

# 01 Traits and Characteristics of Crucian Carp

Knowing the traits and behaviours of Crucian Carp is key to fishing for them. Before you go fishing, lets learn a little bit about the Crucian Carp.



## The Crucian Carp

Crucian Carp live in lakes or stagnant areas of rivers, feeding mainly on plankton and fauna. The Crucian Carp was first selectively bred in the western part of Japan for its thick flesh as an eating fish. In Japan, it is commonly referred to as "HERABUNA" however its real name is GENGOROBUNA. There are many reasons for it being called HERABUNA, however the most probable is that the top part of the fish is flat therefore resembling a spatula (spatula are called HERA in Japanese).



When Crucian Carp eats its main food plankton, they suck in water as well. In this case, the gills of the Crucian Carp filter out the plankton from the water. Compared to silver Crucian Carp and gold Crucian Carp, the gills have developed from this eating style, and are double the size of other carp.



## Crucian Carp Traits

Crucian Carp are very attuned to changes in the temperature and noise, basically a very wary fish. For this reason, they never live alone. They always form groups of about equal size fish and move together. Because they are so wary, even the slightest sound in the water will cause them to flee. This is why it is important to be as quiet as possible when setting up for a day of fishing. Also just because you caught fish there yesterday does not mean you will catch fish there again the next day. Crucian Carp cannot control their own body temperature, their body temperature changes along with the external temperature, add to this the fact that they have an air bladder used to control their buoyancy in the water, and you can see why they will move around to the most comfortable position for them according to the temperature and air pressure during the day.

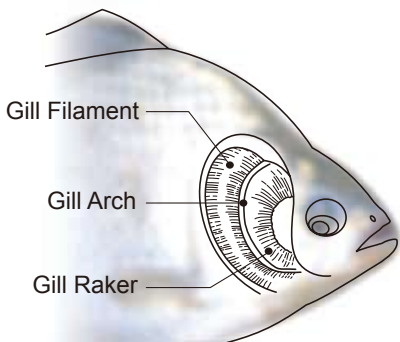


## Crucian Carp Characteristics

Their external characteristic is the way the fish top section bulges up, which is not found in any other carp. Also Crucian Carp growth is extremely fast. In just 2-3 years a Crucian Carp can grow up to 30cm. In comparison the silver and gold Crucian Carp take more than 5 years to reach this size. The Crucian Carp's entire body is covered evenly with silvery white scales, however these can change colour based on the fishes living environment.

Carp Gill Filament Density

Fish	Filaments
Kinbuna	36~40
Nagafuna	45~53
Ginbuna	45~57
Nigorobuna	53~63
Herabuna	106~120



## Crucian Carp Yearly Cycle

### Mar.~May

As the days get longer in spring, the Crucian Carp that used to sit on the bottom of the lake start to move around. In Japan this period is referred to as SUHANARE (leaving the nest). Also as the water warms up more and more and it starts to get closer to spawning the Crucian Carp move into the shallows near duckweed and water plants where they can lay their eggs. During this time the Crucian Carp are off the guard and large amounts of fish can be caught with this being the best time of the year to catch the biggest fish.

### Jun.~Aug.

The strong sunlight in summer causes the plant life to expel lots of oxygen into the water, and along with the increase in water temp this makes the Crucian Carp more active and aggressive in their feeding habits. However, successive hot days can lead to a lack of water therefore lowering the water quality. This can have an adverse affect on the Crucian Carp activity.

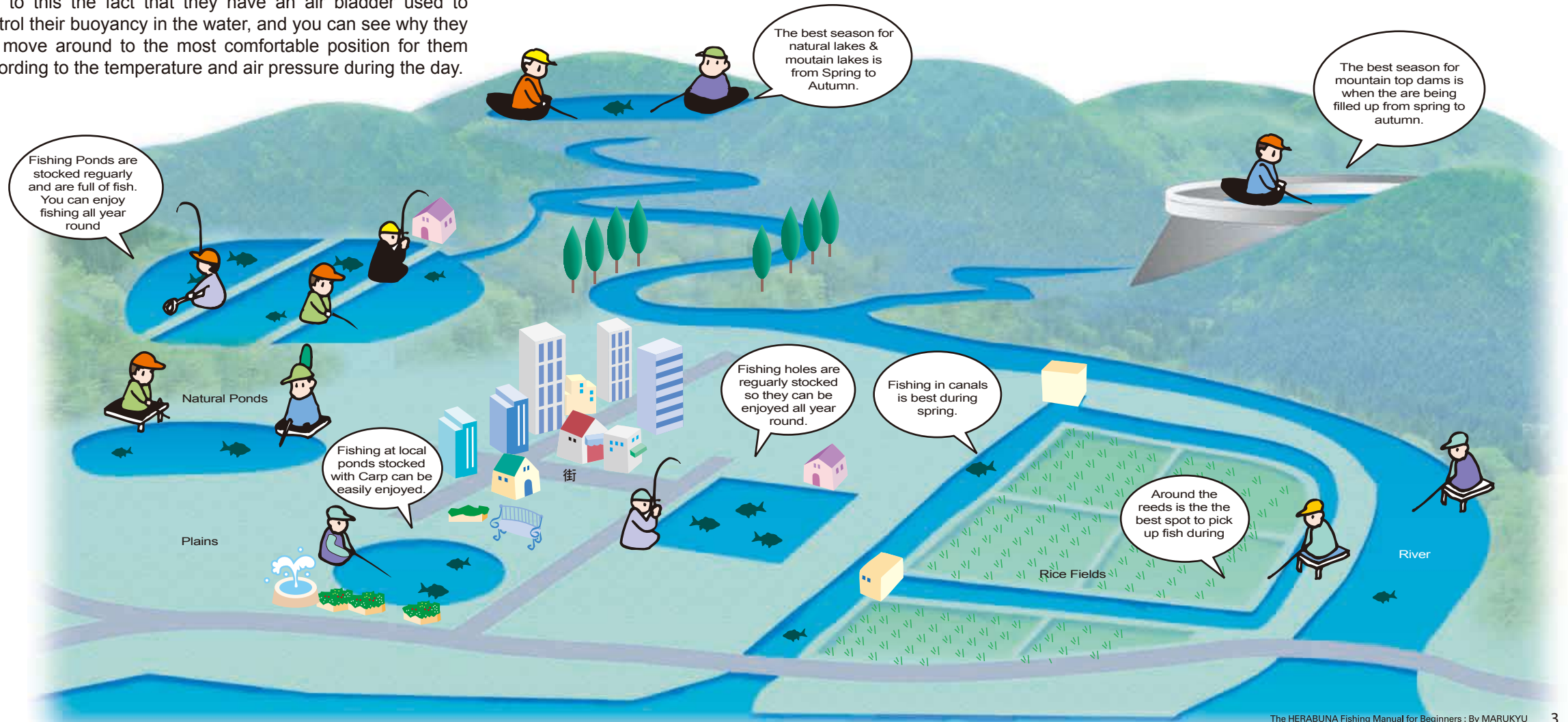
### Sep.~Nov.

