

“DARK LURES IN DARK WATER”



100 Spoonplug, Black

I had long wondered why Buck Perry recommended using darker colored lures in stained water. I didn't doubt the correctness of his conclusion, but I just wanted to try and understand why (Mr. Perry also recommended that we not be concerned about the “why” and concentrate mainly on known fish behavior---what they do, not why they do it). It didn't seem logical to me that dark lures would show up best in dark water.

After some thought, as usual, I ended up at the same conclusion on this that Mr. Perry had stated over 60 years ago! Imagine yourself in a thick pea-soup fog. In the sky, clouds can often appear as dark gray if they contain heavy moisture droplets. Yet in the fog, the background appears light colored, since any available light reflects off numerous droplets. If I am driving in the fog, a dark colored car would show up much more readily than a light colored one. In stained water there are numerous tiny suspended particles that would reflect light in the same manner and make the background appear lighter to the fish, giving a dark colored lure more visibility. As the available light becomes more intense, this brightness of the background would increase, giving the fish better visibility of dark objects. This may explain why stained waters often have movements of fish in the middle of the day.

My logic on this may or may not be correct, and I would have to spend much time and effort to try and prove it scientifically. Yet Mr. Perry, in his written material, has given us extensive knowledge of fish behavior, recommended tools to use, and procedures to follow to most effectively catch fish. His conclusions were extensively researched and proven over and over again for 60 years. I wonder why I sometimes bother with the “why” and don't simply accept his conclusions!

Chase Klinesteker