

A Legacy of Innovation
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The
Mack Attack
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Mack's
Lure

2514 Easy Street, Wenatchee, WA 98801 509-667-9202

IN-LINE ATTRACTORS

By DENNIS FOSTER

With all of the uncertainties of early spring (unpredictable weather, spawning, baitfish runs, etc.) behind us, we can now concentrate on putting some firm and relatively reliable late spring and early summer patterns together as walleyes will become much more responsive and begin to feed in earnest.

This being said, it is no longer necessary to employ the dainty little tactics that are so common early in the open water season. If there is one misconception that the majority of walleye anglers will cling to like their mother's breast, it's that walleyes are shy, timid creatures, responding only to small offering examined in great detail. Absolutely nothing could be further from the truth. Walleyes are a top of the line predator in all of the waters they inhabit. Just make a few very simple observations and you can easily discern this. They have enormous eyes capable of giving them a distinct advantage over prey in any light conditions—particularly low light. Add a streamlined body built for speed, with a relatively large mouth containing plenty of sharp teeth, and you cannot tell me that an animal such as this will not run down and attack anything it perceives to be a substantial meal.

This is key knowledge if we are looking to consistently catch mature (big) walleyes. More often than not, anglers go completely backwards in selecting baits; feeling that if a standard sized bait is being ignored, they need to downsize. It's probably being ignored because there is not enough reward in the form of calories for the effort expended. No sense settling for a snack when a meal awaits. These fish have survived several seasons and grown large because of their efficient nature so take note of this.

The use of large crank baits or spinners beefed up with oversized blades and beads is a step in the right direction. But we can go even further and use a system that will enhance the overall profile and appeal of any bait – the inline attractor. Think of flashers or dodgers used by salmon and trout trollers, only on a bit smaller scale. We are looking to create the appearance of either a school of bait and or bait being chased by our lure. Either way, this trips some irresistible biological feeding cues that even inactive fish will react to.

One such system is the Hot Wings manufactured by Mack's Lure® www.mackslure.com. It consists of

2 thin, counter rotating mylar blades producing 360 degrees of flash in a 4 inch package. We all know just how proven spinning flash can be to all fish and this just intensifies it.



Mack's Lure Hot Wings®

With this system, just snap your lure or spinner into the back of the attractor and fish it in your normal manner. Please note that it is not speed dependent, nor will it greatly affect running depth. If you are looking to add a unique technique to your bag of tricks this season, employing tactics such as these will put you well on your way.

Attitudes And Latitudes

By Chad Richardson



The seasonal difference between the latitudes (north to south) is the biggest factor influencing walleye locations, habits and behaviors on a particular body of water. Some differences occur between the longitudes (east to west) as well, but are less significant. As a general rule, those waters with similar latitudes have similar patterns. There are exceptions to this rule. For example, Moses Lake Washington is on a similar latitude with Devil's Lake, North Dakota, but they have vastly different weather patterns due to Washington's coastal effect. Washington state, therefore has a much milder winter than North Dakota.

Water temperature is the most obvious difference affected by the seasons and latitudes. It is not uncommon for there to be a 20 degree or more difference in water temperature between latitudes at the same time of year. To be able to follow walleye through their post-spawn migrations, one should always keep a close eye on the water temperature. Water temperatures in the southern latitudes can jump from 40 degrees

to 60 degrees sometimes in a week or two due to the weather patterns. In northern waters, this kind of temperature increase takes several weeks to months. Therefore, there can be major differences between what fish are doing between the latitudes at same time.

Other factors that influence water temperature and the rate at which it increases or decreases are wind, water clarity and the average depth of the body of water. You need to be able to recognize these factors and understand how they affect your particular body of water. The rate at which the water temperature increases often times dictates where forage will likely be and therefore walleyes can be found.



Cookin' Your Catch

Cheesy Walleye Casserole

Ingredients:

- 2 (10 oz.) packages frozen chopped spinach, drained and thawed
- 2 pounds walleye fillets, cut in 3 to 4 inch pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 Tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 (10 oz.) can cream of shrimp soup
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup shredded swiss cheese
- 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/8 teaspoon curry powder
- dash of pepper
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 1/2 cup saltine cracker crumbs

Spread the spinach in greased 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish. Place the walleye pieces on top. sauté the onion in butter until tender. Stir in the soup, milk, Swiss cheese, Cheddar cheese, curry powder and pepper. Cook over low heat, stirring until the cheese melts. Spoon over the fish. Top with the cracker crumbs and Parmesan cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

A Legacy of Innovation for...

40 Years!

Yes it's true, Mack's Lure is 40 years old in 2009. Get the latest information on Mack's Lure products and fishing news with the Mack Attack Newsletter & our Web Site:
WWW.MACKSLURE.COM

**“A Problem Solver
Named Paul”**

**By Hall-of-Fame Angler
Stan Fagerstrom**

Part 4 of 4

If a new lure doesn't produce exactly as it comes out of the package, don't give up on it. There may be ways of using it you've not thought about.

