



Ecto-Plasm ready to illuminate bait scene

BEN WEIR reports

ONE of the most anticipated products for years is finally here in Britain and will go onto tackle shop shelves during the coming weeks.

Angler's Mail revealed back in June of last year that leading Italian bait firm Antiche Pasture lit up the European Fishing Tackle Trade Exhibition in Rome with Illuminator, a glowing bait dip.

We predicted it was a matter of time before a UK-based company would market the unique product, taking the trend of bright baits to a new dimension.

Appropriately named Vision Baits, who have grown with their range of more conventional UK carp tempters, have taken up the reins and are now the sole distributor in this country, under the name Ecto-Plasm.

Vision Baits main man Darren Conway said: 'The finished product is set to redefine the name fluoro.'

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'Once dipped, this revolutionary new product creates an aurora around any hook bait once immersed in water.

'We have had pike, match and carp anglers testing the product all over Europe and they have all come back with astonishing results.

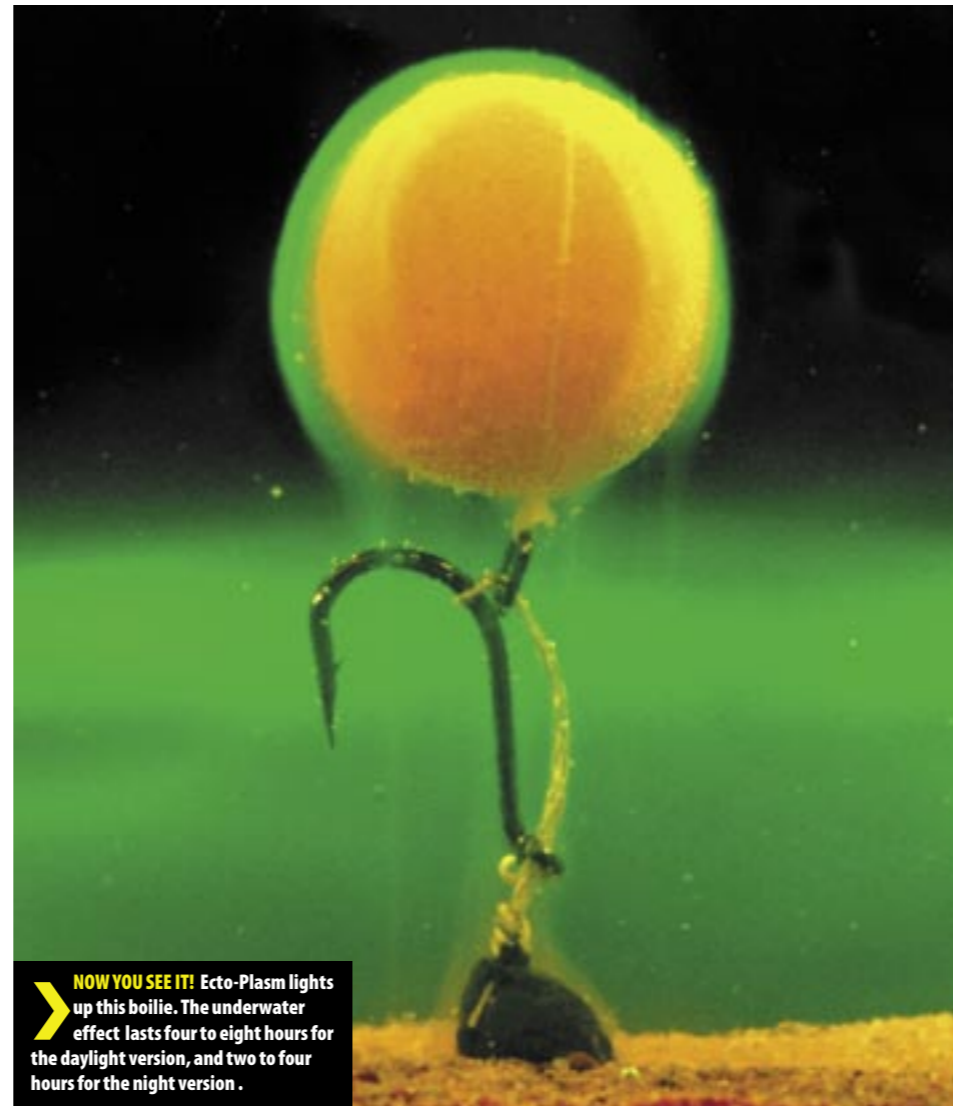
'Morgan's Angling Match Team have been doing particularly well over the winter period in the league as well as many first places in the individual classes.

'Our consultant Edd Betteridge has been having great success on very difficult Oxford waters. He has banked nine carp over the 30 lb barrier and many 20 lb fish backing that up.

'Another angler doing very well is Neil 'Wol' Wallis who has taken around nine bream through the season over the 16 lb mark with the biggest weighing in at a massive 19 lb.

'By accident anglers have been hooking and losing pike when retrieving their hook baits. I decided to pass some to the pike lads to play about with. Next minute there are anglers using it on plugs, lures and deadbaits with some monster pike being caught.

