers; Charles P. Preston, Sarasota; Mrs. Victor Bahner, Jr., St. Augustine; Herbert L. Stoddard, Sr., Tallahassee; Dale W. Thornton, Miami; Frederick K. Trueslow, Homestead; Paul A. Velast, Winter Park; William P. Wharton, Winter Park.

As president or appointed representatives of Florida Audubon chapters, the following are automatically included on the board of directors: A. W. Tucker, Brooksville; Capt. Edwin L. Long, Ft. Myers; H. K. Wallace, Gainesville; Mrs. Donald Swanson, Homestead; Mrs. Gary A. Swayne, Charlotte; Mrs. Joise N. Winger, Lake Worth; Mrs. Howard E. Robinson, Jr., Jacksonville; Henry L. Robison, Jr., Jackson­ville; Mrs. Joseph Nwungan, Lakeland; Mrs. Herbert A. Bradlock, St. Augustine; Mrs. William C. Gray, Clearwater; Mrs. Clement Ford, Salento; Paul E. Hills, DeLand.

Conservation Awards Program
John D. Pennekamp, associate editor of the Miami Herald was named commander of the awards banquet held February 25 in Tallahassee.

The awards program, sponsored annually by the Sears Roebuck foundation, is administered by the Conservation Fund, a committee of the Florida Wildlife Federation.

Mr. Pennekamp, long known as an active worker in conservation matters, received his award specifically for his efforts in behalf of the "underwater park" which was designated officially by the state. The park, located off the Florida Keys, is made up mainly of coral reef area which will be federally protected from damage and may be observed with diving equipment.

The state winner received a gold medal, a Governor's Certificate and a cash award of $100.

There are four awards selected from regional winners as follows:

Forestry Awards—Region One, Mrs. W. S. Miller, Bartow; Region Two, Alan Harvey, Marianna; Region Four, Mike Chance, Naples; Region Five, Dick Seitzner, Eau Gallie.

Soil Conservation Awards—Region Two, Ralph Taylor, Bell; Region Three, V. J. Collins, Caryville; Region Four, Judge G. E. Bryant, Okeechobee; Region Five, Boyd Williams, Ocala.

Game and Fish Program Award—Region One, Kenneth D. Morrison, Lake Wales; Region Three, Dr. Howard Tiller, Chipley; Region Four, Charley Brookfield, Miami; Region Five, Mrs. William (Mary Ann) Twyford, Leesburg.

Salt Water Conservation Award—Region One, Bob Bender, Bradenton; Region Two, Charles Holloway, Jacksonville; Region Four, Karl R. Osborne, Vero Beach; Region Five, Knox Purcell, Crystal River.

State winners in the special categories are:

Forest Service Award—Hardeeville, South Carolina. The second release of birds was made on the Apalachee Management Area.

Florida Fish and Game Survey—James M. Huff, Austin, and Wayne Huth, Chipley.

The second release of 1961 was in late January and February. Those selected for questioning please call Mr. Huff on the Apalachee Management Area.

The second choice of game birds for the spring season is again a nationwide survey of hunting and fishing habits. Knowledge of these factors, according to state and federal game officials, is a difficult job at best, requiring skill and patience. Nothing is more frustrating for the trapper who has been sitting cramped, quiet and cold in a blind for three or four hours than to have eight or ten turkeys come to the trap and feed in and out, one or two at a time. When to spring the trap? Wait a bit and perhaps all will go in? Wait too long, and no more will go in? A total season's catch of 250 to 300 birds is excellent, and far worse, the wild trapped birds handled by any other state.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is again conducting a nationwide survey of hunting and fishing, this time with the aid and cooperation of the Census Bureau. The first such survey was conducted five years ago and gave invaluable information on the national hunting and fishing picture. This second survey will bring up-to-date statistics on hunting and fishing economics, numbers of hunters and fishermen in various segments of the population, and breakdowns on various types of hunting. Knowledge of these factors assists each state in improving its fish and game management programs. So, if you should be one of those selected for questioning, make every effort to provide accurate information.

A recent compilation of winners of the annual awards given by the Southern Section of the Wildlife Society for best publications and papers at the southeastern wildlife conference points out the high caliber of work done by Florida's biologist. The first awards were given in 1954. Florida is one of five of the six publications and two of six paper awards. No other state has won more than one. Florida Wildlife Biologist Richard Harlow has recently completed a one year program of a national survey of the black bear. Results will be presented at the North American Wildlife Conference to be held in Washington, D. C. in March, which recognizes another signal honor. Among other items, Harlow's work indicates a statewide population of about 700 and an annual harvest of 60 to 80.

The second release of Iranian pheasants was made in early February. Projects were placed at last year's release site near Ona in Hardee County and 25 were released on the Apalachee Management Area in Jackson County. These were obtained through the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service exotic game program. Although the birds were placed in a first class condition, and carefully selected as suited to Florida conditions, only time will determine the success of the release. last year's birds released at Ona apparently did not reproduce. With an earlier release this year perhaps greater success can be expected. The second release noted at this conference was the Biologists Frank Winston, David Austin, and Wayne Murray are in charge of this project.

At its January meeting the Commission approved recommendations for public use of shooting fields. Under the proposed arrangement, the Commission will enter share agreements with the owners in suitable areas. These fields will then be opened to public hunting under specific regulations. Regulations are likely to be practical and successful and an expansion can be expected.
BOATING

BY DON CULLMORE

In Folly or Little Six group of young water sportsmen in Folly Beach,
South Carolina, met with Don Cullmore, Jr., author of many popular books on boating and sailing.

The youth trainees were put through a series of exercises designed to

- Teach them the rules of the road, including signals and procedures for

- Teach them to wear life preservers and use rescue equipment.

- Teach them the importance of safety in boating.

The youth trainees were also given an opportunity to handle various types of boats, including sailboats and motorboats.

The training program was conducted by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and was open to any young person interested in learning more about boating and watersports.

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**Muzzle Flashes**

**By EDMUND MCLAURIN**

To the chagrin, deep concern and disappointment of sportsmen who love guns, each new legislative year seems to bring in its own manifesto of proposed national or state anti-firearms Bills.

The chagrin develops from the fact that most of the proposed legislation is practically identical to proposals that have seen past introduction and defeat. The deep concern is caused by the realization that hurriedly written, unsound firearms legislation can have impractical and disastrous effect on sportsmen generally. The disappointment is for when it is observed that elected representatives are acting without first reviewing all the facts, or without considering all the interests of law-abiding citizens who would be affected by the enactment of such proposed laws.

On the national level, Victor L. Anisfeld (8th District, New York State) has introduced a Bill in Congress (House Bill No. HR 613) requiring every person in the United States possessing a pistol or revolver to file a registration statement with a designated law enforcement agency. This Bill has been referred to the Committee on Judiciary, where, it is hoped, more logical consideration will cause its death. Already several hundred thousand target-shooting members of the National Rifle Association are calling on Washington to lobby against the proposed Bill—and pronto!

Similar legislation has been proposed on a state level for Florida many times. Always in the past, thanks to opposition voiced by sportsmen and voting by conscientious legislators—these measures have been defeated, often by an express majority. A Dare County anti-gun Bill, for example, went down to the tune of something like a 10 to 1 vote.

**Local level** measure will have ill effects statewide. A specific example was the attempt by the Florida legislature by Senator Nick Carter to close the poplar, centrally located, state-supervised Citrus Game Management Area to all hunting.

Introduced by Carter and honored by his contemporaries in the manner generally accorded local level measures, the enacted measure has statewide impact and required court action by Florida sportsmen to prove its legal unconstitutionality and minority group benefits to a few fringe-area landowners.

I cite this example without any criticism of Senator Carter; undoubtedly he acted in good faith, as his county’s elected representative. However, he had taken the time to meet with Florida bowhunters and gun hunters in open, friendly group discussion prior to introduction of legislation that would affect so many sportsmen, statewide, the unpleasantness of legal action by the majority-affected would not have been necessary.

In some cases national and state Bills that have been enacted into laws have created new and more serious problems. Consider two notable examples that have followed.

One direct argument emphasized by proponents of anti-gun legislation is that “guns kill nice people”. They feel that outlawing guns will not only protect nice people but also save the lives of “those crazy hunters”. Seemingly, the anti-gunners are entirely blind to the fact that auto-mobiles kill more people than guns, and that more hunters are killed annually while traveling, by collisions or other accidents than by gun incidents.

