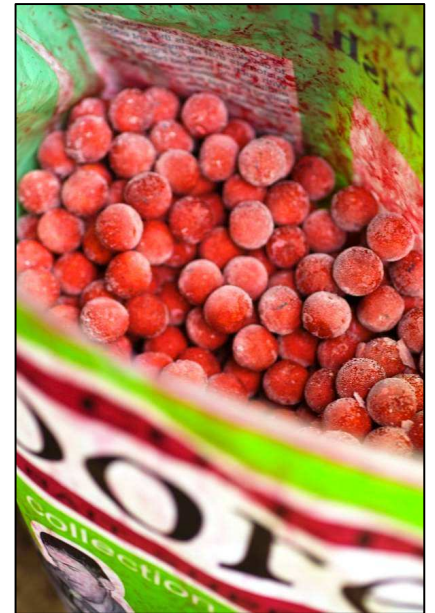


Meteor range for Barbel

With a reputation for being a terrific carp bait, the Meteor range of products ticks all the right boxes to be equally as successful on the rivers for Barbel. When you open the bag you'll notice a subtle yet rich savoury smell which is balanced nicely with a slight hint of creamy sweetness; as soon as your nostrils get a whiff you really do feel confident that this bait is going to work for you. Having total confidence in a bait is a huge edge when targeting any species on still or moving water, it leaves your mind free to worry about other important aspects of your fishing such as water conditions, location, rigs etc.

There's nothing worse than constantly asking yourself if the fish actually like your bait, especially when your going through a bit of a lean spell when bites are few and far between; it can become a vicious circle of doubt and low confidence that is hard to get yourself out of.

A quality carp bait generally translates well into being a quality Barbel bait straight out of the bag but I do look for slightly different things when I'm choosing a bait for fishing the rivers. I tend to like my Barbel baits to be a little more highly flavoured than I do my carp baits, on the rivers we rely completely on the current to take any food signals downstream to pull the Barbel out from their hideaways and onto the baited spots. I like to use a mixture of different baits that will leak off attractive food signals from my swim for prolonged periods of time so the Barbel will always have a scent trail to home in on whether I've been there for only half an hour or a whole night. My favourite method of creating a bed of attraction like this is to use numerous different items in my bait mix that will breakdown and release their attractors at different rates. The mix I like to use usually includes particles, a number of different sized pellets, whole and broken boilies and both liquid and powdered attractors.



Firstly, when my fresh boilies have been delivered I give them a good coating of liquid Meteor. Just pour some of the liquid into the bag, re-seal it and give it a gentle shake until each individual boilie is shiny and covered. This extra coating adds to the strength of the flavour that the bait has naturally and it will be drawn right through the bait during the freezing process. These boilies will now have an extra boost of attraction and will be ready use when taken out of the freezer before a fishing session.



I make my pellet mix up at home just before each session. It consists of 50% of the ultra reliable Barbel catcher which is the 6mm Elips pellets, 25% Meteor pellets which will compliment the boilies, and 25% Mini Ultra mix which contains a few different sizes of pellets right down to tiny micro pellets. These are excellent as the tiny bits get stuck in amongst the gravel on the riverbed and keep the Barbel routing around for hours. This mix will be introduced into the swim via a bait dropper ensuring everything gets down to the bottom where the Barbel feed in a nice tight area. If you try to throw a mix like this in by hand, the different sizes of pellets will sink at very different speeds resulting in your bait being spread over a huge area.

Hemp is THE classic particle that Barbel anglers have used for decades and it's just as effective today as it's always been, in fact, it's probably better now we have the option of the intense cooked Hot Hemp.

I prefer to add my hemp to my pellets just before I start to fish, if you were to do this at home the water from the hemp will make the pellets become soft and mushy by the time you reach the river resulting in them breaking up and washing away far too quickly. Mix the hemp and the pellet combo together at a ratio of around 50/50 and add some broken boilies to the mix before bait-dropping it nice and accurately into your chosen swim.



On my rig I always use the Meteor hardened hookbaits as the crayfish present in the river I'm fishing would destroy any soft bait within minutes. As you want the fish to find the hookbait quickly amongst the freebies try giving them a good glug with an equal mixture of Liquid Meteor and Boosted Bloodworm liquid. These two additives really seem to compliment each other and give your hookbait that bit of extra kick that could make the difference.



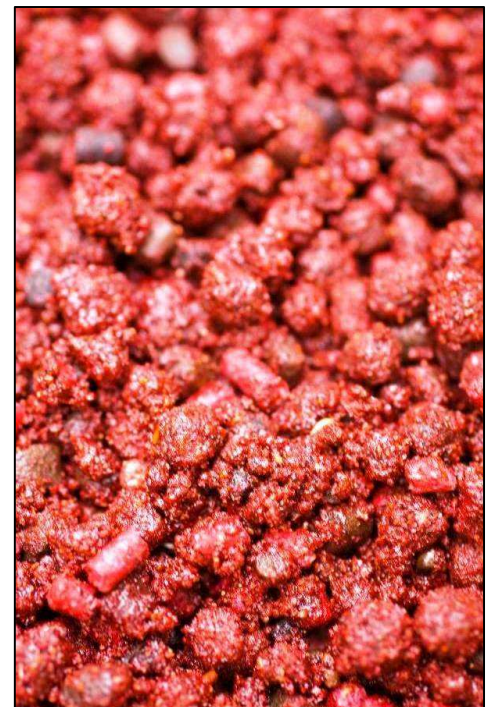


Every cast I make during a session I slide a PVA stick onto the rig, this adds a huge attraction zone close to the hookbait and also serves to keep the hook free from weed and rubbish.

My stick mix is a bit different to the sort of mix you might use on a lake for carp; it has to have a far higher ratio of bigger particles because the flow would wash a finer mix away very quickly, so its main bulk is taken from the pellet combo I used for bait-dropping.

I take a couple of handfuls of the pellets/hemp, and add some Meteor stick mix and Feedstim XP powder at a ratio of 50% pellet, 25% stick mix and 25% XP. To this I pour some of the oily water from the hot hemp, and a glug of liquid Meteor until the consistency is sticky but not wet.

Compress this into a narrow PVA tube, thread the hooklink through the bag with a long baiting needle and pull the hook into the end of the bag. It's a nice sticky mix that will break down within about a minute, washing the attractors downstream but leaving the pellets around the hookbait.....it's a devastating mix that no Barbel can resist!



Although I'm currently using the Meteor range I'd be just as confident to use any of the other CCMoore bait ranges to achieve the same results; there is a very comprehensive list of attractors that match each individual boilie and as they are all proven fish catchers you know you can fish with confidence.

**Thanks
Stuart**