In autumn as the water temp drops, Crucian Carp prepare for the coming winter and start to eat a lot more. However as the temperature difference between night and day is so great, the fish's feeding depth (TANA) can change depending on the time of the day and the actual day.

### Dec.~Feb.

When the temperature gets really low, cold blooded carp will move to parts of the lake where the temperature change is not as pronounced, such as the bottom of the lake or the deepest sections, under submerged objects or tree limbs to wait for spring. As the Crucian Carp's body temperature drops so does it desire for food, and even though Crucian Carp are thought not to eat at below 4c, if the water temp stabilises for 2-4 days, Crucian Carp will take bait but not with much enthusiasm.

As you see Crucian Carp can be a very temperamental fish, therefore you can often go away from a lake or fishing hole without a single fish, a lot of it depends on the temperature, air pressure and weather on the day.





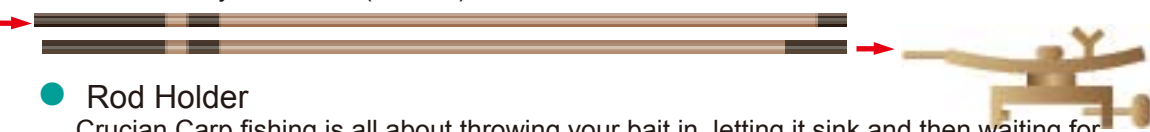
# 02 Essential Gear for Crucian Carp Fishing

There are lots of different bits of gear for Crucian Carp fishing. Also required gear can change depending on the fishing spot. Here we will introduce the bare essentials for Crucian Carp fishing.



### Rod

A carp fishing rod is used in Crucian Carp fishing. Telescopic rods and the standard detachable rods are both available however the standard detachable rod is most often chose by fishermen (women).



### Rod Holder

Crucian Carp fishing is all about throwing your bait in, letting it sink and then waiting for a bite. The clamp and rod holder is used to stop the float being moved around anymore than it needs to, by fixing the rod in place. It is as necessary as the rod and float itself.

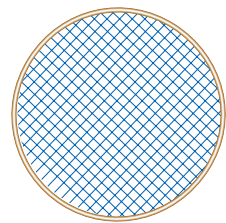
### Rod Rest & Clamp

This fixes the rod holder in place and the rod rests in top. There are clamp types where the cane or carbon rod slides onto the clamp and there are large gun shaped models that are staked into the ground and then the rod is slid onto the clamp.



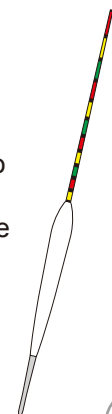
### Landing Net

In Crucian Carp fishing you don't pull the fish up out of the water with the ord. To protect the fish and also to protect your tackle, the net is used to get fish out of the water that have been drawn in close.



### Float

The float is an important tool for fisherman, used to discover if the fish are attracted to the bait, if the fish have taken the bait, etc.



### Line

Generally #0.6-1.5 line is used for Crucian Carp. For beginners it is best to start off with a 0.8 line.



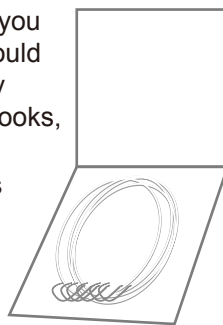
### Cotton String

String is used on the line to mark the TONBO. It can also be used to strengthen the rubber stopper or even replace it.



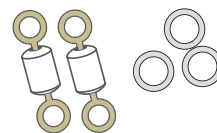
### Hooks and Tracer

Crucian Carp fishing uses two bait hooks, one for bait that attracts, and one for bait that hooks the fish. The hook size should be about half the size of the main line. Therefore if you used #0.8 line, the hooks should be #0.4 size. There are many different types and sizes of hooks, there are even hooks sold already attached to a line. As a beginner it is better to use these hooks that are already set on the line. Crucian Carp fishing uses two bait hooks,



### Rubber Stopper and Float Rubber

These are the parts used to fix the float on the line.



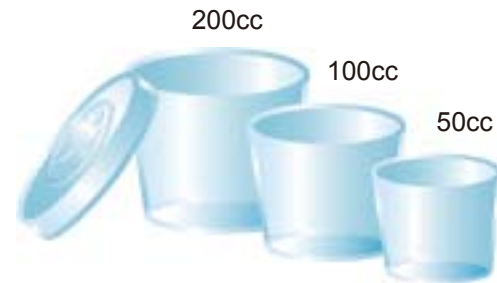
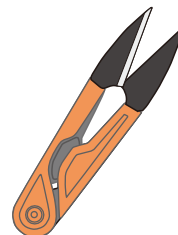
### Lead Sheet

Used for balancing the float. 0.2-0.25mm thickness is the easiest to use.



### Scissors

Used to cut string and also lead sheeting. It is an essential tool for Crucian Carp fishing.



### Measuring Cup

Used to measure out bait and water. Using a measuring cup allows you to make bait with the same consistency every time.



### OKAYU Pump

This pump is really a syringe like instrument used for measuring out amounts of INSTANT UDON when making bait.

### TANATORI-GOMU (Measure Weight)

Used in SOKOTSURI fishing to determine the depth of the water, it is attached to the end of the hook.



### Tackle Case and Holder

Prepared rigs are wrapped around the holder for later use. Prepared rigs can be used when you run into trouble during fishing. It gives you peace of mind having spare rigs prepared before hand wrapped up in your tackle case.



### Bait

As a general rule live baits are not used in Crucian Carp fishing. Baits such as DANGO, BARAKE, wheat bran and gluten based sticky baits are used for Crucian Carp fishing.

### Mixing Bowl

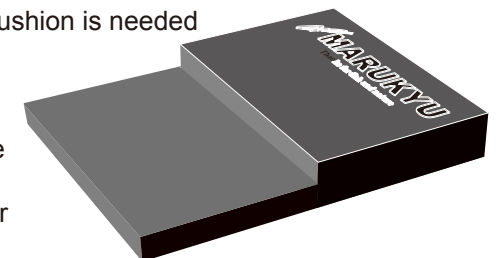
There are lots of different shapes available but plastic washbowl types are the most often used. Extra bowls are needed for making up the next bait and also for collecting water, therefore you will need at least 3 bowls to start with.



### Cushion

Crucian Carp fishing involves sitting down and fishing for extended periods, so a good cushion is needed

to reduce the strain on your legs. Cushions that can be folded in half and have a step built in or are flat are sold at



### Hand Towel

They are useful for wiping your hands after mixing up bait. They can also be used to cover prepared bait to stop it from drying out and therefore messing up the balance of the rig. At least 2 towels are a necessity.





