

## HOW TO USE THE RELIABLE "EQUALIZER" SPOON

Use a 10 to 12 foot length of 50 or 60 pound-test monofilament leader connected to the spoon by means of a combination snap and swivel rated at approximately 75-pounds or higher. Pink or clear leader material seems to work best

The use of wire line will definitely increase your chances of success while trolling wire line will get your lure down to the depths where the fish are feeding without using drail weights or downriggers. Using 40-pound test monel stainless wire you may expect to reach 10 foot of depth for every 100 feet of line you let out

When using wire line, you still must have the 10 to 12 feet of mono leader. If you must use Dacron, nylon or mono line, then you will have to use a drail or a downrigger to reach the depths where the fish are feeding.

Striped Bass rarely if ever hit a bunker spoon that's spinning. If your boat - is too fast, the spoon will definitely spin. The proper fish catching action is a quick back and forth rocking motion without spinning. You must adjust your trolling speed to keep this rocking motion as constant as possible.

Adjust the keel to match the speed. Moving keel forward allows you to troll faster without spinning. At frequent intervals during the day, reel the spoons in close enough to the boat so you can see the action of the spoon. Never check your spoons' action in the wake of the propellers, always hold spoon off to the side of the wake.

A good habit to practice is to check your spoon every time you change direction as the wind and current will definitely make a difference in your boat speed. By watching the rod tip you'll be able to tell what the spoon is doing. When the spoon is operating properly, the rod tip will have a steady pumping action. If the spoon becomes fouled with weeds or debris, it will automatically come to the surface. This spoon will only catch fish when they can see it. Due to its large size and light color along with its injured fish vibrations, you can draw fish from 10 to 20 feet away under average water conditions. If dirty water is present, you must fish your lure as close to the feeding fish as possible. If you are not using a fishing recorder to spot the feeding schools, then try to keep your lures 2/3 of the way towards the bottom. Through past experiments we've found that Striped Bass and Bluefish prefer a feeding depth of about 20 to 30 feet when in waters of 30 to 50 feet.

An ordinary combination snap and barrel swivel will be just fine on the end of your line. Some fishermen have attached a split ring and hooked the swivel to that. The split ring allows another treble hook to be attached to the front of the spoon if desired. Another observed tie method used two snap swivels in a row between line and spoon. This system results in a wilder action. In all cases it is strongly advised to inspect the snap swivels and hardware for chafing wear at least once every trolling hour and replace as necessary.