

Mike Weaver on the Dorset Frome.



# A ROD FOR ALL WATERS

Mike Weaver and Richard Slocock test 23 nine-foot fly-rods for five-weight lines



MIKE WEAVER

Mike Weaver has been a fly-fisher for more than 50 years and has cast a fly on countless trout rivers throughout Great Britain and Ireland, as well as farther afield. His speciality is river trout and he frequently fishes the streams of the South-West, where he lives. He writes regularly for *Trout and Salmon* and is author of *The Pursuit of Wild Trout* and contributor to several other angling books. Now retired, he was the first chairman of the Wild Trout Trust.

## THE TESTERS



RICHARD SLOCOCK

Richard Slocock has fished for around 50 years from a very young age, and became qualified as a fly casting instructor nearly 30 years ago. He is the proprietor of Wessex Chalk Streams, which offers trout fishing on the Piddle and Frome in Dorset. He was the founder of REFFIS and is a past chairman of the Wild Trout Trust, of which he was a founder.

**T**HERE IS PROBABLY no such thing as an all-round fly-rod for trout fishing but the combination of a nine-footer and an AFTM 5 line certainly ticks many of the boxes, so this is an important part of any angler's armoury.

This is the ideal rod for any medium to large chalkstream, especially where wading is not permitted and a bit of length is needed to reach over bankside vegetation. For fishing rivers of any type or size, whether with a dry-fly, wet-fly or nymph, a longish rod gives extra control. And, although a little river with overhead branches is no place for a 9 ft rod, there are many tiny streams in open moorland where the longer rod keeps the line off the water and the angler in better touch with the fly.

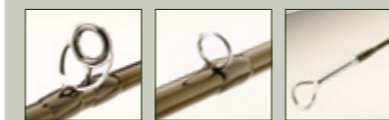
Except on big heavy streams, a 9 ft rod and five-weight line can often be used for sea-trout, as it can in many stillwater situations – on small lakes where long casting is not required or perhaps for light-line boat fishing.

For the many anglers who travel to far-flung rivers in the Rockies, New Zealand and elsewhere, the nine-footer for a five-weight line has much to commend it. Portability becomes a factor and rods of four pieces or more offer advantages when packing for air travel – a four-piece rod will often fit into a large duffel bag, thus avoiding separation from the main baggage, which can be a recipe for delay or worse.

When the testers started fishing about half a century ago, a 9 ft rod in split cane weighed anything from 6 oz to as much as 8 oz. Today the marvels of carbon-fibre mean that you can expect a rod of the same length and power to weigh as little as 3 oz. Testing was done on a cold grey day with rain and a strong wind, which gave the rods a severe testing. Fortunately, there was a bankside hut, which provided shelter for examining the rods and making notes – and a chance for the testers to warm up. It's a tough job, but somebody has to do it.

### Airflo Delta Classic AFTM 5/6 Price £59.99

*A three-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark brown blank and whippings. Lined butt ring, 10 single-leg intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube with shoulder strap.*



MIKE WEAVER

This rod offers excellent smooth casting at all distances with a good reserve of power for longer casts. The casting performance combined with a high-quality finish and specification at a very low price make it ideal for the most budget-conscious angler.

RATINGS OUT OF 10  
Performance 8.5 Value for money 9 Overall 8.75

RICHARD SLOCOCK

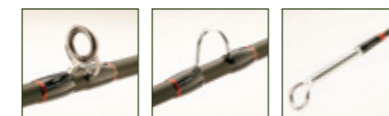
This rod handled very well. The rod is sensitive and is a pleasure to cast with. Superb value, with an excellent finish for the price.

RATINGS OUT OF 10  
Performance 8.5 Value for money 9 Overall 8.75

RODS UNDER £150

### Distinction Moy Fly AFTM 5/6 Price £59.99

*A three-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark grey blank with dark blue whippings. Two lined butt rings, seven snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube with handle and shoulder strap.*



MIKE WEAVER

First impression was of a rather crude handle – a bit thick for the average-size hand. Although it cast fairly well, the lack of authority was noticeable when casting upwind, especially as other rods at the same price performed rather better.