Also overlooked by the anti-gunners is the great national defense potential represented by firearms owned by sportsmen. Should we be invaded, activated home arsenals might well provide the balance of armament needed to meet the force of an enemy attack and fully support our military forces. A big-game rifle in the hands of a sportsman who knows how to use it can be just effective as a military model in combat application. Even the most machine-minded militarists admit that there is no completely substitute for the foot soldier.

The emergency of war and home defense in some countries during World War II forcefully demonstrated the folly of firearms legislation that tends to restrict private ownership and sporting use in peacetime. In Germany, Poland and other European coun­tries, populations disarmed by their own police and politicians through earlier enacted anti-gun laws, were easily conquered by invading forces.

Where gun registration laws were in effect, public records were immediately seized and used to round-up all potential defense weapons. It could happen here; oceans are no longer protective barriers.

Loss of individual right to own and possess sporting firearms as provided in America’s original Bill of Rights, would be national suicide in the critical hours of sudden attack and follow-up invasion. Fatally history has a nasty way of repeating itself; the World War II experiences of some countries must not find repetition in America!

Before anti-firearms legislation and too zealous enforcement of vaguely worded general laws with­told away our armed citizen strength, we did not heed the warnings of some countries must that restriction of deer hunting to a club range or for premises’ protection in New York State, the honest citizen, not only has to go through a lot of bureaucratic red tape to get a permit—if he can get it at all. He is saddled with unreasonable re­strictions and beyond human control responsibilities. Meanwhile, the criminal element, which has its own illegal ways of supplying firearms’ needs, commit mayhem on a prac­tically unarmed citizenry. We don’t want such a condition to develop in Florida, that’s for sure.

The freedom of a citizenship to possess protective firearms if it so wishes has proven its worth innumerable times, both here in Florida and elsewhere.

One prominent national magazine carries a special section devoted to actual cases where possession of and quick use of firearms by law­ respecting citizens have resulted in thwart­ing citizens without a &q ;...
I won't suppose anyone has come up with a new method of fishing a surface lure in the past 30 years. I know I haven't. It's easy to get into a rut, though.

An old fishing buddy of mine is a black bass specialist with a paternal tolerance for me and when we fish surface plugs he keeps telling me to "fish it slow." As he tells me this he fishes faster and faster, bluntly bawling me out for being in too much of a hurry.

Some years back on a south Florida lake I caught two bass and I wanted to fish the water but few fishermen have the patience to leave one lie for very long on purpose. A minute is a long time to watch a lure that doesn't do anything.

Jim Henney kindly asked me how to catch a big bass one still, warm day at a lake having good luck: by slow fishing so I told him to make a cast and let his surface plug lie motionless for two minutes. Jim chuckled in and lit a cigarette.

In about a minute, there was a little bulge, the plug sank and Jim had a 10-pound bass. I assured him it was a good plug, but I hadn't caught a 10-pound bass all spring.

I once knew a cult of fly fishermen who fished bass bugs without ever moving them on the water. A little variety might have helped but they did all right.

For "still fishing" on top, the hair bug is almost unbeatable. In taking a motionless fly seldom strike hard and they often nose the bug before taking. A hair bug feels soft enough to eat. I've found them especially effective on warm still events.

Hair bugs are tricky to make and a little expensive to buy but I don't think shape is very important. I'll tell you how to learn to tie hair bugs yourself. I sure couldn't.

Russell Francis, an old-timer who made the first hair bugs I ever used to say, "They work better after they've chewed up a little." Getting them chewed up is fun.

I hope you never catch me making flat statements about fishing but I believe the most common pattern for a bass to follow when he sights a surface lure is to dog-eye it a while and then hit it when it moves after a pause. I've often seen them do that in clear water.

Popularity of the Creek-Chub-Darter and the old South Bend Oreno plugs was due to the fact that they could be worked with gentle twitches on the surface and then reeled in underwater for a completely different effect.

There are some top-water plugs, such as the surface Mirrrolure, that don't make much fuss on top. I like them as spinning lures because many spinning rods are a little soft for poppers. The noisy ones have lots of water resistance and require a stiff rod.

Some of the finest bass fishing I've had was with a surface Micro-lure in a high wind. The chop was around 40 inches high and I'd yank the plug from the top of one wave to the next. It certainly looked like jumping bait and it worked on several trips. Generally, the rougher the water, the more action you should put on your lure—spin, fly or plug.

Salt water fish seem to prefer slower and faster-working lures.

Hoo king a fish that hits a surface bait isn't as easy as sticking one that takes something under water. For one thing, most of us tend to give a surface bait a bad shake, which is like between jerks. If we remember to keep taking up a little, the results will be more satisfactory.

I've observed a fisherman makes it a whole lot harder to hook than the slow tak ers. For one thing, the fish is generally moving pretty fast before hitting and is likely to make a near-miss. Secondly, the fisherman's right hand pulls a wave of water ahead of him and it may shoo his quarry out of his way.

There's a saying that the way to hook a fish on top is to set the hook just before he strikes but if you'll keep the line or leader almost but, your reflexes will probably take care of the rest. Nobody hooks them all. I've seen smooth saltwater work with a surface plug on a tarpon fishing trip. There were two of us casting to a bunch of 20-pounders that seemed to set the hook as long as the plug popped loudly. My partner was fishing while I rowed and he wasn't hoo king anything. We both had pretty hard pulls the next jerk. When he tried cranking his reel slowly between jerks, he was business in a hurry.

There's so much bottom fishing these days, it looks as if surface angling might become a lost art.

Cuba Fishing

Ed Wood, who represents Heddon and Gladding, has been tanzaling fisherman with the most spectacular bass-catching films I've ever seen. The catch is the action that takes place Cuba, where U.S. fishermen have been banned since the recent months. Wood, something of a world traveler where angling is concerned, is one of the handful of North Americans who have gone to the trouble to fish in Cuba's interior.

The movies were made on a lake crowded with large tarpon and big bass. Wood, like others, is convinced there is a new world-record bass down there. In fact, he thinks he saw one following another with a 17-pounder he was playing.

Briefly, here's the Cuba story on fishing:

For many years, a few North Americans have fished occasionally in Cuba's interior. The difficulty travel, language barrier and lack of interest on the part of the Cuban government made the trips few and far between. In 1956, Cuba's marvelous coastal fishing was enjoyed by numerous folks from the United States.

Then, when Fidel Castro took over there was a brief Cuban effort at promoting that phase of the tourist industry. Busy promotional men started a drum-beating that had our answers drooling—and quite a few made the trip.

When relations between the two countries worsened, most of the fishing trips stopped and the final blow was severance of diplomatic relations. Not long before travel was cut off, some Americans received correspondence from their government guaranteeing them safety if they wanted to return to their earlier fishing haunts.

I never fished in Cuba's interior.
Florida

DITCH FISHING

**By Phil Francis**

When fishing the roadside and drainage canals, the smallest lures will often bring in the biggest fish.

![Image of a fisherman and a canal]

**Florida Wildlife**

A fisherman named Jordan, from Cleveland, Ohio, shook his head sadly. “So this is the famous Tamiami Trail canal,” he muttered. “I’ll never again believe anything I read in an outdoor magazine.”

Poor Jordan had been fishing the waters near Ochopee for several hours with totally negative results. He hadn’t even seen a fish, other than gars, and was thoroughly and understandably disgusted. Jordan probably didn’t realize that he was fishing one of the most heavily fished stretches of water in the world, water that yields consistent catches only to a mere handful of specialists who knew every inch of it intimately.

A fisherman named Hawkins, from Flint, Michigan, grinned with intimacy. “It’s the gluefish picture is not, however, an entirely bleak one. As Hawkins discovered, off the beaten paths of federal highways and arterial state roads, there is still good canal fishing. There is excellent fishing in the navigation canals, and fishing that sometimes approaches the phenomenal in some of the agricultural areas of the Everglades.

At least one Florida canal offers good fishing for the same species of “fresh water shark” that is found in Central America’s Lake Nicaragua, and there is a ditch by a secondary road nearby that is full of “tropical” fish of several species interesting to the home aquarium enthusiast. And even some of the “poor” canals can furnish a lot of sport in the form of big, hard-fighting bowfins or mudfish, as they are called in Florida.

Canal fishing in Florida is an ever changing proposition, last year’s hot spots becoming this year’s duds. Canals in general seem to be biological nightmares, easily thrown out of balance in favor of roughfish and undesirable weed growths. As a rule the best fishing is to be had in new canals, and soon the water teems with food available, bass and panfish can grow and reproduce rapidly without having to eat one another.