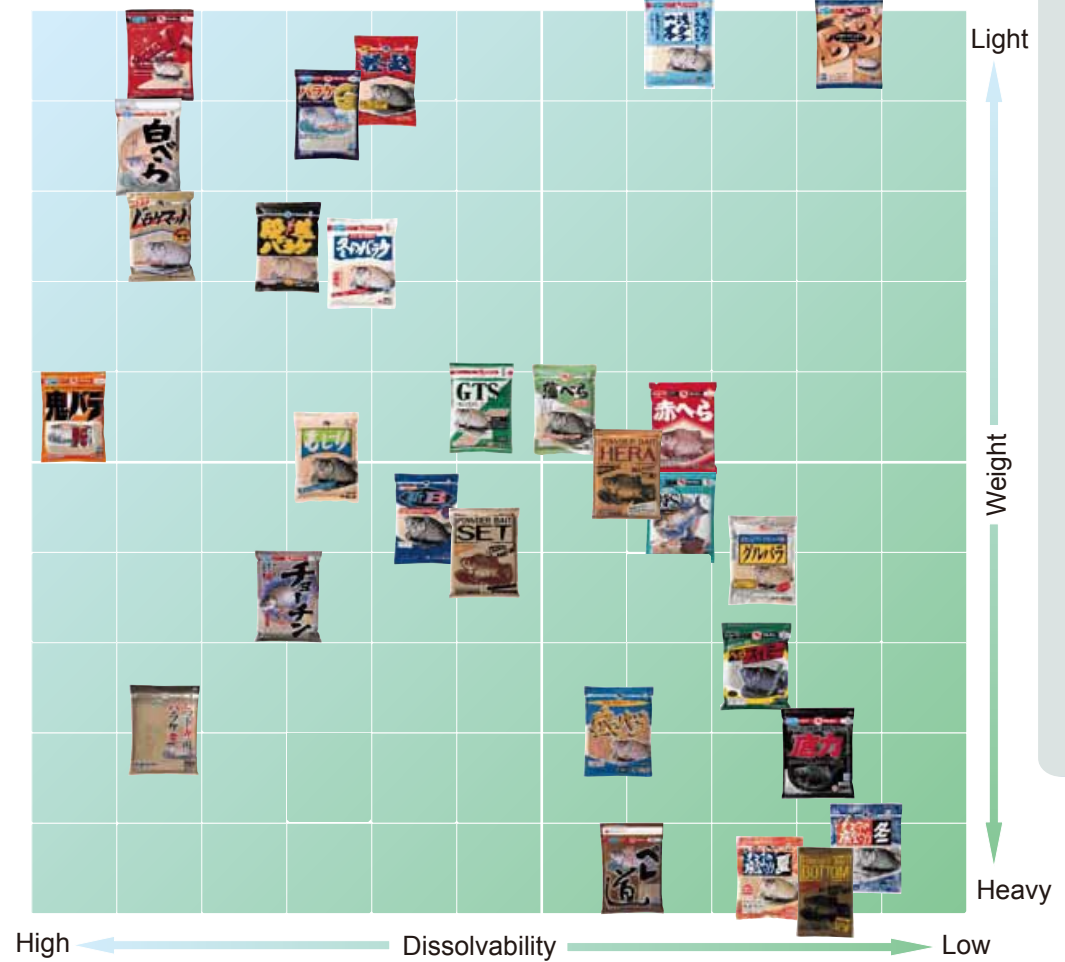
# 03 Types of Bait

Crucian Carp bait is made so it can be adjusted to fit the fish's traits, patterns and fishing conditions. Here we will go through the main ingredients and bait types used in Crucian Carp fishing.

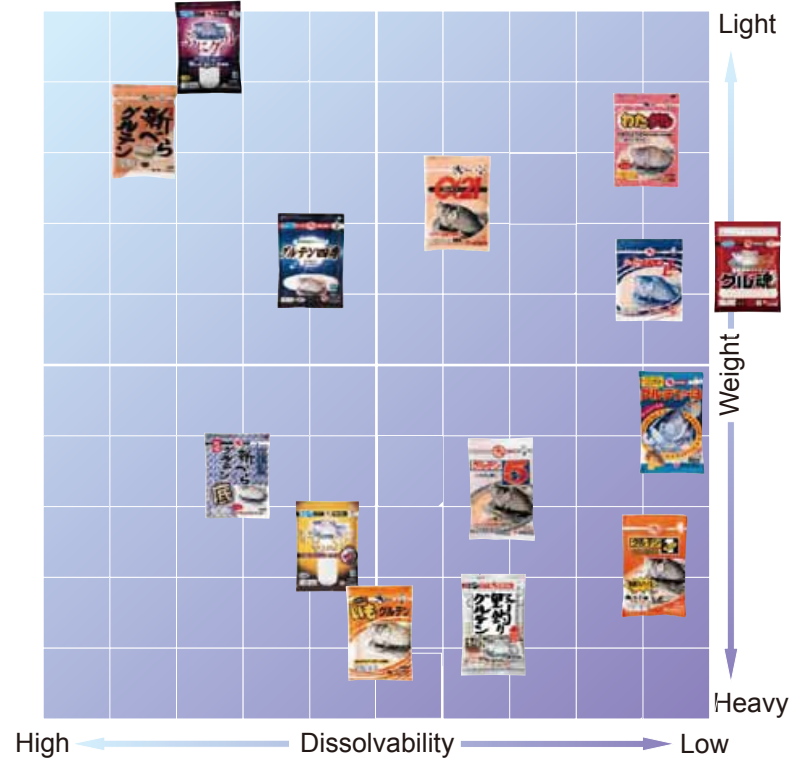
**ONE POINT LESSON**

- **BARAKE**  
This bait is designed to attract fish, and is attached to the top hook (hook on the short line).
- **DANGO**  
Bait that attracts fish and also is used for hooking the fish is called DANGO.
- **TOMO**  
This is bait that can be used on both the top and bottom hook.

Gluten Bread Barake Bait



Gluten Bait



**How to Read the Bait Graphs**

The graph shows the dissolvability and weight of the baits currently available. On the vertical is the baits weight in the water, and on the horizontal is the dissolvability of the bait. If we take "Powder Bait Bottom" that is used in SOKOTSURI as an example, we can see that it is heavy in the water and that it dissolves slowly in the water. The graph is based on testing performed at Marukyu, using standard measurements of water in the mix. Differences can occur caused by the conditions of the fishing spot and mixing methods used, therefore please use this merely as a guide to choosing the right bait.



**Gluten Bread**



Gluten Bread is the most frequently used bait in Crucian Carp fishing. The reason why it is used so much is that when it dissolves in the water it creates a cloud that resembles a large group of plant plankton, which attracts curious Crucian Carp. Gluten Bread used in bait is just common wheat bran pulverised down. Heating the product changes the hardness and the size of the flakes, which brings out a difference in the way the bait, dissolves in the water and the way it feels in the hand. Also by adding silkworm chrysalis powder or pellets that attract fish to the Gluten Bread it can make bait that attracts the fish and hooks them as well.

**Hook Bait**

● **WARABI UDON**

In Crucian Carp circles WARABI UDON is often referred to plainly as UDON. It's made from potato starch, which is dissolved in water and then heated until it firms into a block which is cut up into small pieces and used on the bait hook. It is used when the Crucian Carp are active and feeding is good, and also in the colder periods on a SET rig.

● **Instant UDON (KANTAN)**

An easy to make UDON bait that can be made at the fishing spot. It is used same as WARABI UDON, in the colder periods on the bait hook.

● **Cut Gluten Bread (IPPATSU)**

It is light easily swallowed Gluten Bread, cut into small pieces. It's mainly used in warmer periods in wild ponds.