RATINGS OUT OF 10  
Performance 6 Value for money 6 Overall 6

RICHARD SLOCOCK

Crude roughish handle. Tip section makes rod feel its price. Too soft to give an overall feel of any substance but managed reasonably well.

RATINGS OUT OF 10  
Performance 5 Value for money 5 Overall 5

LINDA WEAVER

**Ron Thompson V8 Fly** AFTM 5/6 Price £59.99

A three-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark grey blank with black whippings. Lined butt ring, nine snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and fabric-covered tube with handle.



**MIKE WEAVER**

Excellent performance and specification at less than £60, making this another ideal choice for the budget-conscious fly-fisher. More proof that excellent casting can be produced at a low cost.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Remarkably good value. Came into the testers' hands immediately after the Sage but stood up to the peer pressure remarkably well. The perfect budget buy, putting out a competent line every time for both testers. The thinnest rod tube on test.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8 Value for money 9 Overall 8.5

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8 Value for money 8 Overall 8

**Wychwood Truefly** AFTM 5/6 Price £59.99

A three-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark brown blank and whippings. Lined butt ring, eight snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and fabric-covered tube with handle.



**MIKE WEAVER**

Another rod at less than £60 that did everything asked of it. The casting performance at all distances was smooth and efficient. Very close to the top of its class.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

A competent budget-priced rod. None could regret buying this rod. Competent but not quite best in class.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8 Value for money 8.5 Overall 8.25

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 7 Value for money 8 Overall 7.5

**Guideline Cool Water Outpack** AFTM 5 Price £70

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark blue-green blank and dark blue whippings with light blue trim. Two lined butt rings, eight single-leg intermediate rings and loop tip ring. No keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag but no tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

This rod did everything well and cast efficiently at all distances. The price makes this a good choice for the budget-conscious angler, though without the protective tube of others in its class.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Action totally uncomplicated, an easy rod to use for any standard of fisherman. An excellent rod at a budget price.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8.5 Value for money 7.5 Overall 8

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8 Value for money 7 Overall 7.5

**Shimano Biocraft EV** AFTM 5 Price £79.99

A three-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment lettering. Dark blue blank and whippings. Lined butt ring, eight single-leg intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Straight cork handle with rounded end. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

Oh dear! The casting performance of this rod was far behind that of any other rod tested at any price. The floppy tip section was very disconcerting and lacking in any real control of the line. The straight handle was not particularly comfortable.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Alas, it would have been better if this blank had never left the drawing board. Utterly spineless tip action allowing no sort of presentation. Very poor indeed.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 3 Value for money 4 Overall 3.5

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 2 Value for money 2 Overall 2

**Vision Attack** AFTM 5 Price £84.99

A three-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark brown blank and whippings. Lined butt ring, eight snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. No rod bag but divided fabric-covered tube with shoulder strap.



**MIKE WEAVER**

An immediately likeable rod, which performed very well on short to medium casts, but with a reserve of power at greater distances. The short slim handle was very comfortable. Excellent value.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

A splendid budget choice. Light in the hand and throws a good loop even in high wind. Overall, a nice feel.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8 Value for money 8 Overall 8

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8 Value for money 8 Overall 8

**Cortland Big Sky** AFTM 5 Price £125.95

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark olive-brown blank with dark brown whippings. Two lined butt rings, eight snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Fabric-covered tube with partitions and "bulge" for holding reel.



**MIKE WEAVER**

The test started badly with problems in tightening the reel lock, in spite of trying three popular makes of reel. Otherwise, competent if average casting performance, with a somewhat slower action than many of the rods tested.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Reel seat problem: three reel seats did not tighten. Slightly slow action was somewhat demanding, but competent enough when timing of action mastered.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 6.5 Value for money 5.5 Overall 6

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 6 Value for money 5 Overall 5.5

**Fulling Mill World Class Ti4** AFTM 5 Price £149.95

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Grey blank with black whippings and red trim. Two lined butt rings, eight snake intermediates and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. No bag but divided tube with strap.



