

# EXCITING NEW LURE

These new sandeels look the part, but will they do the business?



Words and photography  
by **Henry Gilbey**

**SAVAGE GEAR  
LINE-THRU SANDEEL**  
SSP: £9.99 TO £14.99

**W**OW! THESE NEW SAVAGE Gear Line-Thru Sandeel lures are fascinating. If there is a more realistic sandeel imitation out there, then I have yet to come across it.

While they have been designed primarily for sea-trout fishing from the shore in countries such as Denmark and Sweden, as a bass-obsessed lure angler, I cannot help but be drawn to lures like this. They cast like missiles, and, of course, look exactly like what is perhaps the most widespread prey species that bass love to eat.

## CONCEPT

What about this 'Line-Thru' concept, though? Well, it's based upon sea-trout being remarkably adept at throwing the hook. The theory is that by having the leader threaded through the body of the lure and attached directly to the hook – rather than the hook being attached to the lure itself – the lack of the hook hinging on the lure when the fish is thrashing around, apparently, helps more sea-trout stay hooked.

Okay, we don't have that problem with bass, and I have heard a few people asking whether,

due to how bass hit a lure, the lack of another hook near the top of these Line-Thru Sandeels might be an issue? I'd say, how about the good old days when so many bass were caught on simple spinners with that hook right on the end? It wasn't a problem back then, and until I find otherwise, I can't see it being a problem with these new Savage Gear lures.

## CASTING

I am unable to tell you yet whether these new Savage Gear lures are going to work well for bass, but I can't see why they will not do the job. I can tell you, however, that these lures cast incredibly well, and on a simple straight retrieve they swim nice and shallow, with a little hint of a sandeel wiggle.

I am increasingly comfortable with bass lures that aren't doing masses in the water, which I happen to think can put off fish a lot more than we think. Hence, I really like the subtle nature of these Line-Thru Sandeels and how they work. In deeper water, I reckon you could pause the retrieve sometimes and let them flutter down a bit, but I won't be doing this in shallow water, for obvious reasons.

I love the idea of casting these new lures into a bit of a surf and seeing what happens, and I also reckon they might work well at night in the sort of calm, dark conditions that can often produce such good bass fishing. For this reason, please, Savage Gear, can we have an all-white

version for night fishing?

How about working them on a slow retrieve in a good run of current when, in fact, you might pick up both bass and sea-trout in some areas? Yes, I am excited about giving these new lures a good workout. ■

## INFORMATION

Each lure comes with a treble and a single hook, a split ring, plus various beads to complete the rigging process. For ease of use, I am experimenting with pre-rigging these lures on a short length of 30lb fluorocarbon with a loop knot at the top, and I then simply clipping this on to my lure clip and away we go.

Available in these sizes and a good range of colours, including a beautiful sandeel imitation: 125mm, 19g, £9.99; 150mm, 27g, £12.99; 175mm, 40g, £14.99.

■ For your nearest Savage Gear dealer, tel: 01827 59659.

■ Web: [www.savage-gear.com](http://www.savage-gear.com)



The Savage Gear Line-Thru Sandeel lure



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