I started this column series on that subject by telling what my friend Paul Wright, of Indiana, did with Mack's Lure's new HummBait. In my last column in this series I told how I had asked my friend Mike Pedersen, of Longview, Washington, if he could exchange the treble hook the lure came with to a single hook. I knew I'd get much more use out of the lure with an upright riding single hook.

Mike did come up with a HummBait that now has a fixed single hook. And the hook does right upright behind the body of the lure. As I mentioned in my previous column, not only does that cut way down on potential hang-ups, it also provides opportunity to use a plastic or pork rind trailer along with the lure.

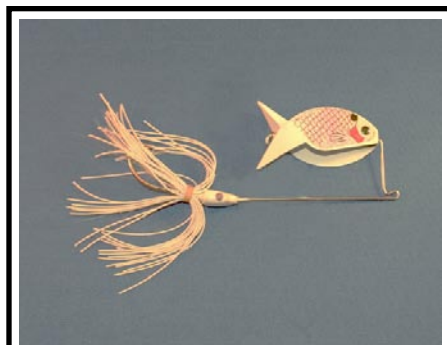
But Mike didn't stop there. A couple of the HummBaits he altered will be of special interest to bass anglers who especially like to fish spinnerbaits or buzzbaits. What Mike did for starters was to first remove the hook from one of the smaller HummBaits. Then he removed the spinners from a spinnerbait and replaced them with the HummBait body.



I know largemouth will bust a HummBait used as a spinnerbait because I've had it happen..

He did the same thing with a buzzbait. He simply removed the big blade from one of these lures that's designed to be fished on the surface and replaced it with a HummBait body.

If you've thrown a HummBait yourself, you know the lure has a good bit of sound and vibration as the body rotates on the retrieve. Using the HummBait body on a spinnerbait or buzzbait arm the way Mike has done also gives you something else. It provides an opportunity to show the fish you're after something they've not seen before.



The HummBait can also be used on the arm of a buzzbait.

I expect some of those same thoughts went through Paul Wright's mind before he took the treble hook off of his HummBait and hung a worm harness behind it. If you read my first two columns in this series you know that approach paid off for

Paul for Lake Erie walleyes.

The spinnerbait bite wasn't red hot when I was at Mexico's famed lake El Salto last summer. The bass in that wonderful lake follow patterns there just as they do elsewhere. When Bob Schmidt and I were there in late June we did our best by hanging a Smile Blade in front of our plastic worms and then fishing them right along the bottom.

But while the Smile Blade equipped plastic baits were by far the best, I did take time to show those El Salto fish the spinnerbait my pal Mike had rigged with a HummBait on the arm instead of the usual spinners. I didn't catch a boat load of fish with it. I did nail one of 5 or 6-pounds. That fish sailed into the revised lure like it was trying to knock the paint off of it.

We also asked our Mexican guide to fish with one of the Hummbaits Mike had rigged with a single hook. While we fished our plastic baits up front, the guide fished the HummBait like a buzzer from the back of the boat. He also caught fish.

What I've seen done with a HummBait reminds me of how years ago I wound up altering my Arbogast Jitterbug lures. The 'bug is one of my favorite surface lures for bass. I'm not going into details of what I did, but be assured I'm convinced I made better bait out of it with just one slight change.

As I've mentioned before in this series about Mack's Lure's HummBait, now and then successful anglers wind up using new lures a tad differently than the guy who

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designed them had in mind. And why not? I'm convinced fish are often keenly interested in lures or attractors they've not seen ten thousand times before.

If you get fish on a new lure just the way it comes out of the box--great, but don't give up if it doesn't. Sometimes just a small change or a different method of presentation makes a big difference in the amount of success you'll have with it

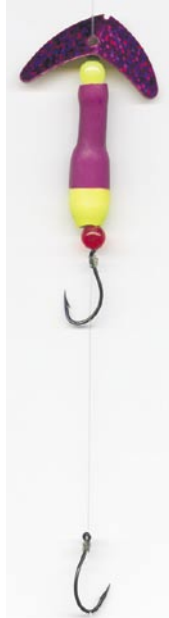
Paul Wright did that with the HummBait for walleyes. Thanks to my pal Mike, I've been able to do the same for bass. I'm hoping that this gives you a few ideas you might want to try yourself.

-end-

“Pop” some big walleye using the Mack’s Lure Wally Pop®

Get Yours Today!

www.mackslure.com



Question of the Month

Have a question? We'd love to answer it! Contact us at bob@mackslure.com if you have a question you would like to see featured!

Q: Which Mack's Lure product is most popular for catching steelhead in the eastern portions of Washington state?

A: The Rock Dancer™ - “Bucktail Jig”.

The Mack's Lure Forum...

**Ask Questions
Receive Answers**

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Photo of the Month



Robert North with a real nice walleye caught on a Dark Cerise Wally Pop®.

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Photos, stories and comments are welcomed and encouraged. Please forward all content materials to bob@mackslure.com.

THANK YOU!