**Mash Potato**



Mash Potato is simply ground potato dried into a flake. It was the main ingredient in Crucian Carp baits before what bran baits were introduced. Currently it is still used when there are lots of little fish around or when targeting large fish.

**Gluten**



Gluten bait is a mixture of mash potato flakes and gluten powder. In the water gluten stops mash potato from sticking and causes it to dissolve evenly with only a small piece of gluten left on the hook that appeals to Crucian Carp. By changing the size of the mash potato flakes, type of gluten and amount of gluten various gluten baits with different traits can be produced.

**Attractants**

● **Silkworm Chrysalis Powder**

It is made from the silkworm pupas gathered from the Silkworm industry. It has lots of amino acids that the fish love to eat. When it is used to attract Crucian Carp it is most effective mixed with wheat bran or mash potato.



● **Pellets**

Pellets are used in the aquaculture industry as feed. It is process either into a powder or granule to make it easier to use and mixed with wheat bran. It works as a great attractant as fish powder proteins are also included in the pellets.



**TORORO**



TORORO is the same grated yam that is often seen in many Japanese dishes. It is combined with wheat bran to make TORORO bait. Its purpose is the same as Gluten, in that it holds the wheat bran together. TORORO is a very light material that is easily sucked in by the fish; therefore Crucian Carp take the bait in without any abnormal feeling. TORORO is most often used in warmer periods.

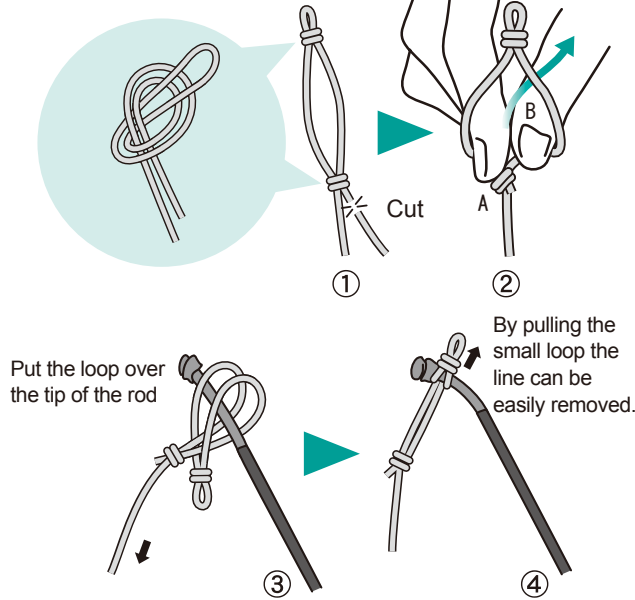
Rigging a line for Crucian Carp fishing is certainly not a difficult or complicated task. The only necessity is to keep everything simple with as little waste as possible. Please take your time and keep it neat.

## 1 Attaching the line to the Rod

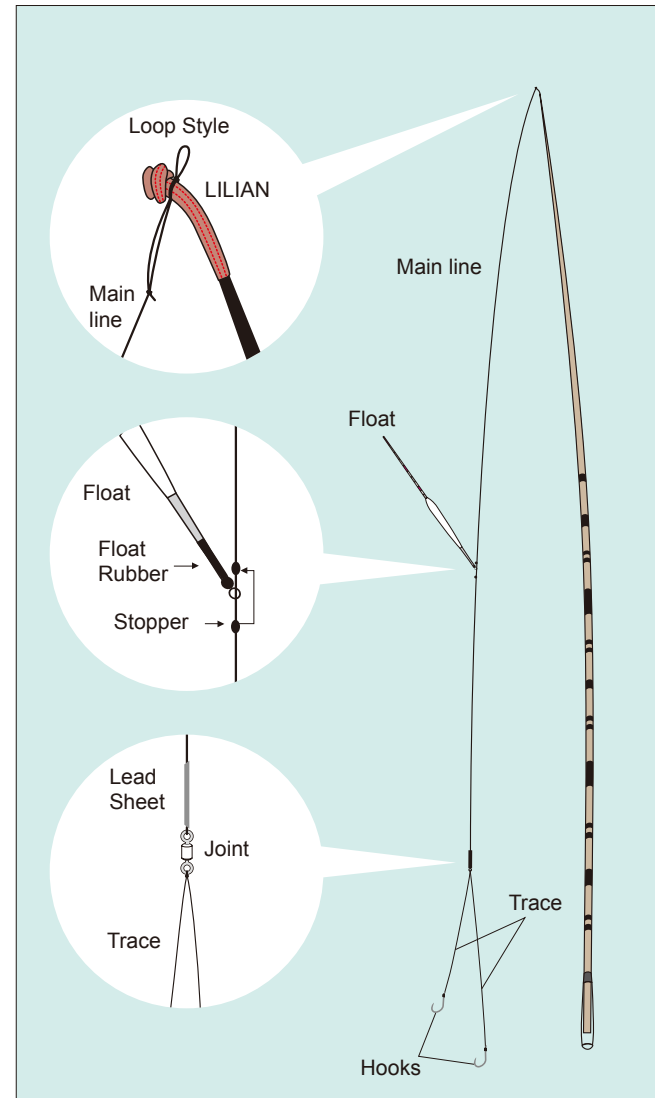
The BUSHO knot (Lazy knot) is a popular way to tie the line on to the rod.

### The BUSHO Knot

use a simple knot to make a loop

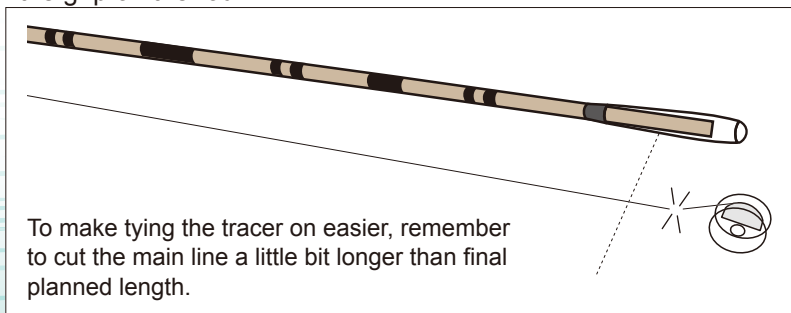


1. Firstly double over the line and make a figure eight type knot at the end.
2. Pull A through towards B to make a loop.
3. Then place this loop over the tip of the rod and pull tightly.
4. Slide the knot up to the tip of the rod and your finished. Pulling the small loop at the top of the line allows you to remove the line easily from the rod.



## 2 Setting the Length of the Main Line

Once you have the line attached to the rod, the next thing to do is set the length of your main line. Cut the line so that the point where the main line and the tracer join reaches halfway down the grip on the rod.



To make tying the tracer on easier, remember to cut the main line a little bit longer than final planned length.

### Figure 8 Knot

- 1 Double the line over equal to the length of the intended knot.
- 2 Twist B around once.
- 3 Wrap A around the main line and feed it through the B loop.
- 4 Pull A to tighten the knot and cut off any excess line.