'We are also in the process of completing a night version of the Ecto-Plasm. Charged up with a UV light or head torch the product will glow for up to four hours and it is really something else. These are



NOW YOU SEE IT! Ecto-Plasm lights up this boilie. The underwater effect lasts four to eight hours for the daylight version, and two to four hours for the night version.

still in the hands of testers but winter results have been very positive so keep your eyes peeled for a release date.'

Each £10.99 pot should provide 150 dips, each treatment slowly leaking off. Flavours available are damson, white chocolate, Scopex and peach.

Vision also have a stunning new range of Glugged Fluoro pop-up and bottom baits including Pineapple and N-Butyric Acid, Citrus Fizz and Scopex and Peach.

There is also a trio of Stick mixes including Bloodworm DNA, Green Lipped Mussel and Tuna. Visit www.visionbaitsinternational.com or call 01691 659859 for more.

■ Angler's Mail is always your No.1 for tackle. Read about more great products in p.16-23.



The secret's in the pots! Darren Conway with the glowing additive now ready for release to tackle shops here in the UK.

So what works the magic for Vision?

VISION BAITS' main man Darren Conway explained how the new additive makes baits glow with startling effects. 'The Ecto-Plasm is a gel hormone product which reacts with water and light,' said Darren.

'As soon as it is immersed in water it creates an aurora of glow around the hook bait in a very bright green colour. Initial tests were on a variety of different waters and one thing we noticed instantly when placing baits in the edge was the abundance of naturals (aquatic creepy crawlies), which it attracted.

'Within minutes the single red hook bait would be crawling and almost black in colour - there was that many naturals clinging to it. We also observed fish many times moving round a lake in the upper layers only to come over our hook bait and immediately drop 6 ft in depth to investigate the glow.

'Seeing this blew my mind so it was back to the drawing board to tweak the product so that it was acceptable and something the fish wanted to eat.'

Angling's great moderniser dies

GARY NEWMAN reports

FRED JENNINGS OBE, one of the most influential figures in the development of coarse angling, has sadly passed away in his sleep at the age of 76.

West Midlander Fred had a major impact on angling, both at club level and on a national scale.

He was the first full-time executive chairman of Birmingham AA - at a time when they had a staggering 60,000 members (they have 12,000 today) - and was the National Federation of Anglers president from 1973 to 1978.

Fred was also a board member of Severn Trent Water and chairman of its Fisheries Advisory Committee, as well as being the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's appointee to the National Water Council.

Former Angler's Mail editor Roy Westwood commented: 'Fred succeeded Jack Baker as president of the NFA and faced the daunting job of trying to get the NFA membership to see further than the next National, at a time when asking for an extra 1p in subs was like trying to persuade delegates to walk the plank in shark infested water. He will be remembered

“Only poor health robbed him of achieving much more for the sport.” **Roy Westwood**

as the great moderniser of the NFA.

'Fred had great charm, persuasion and vision, and took the membership and executive with him far further than many of us believed possible at the time. Only poor health robbed him of achieving much more for the sport - the award of an OBE was thoroughly deserved for his huge contribution in fighting the sport's corner. He was a visionary and a man I much admired.'

Birmingham AA secretary John Williams said: 'We are very sad to have heard about the loss of Fred.

'He was a real stalwart of the BAA and helped us through rocky financial times. The BAA would not be around as it is now if it wasn't for the work that Fred did.

'He was a man of quiet authority and great stature,' added John.

Fred's funeral will take place at St. Alphage Church, Solihull, at 1pm on Thursday, February 5. Anyone wishing to attend is welcome.



Fred Jennings, photographed as he collected one of our sport's few OBE medals, has died.

IAN WELCH weekly advice

BARBEL: after-dark roving sessions whenever temperatures are on the up, no matter by how little, should bring results.

CARP: increasing numbers of fish have been showing from the commercials with the straight lead and corn the way to go.

PERCH: river fish are beginning to migrate towards spawning areas - target runs between shallow snags with worms or livebaits to intercept them.

TIP! For a brilliant groundbait additive liquidise a can of Dynamite Baits' chilli hemp to create a spicy, oil rich 'soup' which can be added to any groundbait.

THIS WEEK'S FORECAST

NO SIGN of a warm up, folks... it is going to be yet another cold week with the chance of snow in some parts of the country. Temperatures will struggle to hit five degrees during the day and will fall to around freezing at night, but it will feel colder in the north easterly wind.

Best fishing dates according to www.moonstrike.co.uk are February 3, 4, 8 and 9.

WITH the Great Ouse unfishable, Tim Walden decided to head to the narrow River Ivel and it eventually resulted in this 4 lb 2 oz perch. Tim, from Bedford, put his gear in the car after no action from chub, but then suddenly noticed the colour dropping out of the river and decided to try the maggots feeder. 'I've caught bigger perch from the Ouse but to catch such a fish from the Ivel is really special,' said Tim, who landed it on a size 20 Drennan Super Specialist hook to a 3 lb link.

