

chugging sound. Preferred colors are red and white, chrome with black, and white belly with black back and glitter.

The Rip Shad, made by Bomber, is a torpedo shaped lure with a propeller. The most common fishing technique is to let it sit, then twitch. Its propeller creates a splashing as it bobs under the water. Its movement is erratic. The popular colors are red and white, chrome and black, and chartreuse.

When using the three preceding lures in freshwater, they can be tied directly to the primary line. In saltwater it is better to use a leader material two or three times the strength of the primary line because of the teeth or jaw strength of the fish. A Surgeon's Knot should be used to attach the leader.

A Uni-Knot can be used to attach the lures to the leader. For the Rip Shad or Johnny Rattler, do not draw the knot completely tight and that will allow a more natural movement from the lures.

Finesse lure: These types of lures do not have noise making attachments and motion is imparted by the lure's design and the angler's skill.

The MirrOlure 7m series is a twitchbait-floating lure. It floats at rest and runs approximately 6 inches under water when retrieved steadily. When twitched it has a darting flashing motion. It comes in one size, 3 5/8 inches weighing 3/8 of an ounce. It can be bought with a rattler so that it is attractive to all game fish. As with the other lures discussed, red and white is a popular color as are chartreuse and green and black backed models.

The Rapala is a balsa wood lure that comes in various lengths and colors. It is a narrow twitchbait-floating lure that is also used as a trolling lure by many anglers. It is very effective for all species but is prone to show more wear and tear than the harder plastic plugs.

The Bang-O-lure is made from balsa wood and can be bought with a spinner and used as a noise lure or without a spinner and used as a finesse lure. When reeled quickly, this lure dives as deep as 18 inches, but works well as a floating twitch bait.

DIVING or SUSPENDED LURES Crank baits

Crank baits are artificial lures designed to swim underwater at depths of a few inches to several feet when retrieved or trolled. Some of these lures are designed to sink and then be retrieved, while others have lips or a body shape which forces the lure to a certain depth.

These diving lures come in an endless assortment of sizes, shapes, and colors, ranging from short and narrow to fat lures and magnum sizes with huge stainless steel lips the size of a tablespoon or larger.

All crank baits have certain common elements. They can be either cast or trolled. The lip that causes the lure to dive may be either molded as part of the lure, inserted as a separate lip, or made of rust resistant material such as stainless steel. Molded and metal lips hold up best.

When lures do not run in their designed pattern, the fisherman must adjust the lure, which usually means bending the eyelet so that the line is attached either to the left or right of center. This is called "tuning the lure." Instructions that come with a diving lure describe how the lure should be tuned.

When casting a crank bait, the angler should examine the lure after each cast to see if the hooks are fouled. When trolling a diving lure it is difficult to tell whether the lure is fouled, so it must be checked periodically. In some instances when fouled, the lure will come to the surface and bounce along the top.



Yozuri 3-D Fingerling

An angler should test lures in a pool or clear water so the action can be observed and experimental retrieves tried. Successful anglers know how fast a lure sinks, what happens with various retrieve speeds and rod motions, and how the lure acts with the rod in various positions.

There are a great number of crank baits that catch fish in both fresh and saltwater. **The following five lures are ones that have proven to be consistently effective**

for anglers that fish both fresh and saltwater in Charlotte County.

The Bomber Long "A": This lure comes as either a shallow or deep runner. The shallow runner dives to 4 feet and the deep diver can go to 16 feet. The Bombers are hard body lures with molded lips and well anchored hooks. They have a subtle rattler and an excellent swimming action.

When casting, a variety of retrieves can be used. They