For a few years, most new canals offer wonderful fishing. Then the gars and mudfish, or the hyacinths and other harmful weeds, gradually take over. Some canals last much longer than others before going too far out of balance, and there are a few that go on year after year producing good fishing.

Even canals that seem to be finished, however, often come back after periods of high water due to abnormal rains (or perhaps a hurricane) have flushed away the hyacinths and washed in new fertility. As this is written, it is gratifying to note that several “washed up” canals in the Everglades area have shown signs of regaining part of their once fabulous fishing potential. An abnormally wet spring and summer has brought new life to old waters.

Some of the most productive canals in Florida are, or appear to be, mere ditches, and insignificant looking ditches at that. Most of the better roadside canals are of this type.

(Continued on Next Page)
that large streamer flies do take big time (It other hand, not only hold little ap­

water shrimps that abound in near­

mipike! and white may be of some ad­

advantage, however, for visibility to the fisherman. Fish often take a streamer so gently that the only in­

dicated of a strike is the sudden, disappearance of the fly. Streamer flies are great not only for snook or tarpon, but for bass and panfish as well. The very small sizes will murder warmth in the spring, and will often prove lethal on bass when they refuse to rise to the surface lures during the heat of the day in summer.

Spinning tackle can be highly ef­

fective for canal fishing, particularly for the larger, deeper waters; but also for comparatively small canals when light lures are used. Where the bottom is relatively rough, use no­

free, small spinning bucktails fished deep often produce excellent catches of bass and snook at times when these fish will not leave the bottom for popping bugs or even streamer flies. Many impressive catches of real whopper bass are made day after day in such drainage canals as L-1 (south of Clewiston) on buck­

tails and artificial worms fished right on bottom with spinning tackle.

Spinning gear is also in order for small canals in which being fished is wide enough to require casts that are too long for comfort with fly tackle. In such waters, spinning size surface lures are the better bet, ones that will be in the smaller canals. The larger the canal, the less the need for spinning gear.

I feel that day in, day out, casting tackle is markedly inferior to both fly and spinning gear for most canal fishing in Florida. Ultralight equipment manned by an expert using spinning weight lures will take plenty of fish, of course, but the average angler will do much better to stick with a fly or spinning rig.

The biggest canals, notably the Caloosahatchee Canal below Ortona Lock, impose no tackle restrictions on the fishermen. The Caloosahat­

chee is frequented by out-sized brown trout from the hard­

brutes are often present in Lake Nicaragu­

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What Are The Most Popular Live Baits?

Minnows, earthworms and crickets are the most popular baits used by Florida freshwater fishermen. Others are the catalpa worm and many live insects and larvae.

Can They Be Produced In The Backyard?

Yes. This series will give directions for raising minnows, worms, and crickets on a small scale in your own backyard. The information given here does not apply for commercial production of live baits. Be careful of the use of insecticides anywhere near your bait-raising site.

Which Minnow Is Best?

Of all the various minnows, the golden shiner is most suitable for home propagation.

What Type Of Pond?

Any natural or artificial body of water will do. Size range should be from ¼ of an acre up to one acre. A constructed pond should have a maximum depth of six feet.

What Is The First Step?

If the pond is new and clear of wild fish, it should be fertilized and stocked. The old, established pond should be poisoned in January to eliminate all species of fish. Your Regional Fisheries Biologist of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission will help you with this.

How Many Minnows Are Stocked And When?

Stock the pond at the rate of 1,000 fish per acre. If the pond has been poisoned, this should be done two weeks afterwards—about February 1. Try to obtain disease-free fish from a reliable bait dealer, or obtain shiners from nearby natural waters. Use adult minnows four to six inches in length.

Do Shiners Need To Be Fed?

Yes. Fed and fertilized to obtain maximum growth. Fertilize once a month, using 200 lbs. 8-8-4, to the surface acre of water. Feed soybean cake or meal, cottonseed cake or meal, or chicken laying mash at the rate of 10 lbs. per acre per day. Never feed more than the fish will eat at any one time during the day.

How Do You "Fertilize" A Pond?

By broadcasting the material over the surface of the water from all areas of the bank. It is important to get good coverage. In large ponds, it may be necessary to distribute the fertilizer from a boat, using an outboard motor to stir the mixture into the water.

When Can The First Shiners Be Removed?

Shiners may be taken from the pond the first winter following the initial stocking. This is usually done with a lift net. These are square nylon nets set under the surface of the water. Shiners are bailed over the net by feeding, and then all sides are quickly lifted by means of ropes attached to pulleys and posts.

How Long Can You Continue To Take Shiners From A Pond?

In some cases, it may be necessary to renovate a pond every year, but, in the majority of ponds, shiners can be sorted and removed continuously for several years as they mature and reproduce. Thinning of smaller fish is necessary for raising large shiners.

What Kinds Of Crickets Can Be Produced?

Two species of crickets may be raised. One is the common black field cricket, and the other is the Australian Grey Cricket. The black variety may be obtained anywhere outdoors in Florida, while the Grey is sold only through commercial dealers.

What Is The First Step In Cricket Production?

Obtain a container with a depth of 18 to 24 inches. This is the brood pen. Used "coffin-shaped" shipping crates make excellent brooder houses. Fill with about 5 inches of clean sand and moisten. Five or six inches of wood excelsior is placed on top of the moist sand to provide cover for the young crickets.

How Many Crickets Are Stocked In Each Pen?

Stock with 24 adult crickets (half males) for each container up to two feet in diameter or length. Mature crickets have well developed wings in contrast to wingless juveniles. Females may be distinguished from the males by the presence of a long tube through which eggs are deposited, extending from the posterior end.

Is Temperature A Factor In Cricket Production?

Yes. Crickets grow rapidly in a temperature between 80° and 90° F. In cool weather, this condition (Continued on Next Page)
What Food?
Earthworms thrive best on a high fat-protein diet, supplied by such foods as vegetable oil or lard mixed with corn, soybean, or cottonseed meal.

How Much And How Often Do You Feed Worms?
For each bed 6'x3'x3', apply 1 ½ lbs. of shortening or lard mixed with 3 lbs. of meal every two weeks. Used kitchen fats are a good source of shortening and lard. Mix the feed into the top 12 inches of soil in the bed.

What About Water?
Moisture is added in the form of water as often as the worms are fed. If the bed is too dry, worms will be found at the bottom. If too wet, near the top. Adjust water supply so that worms are found throughout the top six or eight inches of soil.

How Is Temperature Controlled?
This is difficult to do in a permanent outdoor bed. If worms are in some sort of portable containers, these can be moved into the garage on extremely cold nights when freezing temperatures are expected.

How Is A Worm Bed Constructed?
Use 2 x 10-inch pine or cypress boards nailed to­gether in the form of a rectangle, or concrete blocks or bricks. Any length is satisfactory.

Where Is The Best Location For A Worm Bed?
Any heavily shaded area is suitable. A roof may be provided over the bed for protection from sunlight and heavy rains.

How Many Worms Are Stocked In Each Bed?
Stock the bed with 300 adult worms, and cover with Spanish moss or burlap bags to prevent loss of moisture by evaporation and to provide protection from the sun. Considerable thinning of young worms is necessary to produce large individuals.

How Long Does It Take To Produce A Crop Of Worms?
Within six months after stocking, worms can be removed from the beds.
Hooking warmouth after warmouth. He landed a dozen in a dozen attempts in the ten minutes I watched. Marvelling at his success, I wondered if something couldn't be developed for a spinner, which is my favorite angling weapon. Buying mayflies was no problem, but using them on a spinner was. They're just too light for even a light spin rod to cast.

Putting a split shot ahead of the fly gave enough weight to cast, but the fly sank like a torpedoed ship. Too, it frequently fouled on brush near the bottom. However, there were just enough strikes to convince me there must be a solution, and that the mayfly would be a killer.

Having used a plug with a trailing backlight in saltwater successfully, it seemed natural to try this with a mayfly. After putting the trailing mayfly behind a standard spin, two gang-hook plunkers, strikes became frequent.

But, oh, the trouble that came too! Warmouth don't lie in open water. You'll fool them almost any time of the year, but in late fall and winter they favor the warm remains of a sunken tree. There mayfly is a warmouth fisherman's best friend.

Try using a mayfly teaser and you will find that Warmouth Are Suckers

By MAX HUNN

This is typical warmouth country—brush, linden covers, and mud bottom. Picture a cover here for the scuppers.