## 3 Threading on the Float

### Attaching the Stopper



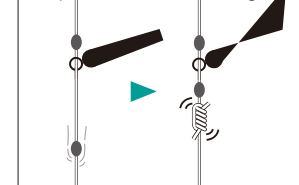
- 1 Thread the main line through the rubber stopper loop
- 2 Slide the rubber stopper up onto the main line. Dampening the line at this time will help it to slide on easily, and also prevent the main line from being damaged.

- 3 Thread the Float Rubber on to the line, and repeat the process above to thread on the second rubber stopper.

Once the length of the main line is set, the next thing is to attach the top rubber stopper, the float, and the bottom rubber stopper in that order to the line. When sliding the rubber stopper along the line it is best to slight wet the line to prevent any deterioration of the line caused by friction. Also if you have no rubber stoppers then the cotton string used to make the TONBO can be used to fix the float on the line. Cotton string can also be used to strengthen the rubber stoppers if they come loose.

### Strengthening the Rubber Stopper

Tying a TONBO below the bottom rubber stopper (or above the top rubber stopper) will prevent it from moving.



When a stopper has come loose you can tie a TONBO on the line to support the stopper.

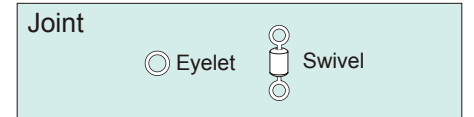
### Tying a TONBO

- 1 Cut a 8-10cm long piece of cotton. When TONBO is being used to strengthen the stopper double it over.
- 2 Wrap A around the axle formed by B and the main line.
- 3 Wrap A 3-5 times.
- 4 Pull on A & B to tighten the knot. Be careful not to overtighten as the knot will tighten when it gets wet.

## 4 Attaching the Swivel to the Main line

Next is attaching the swivel or eyelet that will form the joint between the main line and the tracer. The swivel can be attached using a loop as previously shown, however we would recommend the Clinch knot, as it is both strong and simple. Also to avoid putting unnecessary weight on the float, try to use as small a swivel/eyelet as possible.

### The Clinch Knot



- 1 When attaching the joint to the main line, it is best to make B quite long because you will wrap it around A when tying the knot.
- 2 Wrap B around A at least 5 times.
- 3 Thread B through the loop closest to the joint.
- 4 After threading B through the loop formed by A&C, tighten the knot by pulling on A&B.
- 5 Cut off any excess line about 2-3mm above the B knot. Be careful not to cut too close to the knot as cutting off too much line can cause the knot to come undone.

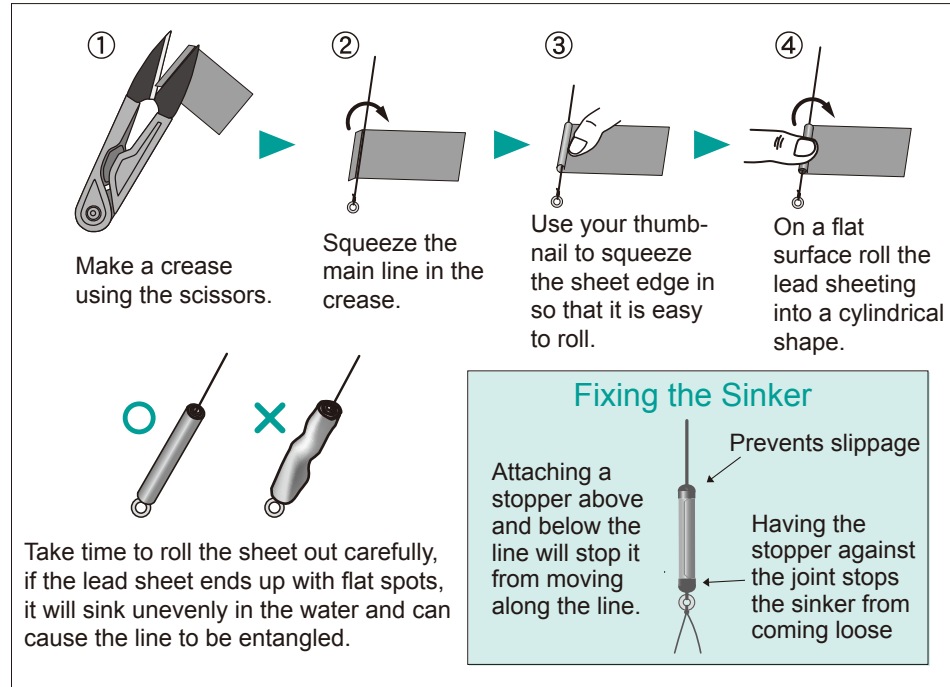
### Using a Loop to attach an Eyelet

- 1 Thread the eyelet over the loop.
- 2 Holding on to the eyelet, pull it through.
- 3 Pull down on the eyelet.
- 4 Finished.

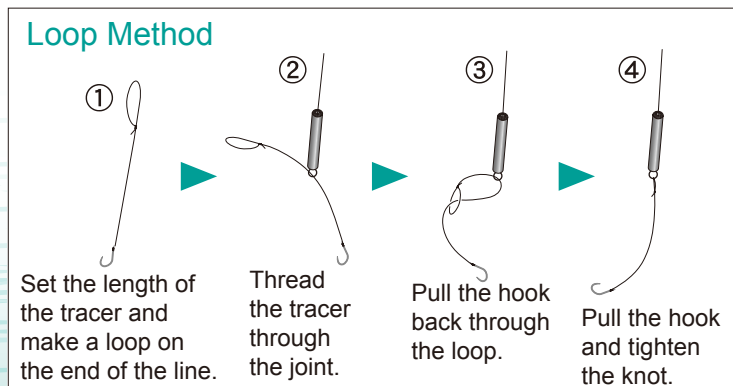
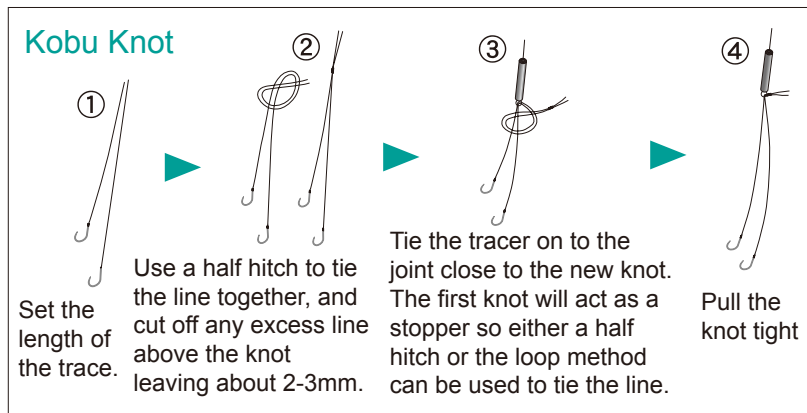


## 5 Wrapping the Sinker

Lead Sheets of 0.2-0.25mm thickness are the most popular, and the easiest to use. Firstly use the scissors to put a crease into the sheet. Then fit the main line up against the crease and carefully bend the sheet around the line, being careful to keep the sheet as round as possible. If the lead sheet is ends up being flat then the line will fall unevenly in the water and cause the line to become tangled. The length of the sheet depends upon the buoyancy of the float, however at the start it is best to attach a little bit extra, 1.5 - 2.0cm long piece of sheeting. Also it is better to avoid attaching lots of weights in one area. When you need to attach more than one weight, its best to split them up over two sections.



