

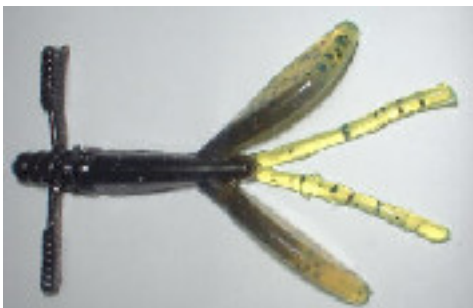
BearPaw Hand Poured Baits Roundup

Kevin Dahlke



There are a wide array and variety of plastic bait manufacturers out in the market place these days and this makes those bait selections a difficult one. One company that I have been associated with for the past few years is in that mix and is coming out with a variety of baits every year. That company BearPaws Hand Poured Baits, is an innovative and aspiring company that offers a plastic bait that is hand poured. Being hand poured gives the bait a different look than normal plastic baits and offers a higher floatation factor over the others. One other important feature that BearPaws Baits offers in their baits; is every bait is fortified with MegaStrike and BearPaws Baits is one of only a couple companies that are able to say that.

We are going to take a look at the BearPaw Baits lineup and give an idea of what they are offering the angler with a variety of plastic baits. Some of the new features that are being incorporated into all of the baits produced are the floatation factor that you are able to dictate when ordering each bait. You can chose between the floating, medium and fast sinking choices. Floating allows you to keep the bait on or near the surface, Medium allows the bait to have a slower fall through the water column and Fast Sinking allows the bait to get to the bottom quicker without using added weight to the bait. Lets take a look at a few of the baits that BearPaws offers and also some scenario's that they can be used in.



The B-Bug is a favorite bait of ours that is a resemblance of a creature type bait with its many appendages throughout the body. It starts out with the straight main body portion that has the flipper style twin tail on the backend of the body. On the head end of the bait there are either 2 or 4 tentacles protruding out. Between the tentacles and the flipper tail, these appendages give off a tremendous amount of action and also vibration in the water.

This bait can be fished in a variety of ways from Texas rig, jighead, weightless and also a very effective technique is using it on a Carolina rig.

One of the most used baits that BearPaws offers is the Hippie Stick lineup and by also getting these in the three different floatation qualities that are offered, you are able to

cover all of the different parts of the water column. The Hippiie Stick is straight soft stick bait that has no appendages on the bait. The attraction to this bait is from its slow and wiggling action as it descends through the water towards the bottom. Rigging this bait can be wacky rigged, weightless Texas style, on a jighead, Carolina rigged and almost any other imaginable way that an angler can think of.



Let's take a look at the soft jerk bait which is called the Grizzly Jerk and also the bigger version called the Mega Jerk; the difference between these two is the size with the



Grizzly measuring at 5.5" and the Mega measuring at 6.5". This soft jerk bait when worked weightless darts and dives through the water when worked with a slow jerk

motion on the retrieve. The body has a cavity that the hook rests into that the lips of this cavity open up to expose the hook on the hook set. Rigging this bait can be weightless, to create a darting minnow representation which is the most common. This last season we have been experimenting by using this bait on a Carolina rig as the bait darts side to side and this has been producing some very large fish as well.

Another favorite BearPaw bait of ours is the newer Load Toad which is a frog impersonating bait. This bait has an open cavity in the body that the hook sets into and is unrestricted when the hook is set. The legs are very flexible and on the retrieve move fluidly through the water to give the illusion of a frogs legs as they are swimming through the water. This bait is highly productive when fished through lily pads or any other floating vegetation.



Another line of baits that BearPaw produces is called the Hippiie Jig which is a finesse jig. When matched with a BearPaw trailer, this becomes a deadly approach to the jig fishing community. These are light jigs but fish just like their bigger brothers do and can be fished in the same locations as well. These give off a smaller profile than the bigger jigs and this is attractive to those finicky fish as well as highly pressured fish.

One thing about BearPaw's Baits that are different than other plastic baits is that being that they are hand poured there is an endless array of colors to choose from. Currently there are over a 100 color selections to choose from and if you don't see the color that you are looking for just ask and it can be made to your

specifications. You are not going to find that at most of the plastic manufacturers and that is a huge benefit by using BearPaw's Baits.

This is only a sampling of the more popular baits that we use on a regular basis on our fishing trips. But BearPaw's has a number of baits in their lineup, around 30 in total that can and will cover every imaginable application that the angler will encounter while out on the water. All of the BearPaw's baits are poured with a heavy dose of MegaStrike in them and the color is tailored to your specifications. If you haven't given the BearPaws lineup a try yet, you may want to get into contact with them and give them a try. With the MegaStrike in each bait, this gives the angler a few extra moments to set the hook and this maybe the difference between putting fish into or not into the boat and every angler out there wants to put fish in their boat.