Florida Wildlife

April, 1961
The tackle used might be adequate, but for better fishing luck odds

RIG IT RIGHT

By EDMUND McLAURIN

When fishing gravelly, weedy waters most home-expectant proffer wealness spaces with and without punk; tied spinner combinations, and surface plugs.

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and certain colors, were less visible than others, the conclusion was that no line, to truly be difficult of detection, should be of one solid color but a mottled blended pattern of different color shades, each merging into the other to avoid any suggestion of a solid line.

Lyman Rogers, southern states' area representative for a line company and a fisherman who has proved his theories, considers the first 6 or 8 feet of spinning line (extending back from your lure) of extreme importance. He favors light lines, but says that with both braided and monofilament lines, it is advisable to splice or tie on a length of heavier strength monofilament 6 to 8 feet long, where line wear and strain are greatest.

Rogers takes great care to match line weight and performance quality to the type of baits used. He habitually uses as light a line as possible, on the applied theory of the smaller the line diameter, the easier it is to cast, within certain performance limits.

For the average angler, 6-pound monofilament line is just about perfect for fresh water fishing. Heavier lines—usually 8 and 10 pound test monos—are generally reserved for salt water use, invariably with a 4 or 5 foot leader of 15 or 20 pound test monofilament tied on.

Bright sinkers are frequently overlooked as the reason fish sometimes are not receptive to proffered baits. Camouflaging your sinkers will help you outwit the wary ones! To do this, dip shiny leads in shellac, roll them in sand and then let them dry.

Where you need a sinker to obtain casting weight, but wish to fish baited hooks without a restrictive weight, use a soluble sinker. You can make them by mixing eight parts dry, sifted sand and two parts technical ammonium sulphate. Water-dampen the mixture and mold into desired size or shape and insert "line eyes" while the mixture is still damp. Dry in home oven... Dried sinkers will be hard as stone, but will fall apart soon after they hit the water, permitting a cast bait to work without the drag of a sinker.

Flies weighted throughout the body will sink evenly and are good innovations for fishing in waters where there are no pronounced obstructions to snag the hook. On the other hand, if fished waters abound in sunken hazards, a fly weighted only at the head will tend to sink nose first and rarely get fouled.

The ability to quickly change rigs to ones best suited to encountered fishing conditions is desirable. Small, strong snaps and speedily-tied knots permit fast, easy changing of terminal tackle rigs. Likewise, spinning and bait casting reels with instant take-apart features permit quickening of extra, pre
wound spoons of line, in whatever weight may be needed.

Many spinning and fly fishing experts consider small, hollow, clear plastic bubbles essential items of terminal tackle and regularly carry them in their tackle boxes. Rigging them in a so-called "free bubble" arrangement that puts casting strain on the line rather than the light leader used, they are able to effectively work baits in the face of adverse winds or under subsoilbrush, even with spinning tackle.

Hooks are the cheapest but without doubt the most important working component of a rigged outfit. It will pay you to keep them clean and sharp, even if you have to take time from your allotted hours of fishing.

Once popular among fishermen generally, large hooks on terminal tackle have been replaced by smaller ones more easily concealed in baits. Also, more care is now being taken in the selection of proper style of hook, one best suited in shank length, curve and barb for hooking the particular fish species being sought.

For example, in making up a popping bug bait for bass fishing, today's expert angler is apt to be found using a carefully selected hook. Experts take time to find and use it. You'll find that the right one.

The Blood knot is excellent for joining lines of same diameter so they can't slip or pull loose. The Clinch knot is practical for tying on hooks, snap swivels and flies. The Pendre—an alternative for Clinch knot—also is used to tie lines and leaders to ring-eye swivel items, being fast to tie and a major variation of the strong Clinch knot.

More quickly tied than either the popular Blood and Barbel knots is the Surgeon's knot, ideal for fastening heavier monofilament leaders to light spinning lines, or for tying tapered leaders to fly lines. Also good for tying leaders to fly lines is the so-called "Nail" or "Tub" knot, favored by expert Joe Brooks.

For every fish and every fishing technique there is a correct hook. Experts take time to find and use it. You'll find that the right one.

(Continued from Preceding Page)

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I've become an eel faddist—and go for the real thing. They're the imitations.

It's an uncommon bass that spurs...

THE SIREN'S CALL

By ART HUTT

I've been hooked—hooked by the dumb cluck of the salamander world, a tiny eel-shaped salamander with external eels and tiny, three-toed forelegs. But bass, big, small, and indifferent, love them. They just can't resist the salamander's call.

If you are one of the plastic counterfeiters with success, just imagine what seven inches of convoluted wiggling live eel can do to a bass! I had used live eel for stripers off the New Jersey coast, and had dabbled with brook lampreys for bass in Ohio's Lake Vauclusius. I'd even manufactured and sold, with some success, an eel-type plastic lure.

In Florida, I'd heard mention of "the finest bass bait there is," yet weary of chasing the rainbow's end of fishing hotspots and "you-should've-been-here-yesterday's", my reflexes did not respond to fishing suggestions as readily as they once did. But I finally gave in. Two major fly-fishing experts had mentioned the eel's merits.

My introduction came one warm misty morning near the west-centered town of Brooksville, about sixty miles from my home town of Eustis. In company with Mr. J. M. Hunter, local eel-collecting expert, including two granddaughters, we waded off into a hazy hydranthen-choked swamp until we were navel-deep in the floating vegetation. Underfoot the bottom was mucky and uneven, studded with stumps and logs that made camera carrying a poor insurance risk. Waist-high, the solid mass of hydranthenes gradually moved aside at our progress. Water snakes, turtles, and frogs, disturbed by our advance, dug into the vegetation and disappeared. The sun, not yet successful in burning away the early morning mist, was an eerie yellow ball glaring through the misty hydranthen leaves.

I watched Mr. Hunter, or "J. M.\) as he likes to be called, as he went to work. His equipment was a two-by-three foot wooden frame, covered on the bottom with wire mosquito screening. Lashed across the bottom of the frame below the screen was a partially inflated inner tube. Working the frame under the hydranthenes, he pushed it forward, then released it to float up. A six-square foot rectangle of hydranthenes plus other wildlife—was now confined in the framework. Shaking each hydranthen clump over the screen carefully, he worked through the mesh until the screen was empty except for a sizeable collection of water beetles, a small warmouth perch, and our quarry—the best bass bait—the eel.

Frankly, I was chicken. I wore tennis shoes, and an old pair of dungarees, rubber-banded at the bottom to keep any exploding varmin's out. But not so with the others. Bare feet, short pants, and an old shirt, and a devil-may-care attitude were all they wore.

As we worked along, I learned more about J. M. and his off-beat job. A native Floridian, he turned from truck-farming to eel-catch ing. Now in years, he has transferred most of the labors of his business to other members of his family. He goes along frequently, though, just to show them how it's done.

Since collecting is a year round job, it can be a miserably cold affair in the winter—even in Florida. But in warmer months, the collecting areas come alive. It is not unusual for a bull gator to be keeping his eye on the collectors. The watchfulness of the bull gator for the respect has been the same. Once Hunter was nipped on the arm by a bull gator on a friendly basis. Feeling the sudden weight on his leg, he turned and faced the enemy, being careful not to hurt it. When the bull gator started to move, he turned and faced the enemy again, hoping it would turn and go away. It didn't, so he faced it once more, trying to scare it away. Eventually, the bull gator moved away, leaving Hunter unharmed.

Florida Wildlife

by the salamander world, can tempt even the most indifferent bass.

Sirens, a member of the salamander world, can tempt even the most indifferent bass.
(Continued from Previous Page) with a snapper's jaw could mean a missing toe but apparently there are many who, all get-out-on-land, exist more passively in the depths. Hunter still has all his toes.

The particular morning I tagged along we didn’t run into many snakes although I could see that the possibility definitely existed. I’m not squeamish about them and was pleased to see that Hunter wasn’t either. We picked up a few small black swamp snakes, gentle, harmless little red-bellied beauties that hardly seemed annoyed at our handling them. With a cottonmouth moccasin, it’s a different story. Hunter gladly got out of his way to avoid them, hoping to keep his record of fifteen unbitten years going for awhile yet. When a cottonmouth does come up in his screen, however, he either lets it slither about its business or if the conditions are right he’ll grab it by the tail and sling it away.