## 6 Tying on the Hook



Hooks that are already attached to a tracer are attached to the joint that is in turn attached to the main line. There are two methods for attaching the hook to the joint. One method, is attaching two hooks with differing length tracers to the joint with one knot, KOBU knot. The other method is using a loop as shown previously. The draw back to the simple KOBU knot is that when changing hooks both hooks have to be changed at the same time. Compared to this the loop method takes more time in that you have to tie a loop on each line, however an advantage is that the hooks can be changed separately. Even if the tracer is not cut through, just being crimped can cause a loss of feeling through the line; therefore it is better to change the tracers often. For this reason, you should choose whichever method is easier for you.

## 05 Setting the Bait Mark

When the line is thrown in the water, the weight of the sinker will cause the float to stand in the water. At that time, with no bait on the hook, the point at the water surface on the float's top is called the "Bait Mark". Crucian carp fishing starts when the Bait mark sinks below the water with the weight of the bait.

### Why have a Bait Mark?

The Bait Mark is used to judge when there is no bait left on the hook. Lets suppose that you throw your baited hook into the water and the float sinks down so that the bait mark sinks 3 marks down. The wait of the bait has made those 3 marks sink below the water, and shows you that your bait is sitting undissolved at the depth you are trying to fish (TANA). This state is called, NAJIMI-HABA. In this way, the float has the important role of telling the fisherman (woman), what condition the bait is in on the end of the line. Carefully adjusting the sinker and always checking your Bait Mark is very important in Crucian Carp fishing.

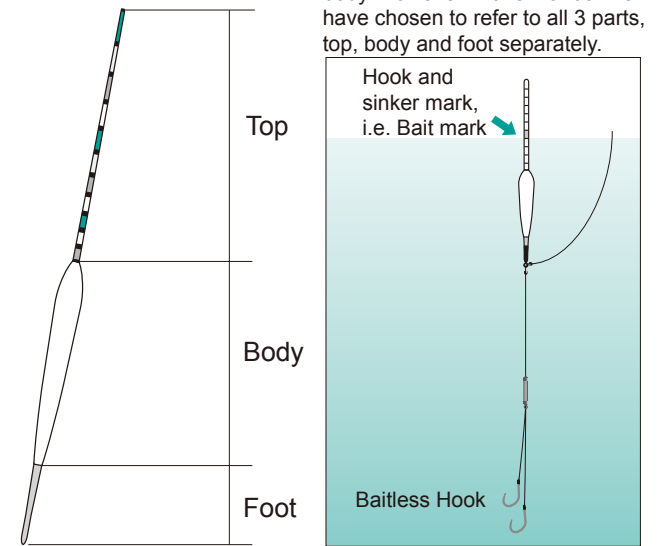
### Positioning the Bait Mark

The bait mark's position will depend upon the length of the float's top, however it is normally set about 1/3 up the top. For most floats this is the optimum balance point and will clearly show any bites on the hook. To give a detailed example, say we have a float that has 11 marks on the float's pole, 4 marks up from the bottom would be the Bait mark, i.e. The bait mark is when 7 marks rise up out of the water.

### How to get the Bait Mark above the Water

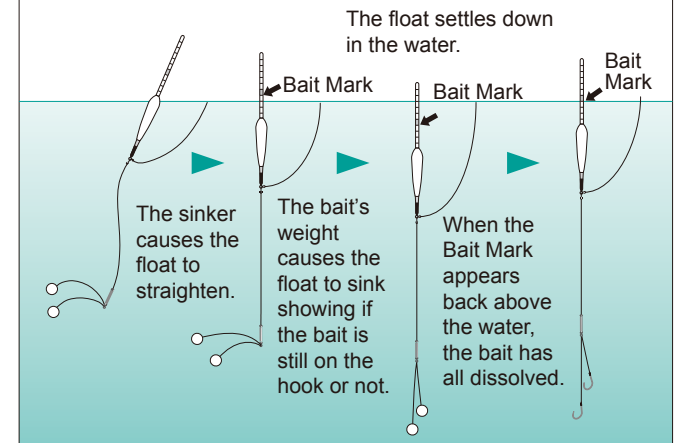
The bait mark position is adjusted by cutting small slices one at a time off the lead sheet sinker. It useful as a rough guide if you remember when using 0.25mm lead sheeting 1 mm equals 1 mark on the float. For example, if you wish to move the float up in the water by about 1-2mm you should cut 2mm off, 1mm at a time twice while constantly checking the floats balance. If at this point, you just roughly cut the weight then you can end up having the float sticking right up out of the water all in one go.

### The Float's Parts

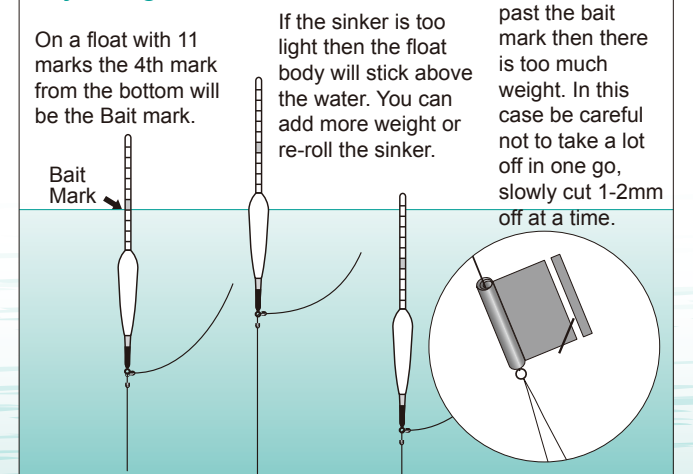


\*Sometimes the foot is not referred to separately but included in the body. However in this manual we have chosen to refer to all 3 parts, top, body and foot separately.

### The Role of the Bait Mark



### Adjusting the Sinker





# 06 How to mix the Bait

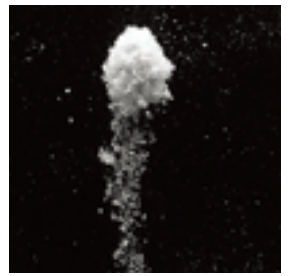
Bait that is used in Crucian Carp fishing, gluten bread, gluten based or instant udon, are all made by adding water to a dry bait mix. We would also recommend using a measuring cup to achieve the same consistency every time. Here we will introduce basic types of bait and how to mix them properly. However, please be aware that the amount of water added to each mix depends on the bait, so please check the instructions written on the baits packaging.

## BARAKE Bait "Powder Bait Set"

This BARAKE bait is made for SET fishing. The bait sticks together well, so it is easy to bait. The bait breaks up even if it is kneaded well; so it is great for CHO-CHIN SET fishing and in the shallows.



