

or rounded stick, with a slit across the flat end, may be employed.

8. The best all-round bait is the live minnow; the larger the minnow, the larger the fish one is likely to catch.

9. It is important sometimes to have a change of bait, especially when fish are not biting freely. Frogs, minnows, and worms make a good selection. If a fish has been hooked, and after being played some time, manages to escape, one



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can very often entice him to bite again by using a change of bait.

10. Regarding weather proverbs, the best one to remember is that fish bite in all kinds of weather if they are hungry. I have caught bass, pike, perch, pickerel, and the smaller pan fish in sunshine and in rain, fair weather and foul, and I do not believe that weather conditions have much to do with angling.

For example, the old adage which states that fish will not bite in an east wind, is untrue; for why should the direction of the wind affect a fish's stomach? It is probable that fish are disturbed by slight barometric changes, and that they become restive in dull, cloudy weather, with a low barometer, and therefore move about more freely under such conditions; but, as far as my experience goes, the only thing which really seems to affect them is a violent thunderstorm, which apparently frightens them and drives them into deep water. I have tried, time and again, to catch fish during a rain storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning, but have never been successful.