Once though, he had a close call. It was a hot summer day and the awareness slowly came to him that it was not a hyacinth which persisted—outside of Brooksville to the west, the picture was the same. Another granddaughter, Shirley, is seen by many as the one who initiated the family habit. In fact, one angler I talked to, a member of the fairer sex, won’t use them because of it. Just when you are about to force the hook’s point through its mouth or back, this odd little creature opens its little mouth and objects by uttering spasmodic little squeaks. It can be unnerving if you are bothered by such things. Fortunately, I’m not.

We tossed our eels into the water, one rigged on a light, the other fished on the bottom. And the bass loved them.

Helen hit paydirt first. The circles around her red-and-white float had barely disappeared when with a plop it was jerked out of sight. She fed line to the racing bass, then tightened up, and expertly set the hook. A healthy two-pounder made charging out of the water, head shaking, gills open. It was over, and the bass that had caught and vey likely bewildered bass was finning about in the dense confines of the live-well.

The eel on my line finally suffered the same fate. At the end of three hours fishing, we strung ten bass, the largest a sleek six-pounder that just couldn’t pass up the sexy siren. The siren was obvious—the savagery with which the bass hit these eels. With other live bait, say a

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TWO SPEED SPINNING

Today’s spinning reels have been developed to a high degree of efficiency, durability, and smooth operation. For all practical purposes, most of them are now de-bugged and are adequate for normal fresh and salt water fishing.

I said, “Normal.” In Florida, much of our light tackle fishing is abnormal compared to the rest of the nation. The spin fisherman in the Sunshine State has opportunities in both fresh and salt water to test his tackle and expertise to the limit. This he does regularly.

Using the word, normal, in its exact sense—it is not normal to use spinning tackle, balanced to 4 or 6 pound test line as our bass fishing tackle. I have caught almost everything that can be taken on fly tackle, but I’ve never felt my fly gear was in-adequate. With balanced fly rod, the angler has the feeling he can whip almost anything, and he’s right. Plug gear is much the same. There is a feeling of power and control inherent in plug casting tackle that is just not basic in spinning.

An example is the summer tournament of the Miami Beach Rod & Reel Club. These are perhaps the most dedicated, the most expert group of light-tackle anglers in the world. I’ll retract that “perhaps.” The 25 top fish in the Rod & Reel tournament had plug tackle taking 11, trolling tackle taking 11, and spinning taking 3. Plug tackle accounted for a 280# shark, a 362# bluefin tuna, and a 33# amberjack; while spinning took a 14# snapper and a 16# channel bass as its top entries.

Does this mean that these famous anglers shun spinning? Not at all. I’ll bet they, collectively, use more spinning tackle than all others combined. For record or tournament fish, however, when the chips are down, they turn to other gear.

All I have written so far has been in an effort to show that spinning today is a wonderful, efficient, and fun-filled way of sport fishing. It is, also, bad to true that light-tackle spinning, by its very nature, is something less than ideal when that occasional really big fish comes along.

This piece is written to introduce a new and exciting phase of spinning to Florida. It’s something I feel will give the spinning angler a better chance in his battle with those tackle busters. This new innovation is a spinning reel that produces what I call “two-speed spinning.” It’s French manufacturer calls it “Sup-Matic,” and its importer, calls it “Power Shift.” By whatever name you give it, it’s a boon to spinning enthusiasts.

I was among those in the U.S. chosen to field test this Sup-Matic Reel, and have been using them for over a year now. This reel has an exclusive feature that makes it unique in its field. In regular, high speed, the reel has a fast, 4:1 to 1 gear ratio, but when the going gets tough, the reel can be shifted into a power gear that has a 2.75 to 1 gear ratio. This power shift works manually and does so smoothly and simply under all conditions.

Before the Sup-Matic, the ideal of a fast retrieve for expert lure manipulation and a power gear for handling big fish was not possible in the same reel. Of course both these features are extremely desirable, which is why the new Sup-Matic is such an exciting innovation. While this reel is designed for both fresh and salt water use, it was manufactured principally with salt water in mind. It is a rugged piece of machinery, slightly larger than the usual, open-faced reel, but is also, very much better. It carries a large line capacity. I get 230 yards of 10# on mine.

I first started testing this reel just before Christmas of ’59. I was delighted with its smooth, trouble-free operation, but was unimpressed with the power-shift, two-speed feature. It was several months later before I finally got into fish big enough to test the practical worth of that “low gear.” This occurred just off the St. Lucie Inlet near Stuart, Florida. Using a light, 6½-ft. rod with 8# test line, I tied into a school of big bonito. That morning, I took 13 of these fish, weighing 16, 17, and 21 pounds.

For my money, bonus of this size are just about the ultimate for this kind of tackle. A better test for equipment could hardly have been devised. Pumping these fish in after long, repeated runs with the reel both in and out of power gear, permanently settled for me the question of its worth. Since then, I have...
caught many big fish with this outfit, and my only complaint about the power-shift principle is that I sometimes, in the heat of the battle, forget to use it. It seems to me, engineers clever enough to design this reel could have figured out a way to make sure the angler would take advantage of it.

To avoid misunderstanding about this reel and my attitude about it, perhaps I had better explain a little further. This Sup-Matic Reel will not in my opinion, excel if used as a "heavy line" outfit. My opinion is that, for lines of 15# and over, one of the large-size spinning reels would do a better job. These usually have a low gear ratio as standard.

Nor do I think the Sup-Matic is particularly well suited for lines 6# and test and under. There are many fine, lightly-built reels on the market that do an excellent job used with light lines. It is my opinion, after extensive use, that the Sup-Matic, with its power-shift principle, is best suited for the angler using 8 or 10 pound test line, fishing in water where he may suddenly be called upon to exert himself and his tackle to the utmost.

As an example, Jim Lough of Chicago and I recently fished a couple of Sup-Matic Reels with 8# line down in the Content Keys area of the Florida Keys. Three days of furious fishing brought the usual mixed bag of salt-water game fish, none, however, large enough to have us shifting gears on our reels.

In the last half hour of the last day when we were almost back to our boat dock, Jim cast a yellow nylon jig up on a flat, retrieving it with a high-held, fast action. A big barracuda took the jig just as it cleared the drop-off into deeper water. Jim needed no urging to shift gears on this one. Thirty minutes later, we boated a 25# barracuda. Jim had been in no real trouble throughout this fight. This was the only time in three days' fishing we felt called upon to shift gears, but when the call came, it was certainly a great relief to accept this helping hand.

Would Jim have landed this big barracuda without the power-shift reel? Who knows—it was certainly a factor in his favor, and it's a factor I prefer not to be without in the future. I think this two-speed spinning is the most significant development since the advent of the full bail reel.

I was introduced to spinning via an imported outfit given me by Bob Becker, then outdoor editor of the Chicago Tribune. This was many years ago. The reel was a Swiss-manufactured Record with a short, curving, pickup finger. It was mounted on a short, hard-action, bamboo rod and was filled with heavy, wire-stiff, monofilament line. I was disgusted with the whole thing and quickly followed Bob's example by giving the outfit to someone else. Spinning tackle has come a long way since then. For those of us who enjoy taking big fish on 8 or 10 pound line, I predict the power-shift Sup-Matic will find great favor.

For those interested in a general description of this reel, it is as follows: the reel weighs a husky 13½ ounces, the drive is through a two-point suspension worm gear assembly; all parts moving on either ball bearings or special bronze bushings. The reel has no plastic or synthetic parts. It is full-bail, open-faced, with a hard chromed, stainless steel bail and line roller. The all important drag is built into the bail, and the drags are adjustable for various sizes of fish. The line is re-spoolable through a cross-level-wind mechanism. With two spools, one filled with line, the price is $35.00. These reels are now on the market by South Bend Tackle Company and available for inspection through local tackle stores.

Charles Waterman hooks an 85-pound tarpon at Cape Coral. Waterman is a fly rod specialist, years for a fly reel built with the power-shift feature.

THE LIGHT SIDE OF BASS FISHING

By RUSSELL TINSLEY

I was a miserable day. A brisk north wind blew sheets of rain against the restaurant. From where I was sitting I could see the droplets rolling down the window panes. Occasionally the rumble of thunder interrupted the music coming from the juke box. I had planned on going fishing but when I awoke and peered out the door I changed my mind. I like to fish, all right, but I know when to draw the line. It was about 10 o'clock now and I was enjoying a breakfast of eggs and bacon when two of my friends came in. They took off parkas and shook off water. But even at that under the rain suits they were drenched.

"Johnny Brennan," I said. "Don't you know better than to go swimming on a day like this?"