1. Measure out 5 cups of Powder Bait Set into a measuring bowl.
2. Add 1 cup of water to the dry mix.
3. Mix the water evenly through the mix. Spreading your fingers when mixing the bait will help mix the bait evenly.
4. This is the basic bait. This is your base bait; if it falls apart too quick then knead it a bit, if it is too hard then knead it a bit
5. Make a ball of bait about 1.5cm across, then push the hook into the middle and apply pressure around the top of the hook. At the start its OK to use two hands to get the bait on nice and neat.
6. Done!



BARAKE bait should ideally slowly break apart in the water.

## Gluten Bait "Glutena21"

The gluten becomes weaved together, making it hang on the hook. The bait is light and stays on the hook, making it perfect for when the fish are feeding before spawning.



1. Shake the bait bag well to mix the potato mash and gluten together well.
2. Scoop up 50cc of bait mix inside of the bag.
3. Pour out measured bait into a small bowl.
4. Accurately measure out 75cc of water.
5. Add water to the bait mix.
6. Completely mix in all the water with the bait.
7. Once all the water has been mixed in, push the bait to the side of the bowl.
8. Let the bait sit for 3 minutes.
9. Take a small piece of bait from the edge and roll it into a ball.
10. The gluten will expand in the water so you do need to put on too much.
11. The finished baited hook.



The threads in the gluten hold the potato mash together and prevents it from dissolving. It leaves a soft fluffy gluten thread on the hook.

## SET Fishing Hook Bait "KANTAN"

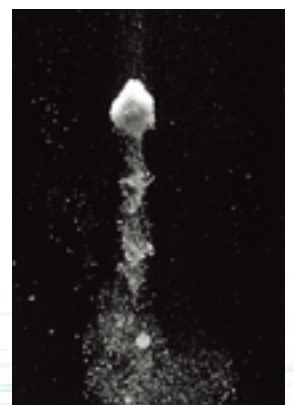
This is bait that can be made easily onsite with an OKAYU Pump. Its effective as a hook bait for SET fishing in the winter.



1. Measure 40cc of water into the measuring cup with lid.
2. Measure out 20cc of KANTAN bait.
3. Pour KANTAN into the measuring cup with the water.
4. Quickly put the lid on and shake the bottle.
5. When the shaking noise stops, group bait into a lump with a wet finger.
6. Finished!
7. Put some of the bait into the OKAYU Pump.
8. This is ready for use.
9. Squeeze out a small bean sized ball.
10. Bait the ball onto the tip of the hook. Wetting your fingers will stop the bait from sticking.
11. Be sure to put the hook through the centre, poking just the tip of the hook out of the bait will make it easier to hook the fish.

The water temperature can affect the way the bait forms. Please use the table below only as a guide for mixing KANTAN.

	Bait : Water	
Standard	20 cc	30 cc
Summer	20 cc	26 cc
Winter	20 cc	40 cc



The hook bait in SET fishing sits in a cloud of BARAKE bait. Fish that come to eat the BARAKE bait suck in the hook bait as well.

- Things to Prepare
- KANTAN Bait
  - Small measuring Cup x 2
  - Measuring Cup with Lid
  - OKAYU Pump

Please measure out the water carefully, as even just a slight difference in the water amount will have a large impact on the bait.

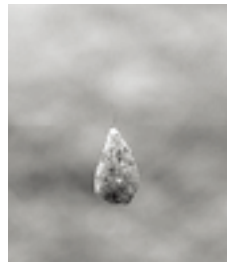


# 07 Baiting the Hook

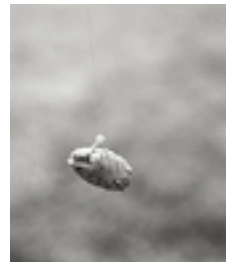
Bait mixes dissolve in water; therefore the amount of time the bait stays on the hook depends on the way it is baited. It doesn't matter how good the bait's staying power is if the bait is not baited properly. Lots of beginners end up waiting for bites on a hook that has no bait. Right now let's learn how to bait the hook.

## Centering the Hook

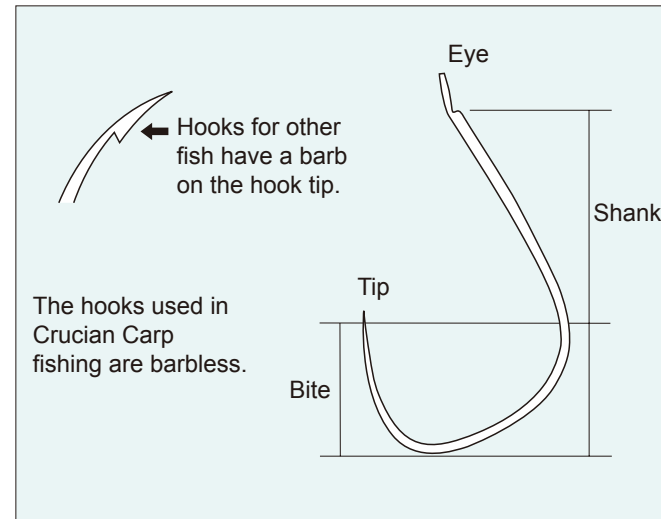
When baiting the hook, putting the hook in the middle of the bait is important.



If the hook is baited properly it will stay on the hook longer.



If the hook is not in the centre, then even if it is strong holding bait it will soon fall off.



## Two different ways to bait the Hook

There are two main ways to bait the hook, pushing the hook in from the top, and pulling it in from the bottom.

### Pushing from the Top

If you push the hook in from the top, bait doesn't get stuck in the curve of the hook, so it falls off comparatively quicker. This style is best suited for when you start fishing an area.



- 1 Push the hook into a rounded ball of bait.
- 2 Push the hook in firmly from the top (eyelet).



- 3 Apply pressure around the top of the hook.
- 4 Shape the ball and you're finished. If you roll out the bait into balls slightly larger than the hook it is easy to bait.

### Pulling in from the Bottom

If you pull the bait in from the bottom, bait gets stuck in the curve of the hook and therefore stays on the hook better.



- 1 Slide a rounded ball of bait on to the tip of the hook.
- 2 Pull the hook through so that the hook comes into the middle of the ball. Lastly squeeze around the top of the hook, and shape the ball of bait.

## Baiting Gluten



- 1 When baiting gluten, to have the gluten fibres stay on the hook it is best to use the pull through baiting method.
- 2 Once the bait is over the barb, push the bottom of the hook up while gently pulling on the line.
- 3 Squeeze the top of the hook and shape the gluten ball.
- 4 As gluten expands in the water, you don't need to attach that much compared to BARAKE and DANGO baits. Just enough to cover the hook is fine.



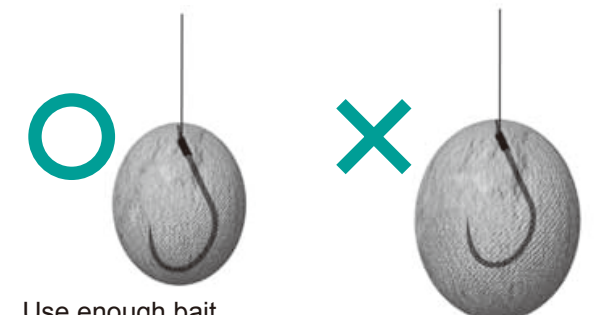
## Adjusting the Baiting Method

Square shaped bait has more resistance in the water and therefore breaks up easier which is good for attracting fish. Carefully rounded bait has less resistance in the water, breaks up slower and leaves a piece of bait in the bend of the hook. Bait stays on the hook for a long time.