**MIKE WEAVER**

This rod cast well enough but there was no sense of being at one with the action. Being at the top end of its price bracket, it faces stiff opposition at lower prices.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

This rod had a thicker blank than many on test. It put the line out well enough but feel, sensitivity and casting pleasure were all a bit lacking. A better performance to be found for less money.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 7 Value for money 7 Overall 7

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 6 Value for money 7 Overall 6.5

**Snowbee Prestige** AFTM 5 Price £159

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark brown blank and whippings. Lined butt ring, nine snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and metal tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A well-finished rod that casts highly competently at all distances, with very good presentation at short to medium range. The slim handle offers instant comfort. Excellent value for money at the bottom end of its price band, holding its own with far more expensive rods.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Competent in every way. A smart rod that lays down a neat line reliably, particularly at short distances. Not quite as powerful as some but not a disadvantage for river fishers.



**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8.5 Value for money 9 Overall 8.75

**RATINGS OUT OF 10**

Performance 8 Value for money 8 Overall 8

**RODS**  
£150-£300

**Partridge S-series Model 1650.268** AFTM 5 Price £190

A three-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Mid blue blank with dark blue whippings. Two lined butt rings, seven snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Extension butt. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag; tube with strap.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A very competent rod at a reasonable price, though the bright blue blank might not be to all tastes. Casting was smooth and it delivered the line well at all distances. The only rod on test with an extension butt, an unusual feature on rods of this type.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

The bright blue blank is an acquired taste. Action very similar to the Marryat. An excellent rod, which meets all the requirements with style. Three pieces resulted in a longer rod tube than most.

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 8.5 Value for money 7.5 Overall 8

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 7 Value for money 8 Overall 7.5



**Loop Multi** AFTM 5 Price £190

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Sage-green blank with green whippings. Two lined butt rings, seven snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube with handle.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A competent casting tool that did not quite set the world on fire. The slowish through action worked well at short to medium range but lacked a bit of authority when dealing with wind and distance. Very comfortable slim tapered handle.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

This rod has a fuller action than most on test, giving a slower casting feel. Pleasant but not sensational.

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 7.5 Value for money 7.5 Overall 7.5

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 7 Value for money 7 Overall 7



**Guideline LPXe** AFTM 5 Price £229.99

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Grey blank with black whippings. Two lined butt rings, eight snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle with grey ends. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube with strap.



**MIKE WEAVER**

The medium price and excellent casting performance make this a very attractive package. The smooth sympathetic action provides effortless casting at all distances, even into a strong wind. Slim, comfortable handle with wood inset, and overall a well-finished rod.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Wow! What a delight – perfect in every way. Slim blank generating the ultimate silky smooth, effortless action. One to covet. Did not want to hand this one back!

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9.5 Value for money 9.5 Overall 9.5

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 10 Value for money 9 Overall 9.5



**Bromanodell World Series** AFTM 5/6 Price £237

A five-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark blue blank and whippings with silver trim. Lined butt ring, nine single-leg intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle with darker hardened top end. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube with handle.



**MIKE WEAVER**

The only five-piece rod on test, making this an ideal choice for the angler who travels by air. A sensitive and sympathetic casting action with plenty of power for longer casts. Good value at a medium price.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

A pleasantly sensitive rod with an excellent action, very similar to Airflo. Plenty of power if needed. The five pieces make it particularly useful for travel, though alignment dots would be useful.

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 8 Value for money 8.5 Overall 8.25

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 8 Value for money 8 Overall 8



**Sierra HM3** AFTM 5/6 Price £239.99

A three-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark brown-green blank with brown whippings. Two lined butt rings, seven snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. No keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and metal tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

This rod has a rather stiff uncompromising action, without the sympathy desired for presenting a fly delicately at short to medium range on a stream – but it certainly casts a long line without effort. The reel inset has a distinctive outline of a trout.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

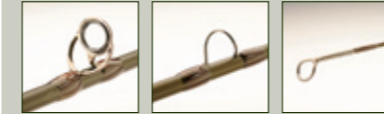
This rod is not for the delicately inclined. Stiff and rather disappointing. Falls well short of most others on test.