By RUSSELL TINSLEY

I chuckled at my own joke. "Not when I can get results like this," he answered, grinning. He walked to the door, reached outside and pulled in one of the nicest strings of bass I ever hope to see. I wasn't too surprised. Johnny Brennan is a dedicated nasty-weather fisherman. He likes it just fine when there's angry clouds hanging low in the sky, even better when the clouds are pouring rain. Johnny says a lifetime of angling experience has taught him that bass bite best in foul weather. He's explained his strategy to me, and it sounds logical. On clear days bass bite best early and late in the day when they're prowling the shallow along shore in search of food. But during an overcast day the bass are apt to be in the shallows at high noon as they are at daybreak. For a good reason, too. A weathered old fishing guide once explained it to me. We were fishing a cypress-head lake, he and I, toward sundown one warm spring day. The sun was a hanging low over the treetops, almost as if it were suspended from a string, and the cypressings ringing the pond east long shadows across the smooth water. We were padding slowly parallel to shore, working poppers around stumps and hyacinth pads. The old guide—Jim was his name—pointed to a stump ahead. "Put your plug by that and you'll get a bass," he said matter-of-factly.

(Continued on Next Page)
I know it would be hiding in the shadow where it had the best protection and was best concealed to catch food. If you had put your lure on the opposite side of the stump, the bass might never have moved to take it. In fact, I would have bet he wouldn’t. Yet since the other side of the stump was closest to shore, that is the place most fishermen would have been putting their lures.”

I pondered that for a moment. I hadn’t really ever thought about bass playing an important role in the catching of bass. This incident made me curious. I asked the guide to explain it to me. This, in summary, is what he said:

Knowing why bass prowl the shallows early and late in the day when the sun is shining in a faultless arc of blue overhead is the key to successful bass fishing. There are two motivating factors which influence the habits of bass: hunger and self preservation. The largemouth black bass is a predatory fish, nervous and alert. It uses its environment, and this includes weather, to its best advantage both when hunting food and when hiding from its enemies.

For example, during the two extremes of the day—early and late—the light source is low on the horizon. Shadows are long and dark. In the darker deep depths a bass feels secure, but on the clear shadows it is on the defensive, for it knows it is visible to its enemies. Yet it must move into the shallows for this is where the majority of its diet is found—frogs, minnows, crawfish, grasshoppers, and the like. By living quietly in the protective shadow of some obstruction, the bass not only is shielded from its enemies, it also is hidden from other creatures. It can pounce out of hiding on anything edible which wanders past.

Just at sun-up shadows are extremely long, but as the day grows older they shrink. Toward noon they are almost nonexistent. The bass’ protection is eliminated. It drifts back into the deeper waters for safety, then comes back on the shallows when the sun starts its descent toward the western skyline. This is why an area of deeper depths bordering on shoreline shallows is a bass hotspot. The bass knows it can make this journey from depths to shallows with the least of effort.

Naturally, the magic hours between dusk and sun-up and again from sundown until dusk are the most productive of the day, simply because light and water temperature conditions are nearest optimum for Mr. Bass. This also explains why a bass is largely nocturnal. There is no light to betray its movements.

This light pattern, then, clues us as to why it is logical to fish the shallows—paying strict attention to submerged stumps, weed beds and other cover and the shadows they cast—early and late, then move out to the deeper depths to troll or cast deep-running lures during mid-day.

New bass-fishing techniques have made it possible to probe the depths much more successfully than before. Bottom-bumping baits such as plastic worms and feathered jigs have opened a new frontier for the bass angler. If he plans his strategy correctly, he can follow the migratory route of the bass, from depths to shallows and back to depths again, and catch fish throughout the day.

This light factor also explains why good fishing often is to be had during even the foulest of weather. On a dark and overcast day—they days when there is a hint of mist in the air or it is actually raining—there is no brilliant sunshine to give the bass away. It can operate in the shallows safely, prowling after food.

On such days a bass is an apt to be feeding near shore at noon as it is at sunrise.

As the old guide stressed to me, there is no great mystery to catching our most popular game fish. Adapt your fishing habits to conform to the bass’ daily habits and naturally you’ll improve your catches. Pay particular attention to the light conditions. When the sun is low on the horizon or is hidden behind scuds of heavy clouds, fishing picks up; if it is straight overhead, fishing activity slackens off.

And watch those shadows. That’s where the bass will be hiding. Don’t put your bait right in a shadow, for commotion directly above a fish’s location will spook it off. Put it off to either side just far enough to tempt the bass into thinking some helpless creature has fallen into the water.

The bass is, by instinct, a very wary creature. It can accept many unorthodox things, such as an artificial lure which doesn’t faintly resemble anything which it eats, but it never will ignore an environment condition which its super-wary instinct warns against.

Learn to think like a bass and you’ll definitely improve your catches. Like the old guide told me: “Son, the best time of all to catch a big bass tender is during a black night when it is the dark of the moon. On such a dark night a bass feels perfectly safe, and a contested bass is often a foolish one. When you’ve got one’s guard down he’s easy to outwit. But on a brilliantly bright day I wouldn’t give two bits for your chances.”

Now it isn’t often that I go wandering around a lake or stream on a black night trying to catch a bass, nor is it frequent that I’ll ignore a cold downpour of rain just to catch fish. But I do pay strict attention to the light on those sunshiny days. I fish the shadows. It has helped my fish-catching average considerably; perhaps it will yours, too.
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DITCH FISHING

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of time before setting the hook. Bull sharks are above average batters for the shark family, and perhaps of them can give you a fairly good workout in an afternoon. Shark fishing is one facet of the Florida fresh water canals about which few people know. It's a ball!

When fishing any South Florida canal, big or small, it pays to give concentrating and keeping your eyes on the culverts and dams. Bridges and culverts offer cover for bait, and what bait gathers, fish gather. Then, too, shading species like warm- 

mouth and crucian often congregate around canal bridges and culverts simply because of other suitable hideouts. 

Dams are hot spots in canals for a very good reason. Both fresh and salt water fish tend to swim up canals, that is, into the flow of water. When they come to a dam, they are stalled in their efforts to move on. The result, of course, is a concentration of fish immediately below the dam.

Perhaps the hottest spots of all are the places where there is a flow of water from a smaller ditch or stream into the main canal. Such spots are especially productive in the canals of the Everglades during periods of receding water levels. As the water drains off the marshes, minnows instinc- 

tively flee to the little ditches and streams which are running off into the canals. Bass, snook, baby

MUSCLE FLASHERS

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salutary type of bullet (already prohibited for hunting use in Florida) that is most dangerous, because of its tremendous penetration power and tendency to ricochet from hard objects without disintegration.

Round shots have greater air resistance and shorter potential free flight range than a rifle bullet—

true—but in buckshot sizes they can be dangerous at surprising distances. The danger factor is increased by the number and tendency to scatter. A 12 gauge shotgun loaded with size No. 0 buckshot, for ex-ample, will contain 12 balls, each the diameter of a 12 gauge bullet. Danger to other hunters is enhanced, compared to a single bullet from a rifle. Personally, I would rather hear the whine of a bullet than be in the vicinity of a load of buckshot!

Curtiling gun accidents lies not

in anti-gun legislation, but in Hunter Safety Education, especially in re- 

spect to young hunters seeking their first hunting licenses. Good work has been done in this field, but ef- 

forts might well be stepped up and expanded. A "shooting only for Florida hunt-

ers and only other illegal encroachments. Hunters' rights—should be dealt with, promptly by organized and individually expressed opposition, whatever the legislative level.

RIG IT RIGHT

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eters of leader material, two jigs of slightly unequal weight and a single barrel swivel snap-faster with glue. A simple lead is one to the customary type of snap-faster swivel directly to your line. Tie one end of each leader to a hook, make a loop in the other end. Associate the two individual leader loops on the locking snap-faster. When cast and retrieved, or trolled, the lures will separate and the tackle (line, depth) will provide the rig with more. This rig is good for cast-

ing tiny jigs too light to be easily controlled and is also good for deep water jigs retrieving or trolling. 

Processed pork, in its many fish-

able forms, is one of the deadliest of baits. It has been proven that few fish will offer much resistance against a well-flavored slodg. Bass, as a rule, avoid fish bait. Aside from pliable action, at-

tractiveness and taste qualities, a pork bait has the natural feel. This, therefore, undoubtedly encourages to swallow it instead of rejecting it, as frequently happens to struck baits made of metal, wood or hard plastic. 