A teardrop shape breaks up but leaves a piece of bait on the hook as well. To make this shape, bait a roughly round piece of bait and then apply pressure around the top of the bait. This shape will first break up from the bottom but a piece of bait will remain on the hook. This is a favourite shape for many fishermen (women).

There is also another technique, where by you don't apply much pressure or shape the bait much on the hook. This shape breaks up quickly and is known as a "Rough Bait".

## Bait Size



Use enough bait just to cover the hook

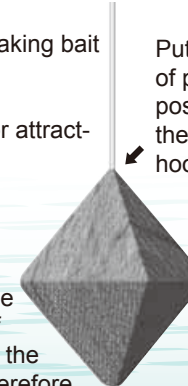
Much larger than the hook

### Diamond Shape

Good for making bait break up.

Excellent for attracting fish!

Square shape meets lots of resistance in the water and therefore breaks up easily.

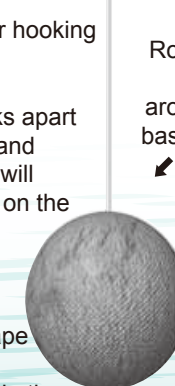


### Round Shape

Best for hooking fish

It breaks apart slowly and a piece will remain on the hook.

Round shape meets little resistance in the water.

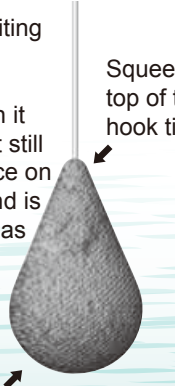


### Tear Shape

Versatile baiting method

Even though it breaks up, it still leaves a piece on the hook, and is easy to bait as well.

The bottom of the bait should be just shaped lightly.



# 08 Fishing Style and the TANA

The fishing depth (TANA) of Crucian Carp can change depending on the season, fish activity and density, this also impacts upon the way bait should be used. Here we will explain all about the TANA, and the most effective bait and fishing style combinations.



## The TANA

As we have previously explained, Crucian Carp are cold blooded animals and are therefore very sensitive to water temperature changes which determine the depth of water that they reside in. This water depth is called the TANA. The swimming (movement) pattern of

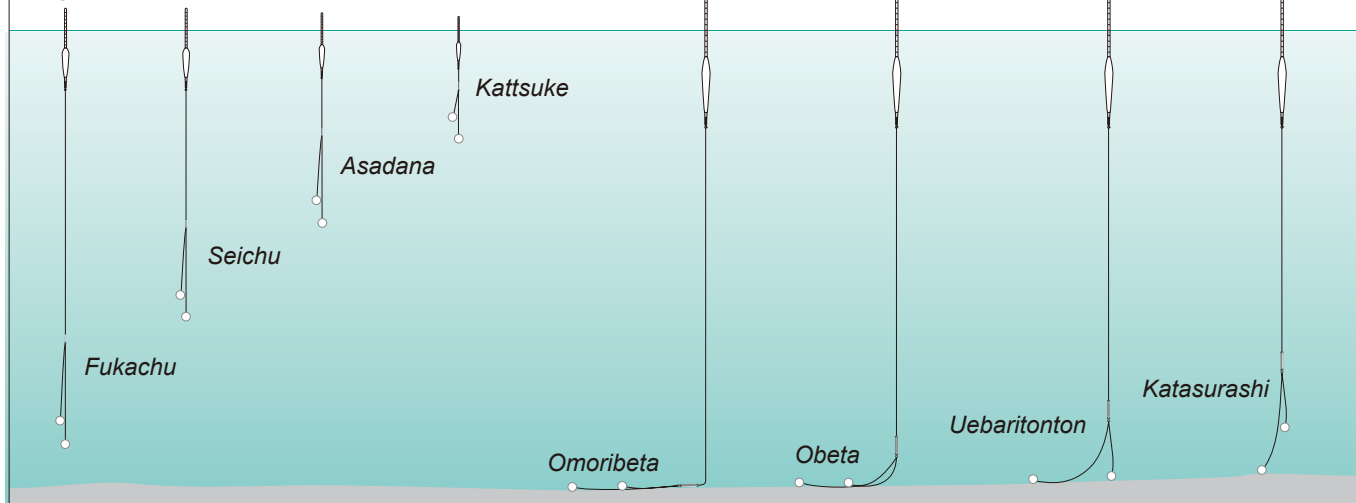
Crucian Carp can also be affected by the air pressure and the amount of oxygen in the water. In this way, Crucian Carp head to a TANA to eat that satisfies a certain amount of their requirements. This is usually either bottom water or mid water. Mid-water fishing is called CHUUTSURI, bottom water fishing is called SOKOTSURI, as shown below. Try fishing the easiest TANA on the day.

### CHUUTSURI

Fishing with the bait suspended in the water, not touching the bottom is called CHUUTSURI. The TANA is referred to differently depending on the depth fished as shown below. Also sometimes the TANA can be referred to a the CHOCHIN. This is when you are fishing with the whole length of line in the water.

### SOKOTSURI

SOKOTSURI is fishing a TANA at where the bait reaches the bottom. The amount of line that is sat on the bottom depends upon the way the fish are feeding and also the prevalence of the fish. The names of the various styles in Japanese are shown below.



## The Right Bait

In the warmer months the oxygen levels in the water rise, Crucian Carp become more active and they will even aggressively feed on DANGO bait. However, if the temperature rises too much, in areas where the water condition

goes bad, Crucian Carp just like people will lose their appetite and won't take large clumps of bait. Also in the cooler periods, Crucian Carp don't move much and their ability to suck in food drops. In Crucian Carp fishing, you change your bait and fishing style depending on the TANA and fish's conditions.

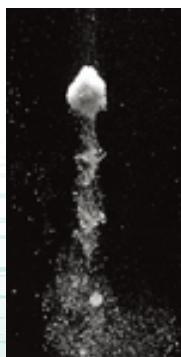
### ● RYO-DANGO

This is fishing where either Wheat bran bait or Potato Mash bait is used on both the top and bottom hooks. It is called RYO-DANGO because just the one bait can fulfill two roles, attracting the fish and hooking the fish (RYO means both in Japanese). This is one of the fundamental Crucian Carp fishing methods, used mainly when the Crucian Carp are active.



### ● SET

In this fishing style on the top hook is bait designed to attract fish, and on the bottom hook is bait for hooking the fish. SET fishing is good all throughout the year, however it is really effective when Crucian Carp are not very active.



### ● RYO Gluten

Any place, be it wild pond or managed pond, that restocks its ponds regularly will from October to December restock with fish from Aquaculture farms. The most effective method to catch these fish is RYO Gluten. RYO Gluten fishing is where both the top and bottom hook are baited with gluten. It can be used with either CHUUTSURI or SOKOTSURI. This style is effective when the fish are not very active, at the start of spring, or when the fish move to the shallows for spawning.