True, the tarpon or tailed with another lure, pork will often pro-

duce when other lures fail. For fresh water bass fishing, proba-

bly the most popular of pork baits is the imitation fog, rigged alone on a weedless hook or in combina-

tion with a wobbling spoon or a weighted spinner. 

Among the strike port baits rate a close second in popularity. You can buy them shaped to imitate crawlers, eels and other natural baits, or in strips and skirts, plain white or colored. 

Pork pills are a pan-fisherman's delight, because they are tough and strong lasting, as well as effective. They, too, can be had in white or a wide choice of colors. Best fishing results are obtained when the pills are bobbed up and down. This, together with a tiny spinner ahead of baited hook, as any serious bass fisherman can verify, bass—big bass—are often mighty particular about the types and actions of artificial baits they will strike. 

Florida expert Phil Francis be-

lieves—and I agree with him—that one of the best, bottom-fishing rigs for fresh water largemouth bass is an ordinary salt water yellow feeder or nylon facsimile jig bounced along a lake bottom and retrieved slowly with slight jerks.

Bass experts are especially par-

ticularly in choice of lures when fish-

ing. 

essler, worry. Under such conditions, you will usually find them fishing weedless spoons, with and without added pork rod; spinner com-

binations, and surface plugs at the end of their lives. 

Fly rods and bass bugs are made for each other, but you can also fish the lures on a light spinning outfit. 

The secret is to take those big bug artificials and carefully hollow out a cavity in the body section. Stuff in a few lead shot and seal them with plastic wood, then apply a finishing touch of waterproof varnish and clear fingernail polish. With the help of the added weight, you can make reasonably long casts, yet the judiciously weighted lures will remain sufficiently buoyant to float fairly high in the water.

Chances are your present assort-

ment of tackle is adequate for most fishing situations. The next time out, increase your fishing luck odds; rig it right.

BOATING

(Continued from Page 17)

several feet above the water with a low ceiling and a fair amount of visibility at the water level itself. Channel markers were faintly visi-

table—they are close together in this stretch because of the whirling of the channel between shoals.

We assumed it was a radium fog nor could burn itself out. It wasn't. There had been a weather change overnight. Shortly after we pushed out into the broad sound we found ourselves in a gray swirled void with visibility a virtual zero. It was an advocation fog, and before we found ourselves out of it we had run the reef twice, almost been run down by a commercial tow (sure, he was sounding a foghorn, but you have to guess at whether you're on a collision course), and finally ended up in the wrong river. We missed the mouth of the St. Marys, with too strong a current and a tack to the Jolly River. It was at least a disconcerting experience with a few harrowing moments. We were off the sun, instruments, and aqua-

meters and charts, and could esti-

mate our position pretty closely. Without 'em we could have been in deep water, and we looked over one safety factor—we failed to check the weather. If we'd taken a precautionary check on the morning weather map we might have noted the advance of conditions to cause advocation fog. Similarly, you can often anticipate a collision of warm and cold moving air masses that cause frontal fog. If you're going out on a fair-sized body of water, it's worth taking the time to make a precautionary check on what might happen. 

There's some mighty fascinating cruise country, by the way, in the northeas tern Florida—southeastern Georgia region that lies up around where we flushed up in the fog. 

A friend from north-
Leaves for Africa

E. T. (Tony) Heinen has been granted an indefinite leave of absence from his position as Chief, Fisheries Division, Game and Fresh Water Commission, to act as hyacinth control advisor to the Sudanese government in Africa. Heinen, who joined the Commission October 1, 1948, will serve with the International Cooperation Administration of the State Department as Foreign Service. He reported to Washington, D. C. March 20 for a three-month indoctrination period, and then will undergo a condensed specialized equipment familiarization period with the U. S. Corps of Engineers hyacinth control program at Baton Rouge, La.

Thereafter, he will be under a minimum assignment of 18 months as technical advisor for a hyacinth control project on the Nile River. This will be top priority in the creation for establishment of a permanent hyacinth control program with headquarters at 1500 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Heinen, who is a native of Fowler, Indiana, and a graduate of Indiana University, was first joined the Commission as a fisheries biologist. He later served as South Florida Region District Manager in Lakeland for four years before promotion March 1, 1957, to Fisheries Division Chief. At Brazos, he was appointed to the Commission’s John of “Bill” Woods (founder) Award of the year.

Back at the dock, Bob Dunnstrom, operator of Camp Yale, admired our stronger but tired boat. "Y'know," he admitted, "I didn't think eels would work in this lake. Where can I get some?"

One thing particularly stands out in my eel-fishing memories. It re­veals the drawing power of this siren. With two shiner-baited lines out, I had spent the afternoon anchored off one of the better fishing points in Lake Eustis, literally twiddling my thumbs, and the only way stu­pidity on not laying in a full supply of eels for the day. I did, however, have one live eel in a can, a leftover from a past fishing trip. I reeled in one line, took off the shiner and replaced the hook with a thinner wire model. I hooked the eel, gently threw him out where the shiner had been swimming before—and you can guess the rest. He just kept going—a huge swirl marked the spot where a husky bass, the usual shiner, grabbed him. A moment of inactivity, I was all thumbs. The line tightened, and a very respectable bass came cartwheeling out of the water, spewing the hook in one direction and the eel in another.

Is it any wonder I'm an eel fisher, firmly convinced that they are as good or better than any other bait alive? I've had too many re­warding trips to pass it off as luck or coincidence.

I've notice, too, that gators don't seem to molest them—which is a beauty in itself. Normally, with live bait in southern waters, you lose a few shiners to those ugly archenemies turning out. But in many instances I've used eels, I've yet had not a gar strike.

These Florida eels are tough, but when you counterprest the shiner, if you have them head-hooked, you can retrieve them in the same manner you would use with a plastic plug. Usually they work better. After all, decks don't get what they shouldn't they? The real thing. They're the eels that imitate the imitations!

Warmouth Are Suckers

Warmouth gave us action and saved the day. When Cal was skeptical of any fish that he was until I showed him the best fishing points in Lake Eustis. I'm thankful for the double hook rig I landed them at every hour of the day—whenever the cast was near protective cover. Cast in open water, and you're wasting your time.

Timer, when fishing for warmouth you have to keep the baits from getting in with something larger. I've been thankful for the double hook rig since I've never when fishing in warm­mouth waters.

George Solana and I were fishing for bass in the Fakahatchee early one morning. I decided to try a likely looking warmouth hole I barely got my cast through the brush and alongside the over grown, ex-logging road and onto the water, when Y'know. My rod arched sharply, I knew this was no warmouth. I had my drag set light for warmouth and I couldn't gain line.

The fish took off for the brush, and I tightened my drag for control. I turned him just in time, and then he broke water. He was a bass, and he clobbered the top­water plug slily to move the mayfly and wait. Now you've got to be alert for warmouth is a dainty striker, and if he didn't hustle out immed­iately, more than likely he'll nibble when he does sample. At the slight­est movement of the plug, snap your tip and set the hook. Nine out of ten times, you'll get him into the brush, and the miniature brawl starts.

It's amazing how fast these little scrapertail will hit. Cal Stone and I were fishing deep in the Fakahatchee, and he'd started with the top­water plug. It was too near the surface. He caught and released two dozen of the little rascals before actually getting his drag. They were almost too willing. They hit so fast, we sometimes thought we were catching the same fish. Cal landed them, and I finally worked him near the bank. It was a pound and a half large­mouth, and he'd really hooked himself on a plug.

"Well, George," I said, "How do you like that? You couldn't get in here with a fly rod."

George confirmed fly fisher can't just grunted: "Leaves for you! I might have known you've some unexpected rig. Get another in your box?"

I laughed as I nodded. I didn't wait for George to get his back to fun and began hocking warm­mouth. George didn't waste any time joining the act, too. It we were using fly rods. I lit him up. Mr. Warmouth gives you action—fast and furious. He's a suck for a mayfly trawl.
CAMPING
AND
COOKING

BY LOU
MUSSLER

FLORIDA WILDLIFE FEATURES continue to ask about
camping equipment and outdoor gear; the type to use,
and how much it will cost to equip the outdoor vor-
tioner. This listing of the “What’s” and “How Much’s”
has been compiled from a dozen or so supply catalogs.

(1. Essential; n. Non-Essential; o. Optional)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Per Adult</th>
<th>Per Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>e. Frying pans</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Cooking pots</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Combination pot, pan, broiling set</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Coffee pot</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Can opener</td>
<td>.15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Bottle opener</td>
<td>.15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Combination plate, cup, knife, fork, spoon set</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Food storage containers, plastic</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tools</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Per Adult</th>
<th>Per Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o. Axe</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>$9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Hatchet</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Saw</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Shovel</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Rake</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Pickaxe</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Machete</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Pliers</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Hammer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Camp utility repair tool set (small tools for stove, lantern, etc.)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Scissors, heavy duty</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o. Screwdriver, combination size</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Vulcan repair set, (Repairs rubber or plastic items)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hardware Items</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Per Adult</th>
<th>Per Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o. Utility nail and screw set</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Hangers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Holders</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sanitary Items</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Per Adult</th>
<th>Per Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>e. First-Aid kit, field Unit w/snake-bite kit</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Washbasin, folding canvas</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Washbucket, folding canvas</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n. Washhub, folding canvas</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Waterbag, sterile</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(Continued from preceding page)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Per Adult</th>
<th>Per Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n - Children's compact all-purpose play set. (Folding see-saw, swing, merry-go-round and washboard.)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n - Wiring line kit. (Two aluminum poles, sprayappers, nylon line.)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Items</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e - Jackknife, combination (Knife, can opener, bottle opener, awl, etc.)</td>
<td>$3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e - Flashlight, multi-purpose</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e - Compass, waterproof, non-breakable</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e - Whistle (Not for kids)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e - Toilet articles, kit</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>8 $10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e - Wet weather clothing, rain-coats, rain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLUBS & CONSERVATION (Continued from page 4)

Committee members are not required to be present at the regular meeting, so that they may attend to the business of their respective clubs. The regular meeting of the Executive Committee is held the third Tuesday of each month at the Officers' Club in Ocala. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 15.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Aluminum foil, flat-pack
- Pieces of flat board
- Coat hangers, wire. (Always pack several—not for use in the house but for use in the park.)
- Detergents, napkins, plates, cups, wax paper, hobby sets, cameras, film, radio, baskets, fly swatters, laundry bags, deck of cards, writing paper, plastic sheets, oil cloth, potholders, abrasives, fuel cans, books, magazines, horseshoes, recreational items, etc.

CORRECTION!

Our Gun Editor wishes to correct an error in an answer to a question-asking question in the February 1961 issue of Florida Wildlife.

The question as originally received and answered by mail was: "Who manufactured and marketed the first popular repeating, pump-action shotgun?"

We were incorrect. The first popular repeating, pump-action shotgun, but it was not the first pump-action repeating shotgun. The most popular model was the Winchester Model 1892, which was manufactured from 1892 to 1957. The Winchester Model 1897, which was manufactured from 1893 to 1957, was the first popular repeating, pump-action shotgun.

However, in preparing the question and answer for magazine publication, the word "popular" was inadvertently omitted from the question—which made the printed answer incorrect.

The Winchester Model 97 was the first truly popular repeating, pump-action shotgun, but it was not the first pump-action repeating shotgun. The most popular model was the Winchester Model 1892, which was manufactured from 1892 to 1957. The Winchester Model 1897, which was manufactured from 1893 to 1957, was the first popular repeating, pump-action shotgun.

NEXf\A MONTH

Starting with the May issue, a monthly box score will be published for the season's fishing catches of fresh water game fish. The facts and information presented will be taken from the Fishing Citations received each month. The standings, not including the score, will be compiled according to the order shown on the citation application forms. The first twelve months on the inside front cover of the magazine will be devoted to the fishing catch data. The data will be compiled by the captain of the boat or the head of the fishing crew.

The next issue will be the July issue. The July issue will be devoted to the fishing catch data for the period from July 1 to July 30.
Howard McBride, State Chairman of the present Adult Council to the Game and Camp Fire, caught a large whiting and threw it back. My new acquaintance was pretty excited. He felt that fish are needed for food and that anyone who returns one to the water is somehow subversive to the human race. He

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs: We are happy to announce that membership in the State Youth Conservation Club League has been approved by the Federation of its Junior Garden Clubs.

Conservation

"... Conservation begins with education. We have to start in the schools. To do a better job there, we need more conservation teaching aids, more places where young people, even adult groups, can see demonstrations of the wrong and the right way to use natural resources."

Ross Lefler, Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

and you're in trouble. Bad business to leave rods "together" when not in use unless you pull the ferrules almost all the way apart so they can't stick. At our house, we hang most of our rods up by their tips, but before we do it, we loosen the joints until they barely stay together.

Admittedly, the very best actions are found in one piece rods but they're bulky to haul or ship and in flyrods, the one-piecer is almost unheard of.

Fishing

(Continued from Page 11)

drifting and one of the sports throw a plug at him. Unfortunately, the bobcat grabbed it and the angler had something he couldn't let go.

Making unsupplementary cat noises, the cat started to get into the boat, whereupon the fisherman started getting out. Addison took one mighty swipe with an oar before handing the angler his luckymes to get the bass out. It took quite a while to get jangled nerves back to fishing again.

New Attitude

A stranger called me aside at one of the ocean fishing piers the other day. He said he had seen something very exciting on a television set. He asked me to stay with him and watch a fisherman he had under surveillance. In a few minutes, the "suspect"

Girls, Inc. with headquarters in Jacksonville will soon be participating in a co-sponsored program by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. A manual of projects, also lists the degrees that can be earned upon completing required and optional projects. The manual has been completed at the Youth Conservation Education Section headquarters. It has been approved by the officials in Florida, and must be approved by National headquarters.

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GAME MANAGEMENT NOTES

(Continued from Page 5)

Considerable agitation was expressed in some quarters for an emergency closure of the quail season in January. As is frequently the case, many of the loudest opinions showed a lack of basic knowledge of quail and quail requirements. Repeated experience has shown that populations of quail and other small game depend on weather conditions year to year and on the habitat conditions of their range. No quail population will be better than the carrying capacity of the land it occupies, and weather conditions will cause population fluctuations on any range. When quail numbers decline for these reasons, hunting success likewise goes down. As a result, hunting pressure decreases. The important point is that this drop in hunting pressure decreases the economic impossibility of any wide scale restocking program must be realized. Even at a minimum cost of $1.00 per bird released and a maximum kill of 75% of the released birds (possible only if released a day or two before shooting), it is obvious that a season bag of 60 birds would cost $80.00 per hunter for birds alone. This is hard to do on a license fee of $7.50 per hunter.

Another concerns a dog that was being offered for sale at an auction. A man in the back of the crowd, liking its appearance, was finally the successful bidder but had to pay a pretty price as there was someone in the front of the room bidding against him.

He was a little chagrined at having paid so much but went forward to claim the dog and was surprised to get a bill of sale made out for "one talking dog."

"You mean this dog can talk?" he asked.

"Who do you thing was bidding against you?" replied the auctioneer.

Another one of Mr. Olson's fictional shaggy dogs was complaining to another dog that he felt poorly. Nothing physical...just bored, always tired, never really in top form.

"Why don't you see a psychiatrist?" the friend suggested.

"How can I see a psychiatrist? I know I'm not allowed on couches."*

Dogs tied up in a yard with no shade or protection from the hot sun are just as susceptible to heat exhaustion as the dog in a closed car. There is no excuse for keeping a dog in the hot sun since there is usually a simple matter to fix up some sort of shade. If there are no trees in the yard, an awning or lean-to can be fashioned from an old blanket; piece of canvas or even a sheet of cardboard.

Provide fresh, cool water several times a day. Don't give him a pan of water and then let it stand around until it becomes warm or stagnant or full of bugs. Would you drink it? Also, it may be necessary to move the water pan several times if the sun strikes it at various angles.

And, if you must leave your dog in a parked car, be sure that the windows are rolled down far enough to permit a free circulation of air. It is possible to open the windows and yet not have the dog get out. If possible at all, park the car in a shady spot or under a tree.

Floridians should use caution when moving pets from the outdoors to the heat of the garage or from the garage to the outdoors. Pets are sensitive to temperature and can become overheated or dehydrated very quickly.

A recent study by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services found that 87% of the pets that were left in hot cars died. These deaths were preventable.

Floridians are encouraged to be aware of the dangers of leaving pets in cars and to take steps to prevent such accidents from occurring. This includes not leaving pets in parked cars on hot days, ensuring that pets have access to shade and water, and providing proper ventilation for pet enclosures.

Floridians are also encouraged to take extra precautions when leaving pets unattended in parked cars, such as leaving the windows slightly open or using pet cooling systems.

By George Crowley
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