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 7 Value for money 7 Overall 7

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 6 Value for money 6 Overall 6



**Redington CPS** AFTM 5 Price £249.99

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark green blank and whippings, green and silver trim. Two lined butt rings, eight snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

The stiffish action lacked immediate appeal, though it certainly punched the line into the wind. A perfectly competent rod but it lacked the sympathetic feel that makes a rod stand out.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

A little on the stiff side and so needs to be worked harder than most. Results a little unpredictable. Not very exciting.

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 7 Value for money 7 Overall 7

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 6 Value for money 7 Overall 6.5



**Marryat Tactical** AFTM 5 Price £295

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark green blank and whippings with gold trim. Lined butt ring, nine single-leg intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

An instantly likeable rod with a smooth casting action that delivered the line efficiently at all distances and coped well with the wind. The combination of casting performance, finish and product quality put this rod close to top place in its price band.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

A delight with no faults. A sensitive rod, yet handled the strong wind effortlessly. A pleasure to handle and use.

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 7.5 Overall 8.25

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 9 Overall 9



**Greys G-Tec** AFTM 5 Price £299.99

Three-piece rod with over-fit joints. Grey matt blank with black whippings and silver and red trim. Two lined butt rings, eight single-leg intermediates and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle with thumb pad. Up-locking double-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A well-finished rod with a lovely silky action that presents the line well, especially at the short to medium distances required on rivers. The well-shaped handle has an inset thumb pad and an effective ultra-modern reel fitting.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

An excellent rod with delicate presentation guaranteed. Intriguing, space-age reel fitting. Superb with a short line.

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 8 Overall 8.5

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 8 Overall 8.5



RODS  
OVER £300

**Hardy Marksman AFTM 5 Price £479**

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Olive-green blank and olive whippings. Lined butt ring, nine snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and graphite tube with removable neoprene cover.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A beautifully finished rod with a silky smooth casting action that grew on this tester. Line presentation at normal casting distance was flawless. The lightweight skeleton reel fitting is right at the cutting edge of design

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

One can always rely on a Hardy rod to be a faultless casting implement. This rod delivers Hardy competence in full, particularly good at short distance.



RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 8 Overall 8.5

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 9 Overall 9

**CF Burkheimer Presentation AFTM 4/5/6 Price £489.51**

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark green blank and whippings with silver trim. Lined butt ring, nine snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. No keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A beautifully presented rod with well-shaped short decorated handle and colourful grained wood reel inset. The casting performance was very competent at all distances and only just short of the very best.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

This rod is superbly crafted, the handle is a work of art complemented by a very pretty wooden reel seat. Super-slim blank that performed very well indeed but did not have quite the extra-special feel to justify the high price.



RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 7.5 Overall 8.25

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 7 Overall 8

**G Loomis Streamdance AFTM 5 Price £554.99**

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark olive-brown blank and whippings. Two un-lined butt rings, eight single-leg intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Rod bag and tube with handle.



**MIKE WEAVER**

This rod offers an outstanding all-round casting performance and a great combination of sensitivity and power. Excellent presentation of the line from short to long range. The luxurious soft rod bag is a nice touch.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Glorious, with casting made as easy as it is possible to be. Sensitive, powerful and the Recoil rings are a useful concept. A great companion for any fisherman but many will want to file the handle down.



RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 7.5 Overall 8.25

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 8 Overall 8.5

**Sage ZXL AFTM 5 Price £570**

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints. Dark brown blank and whippings, with gold trim. Lined butt ring, nine snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and metal tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A superb casting tool at all distances with a wonderful sense of lightness and power. Slim comfortable handle and high-quality understated finish. A lovely rod, which will not disappoint anyone willing to pay the price.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Dear me! Can rods get better than this? Oh so light with a gorgeous action giving perfect loop control under any circumstances. Shame about the price but the justification is there for those with the wallet to cope.



RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 10 Value for money 8 Overall 9

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 10 Value for money 9 Overall 9.5

**Orvis ZG Helios Mid Flex 6.5 AFTM 5 Price £579**

A four-piece rod with over-fit joints and alignment spots. Dark brown-green blank with dark maroon whippings. Lined butt ring, nine snake intermediate rings and loop tip ring. Keeper ring. Half wells cork handle. Up-locking single-nut screw reel fitting. Divided rod bag and woven graphite tube.



**MIKE WEAVER**

A lovely rod with a beautiful finish and probably the lightest on test. The mid-flex action delivered effortless casting at all distances with accurate and smooth presentation at short to medium range. The most expensive rod on test so one for the well-heeled angler.

**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

Nothing to disappoint with this one: smooth and powerful. Good at all distances. The handle could be a whisker thinner, but this is nit-picking. A lovely rod, with exactly the mid-flex action specified.



RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9.5 Value for money 8 Overall 8.75

RATINGS OUT OF 10

Performance 9 Value for money 7 Overall 8

**FINAL VERDICTS**



**MIKE WEAVER**

- Under £150 1 Airflo Delta Classic 2 Ron Thompson V8 Fly 3 Wychwood Truefly
- £150 to £300 1 Guideline LPXe 2 Snowbee Prestige 3 Greys G-Tec
- Over £300 1 Sage ZXL 2 Orvis ZG Helios 3 Hardy Marksman



**RICHARD SLOCOCK**

- Under £150 1 Airflo Delta Classic Tied 2 Vision Attack and Ron Thomson V8 Fly
- £150 to £300 1 Guideline LPXe 2 Marrayat Tactical 3 Greys G-Tec
- Over £300 1 Sage ZXL 2 Hardy Marksman 3 G Loomis Streamdance



Mike puts one rod through a variety of casts – 22 rods to go.

**CONCLUSIONS**

THE STANDARD of casting performance and rod finish was outstanding across the price range, which was considerable, with the top-end rods nearly six times the price of the least expensive. The casting performance of the premium rods and those at a medium price was mostly excellent, as would be expected, but even at the budget end there were rods that performed to a very high level. The ability of almost every rod tested to punch a line into a strong gusting wind was remarkable. Only one or two of the low-cost rods were disappointing and could be a

handicap to novice anglers, who are most likely to buy at this end of the market.

Compare this conclusion to when the testers started fly-fishing around half a century ago, when the difference in casting performance between the cheapest and the dearest rods was huge.

Specifications and refinements continue to improve. Protective tubes can now be expected, even with the budget-priced rods, and alignment spots have become increasingly common, a useful aid on multi-piece rods.

The testers agonised long and hard before coming to final verdicts in each category, with half-a-dozen rods that could have taken the overall top spot. The difference between making and just missing a top-three placing was often a fraction of a point, with small and perhaps subjective things making that bit of difference.

Our overall winner, the Guideline LPXe, offered an irresistible and unbeatable combination of excellent performance at an affordable price. Indeed, "one to covet".

**STOCKISTS' DETAILS**

- Airflo – tel: 0871 911 7001; web: www.fishtec.co.uk
- Bromanodell – tel: 01963 237 31; web: www.fishingmatters.biz
- Burkheimer – tel: 01253 808 447; web: www.alternativetackle.com
- Cortland – tel: 01684 299 000; web: www.thenumberone.co.uk
- Distinction – tel: 01527 406 300; web: www.distinction-game.co.uk
- Fulling Mill – tel: 01293 778 600; web: www.fullingmill.com
- G Loomis – tel: 01386 425 824; web: www.gloomis.com
- Greys – tel: 01665 602 771; web: www.greysfishing.com
- Guideline Cool Water (from Glasgow Angling Centre) – tel: 0870 920 1120; www.fishingmegastore.com
- Guideline LPXe – tel: 0780 2508 483; web: guidelineflyfish.com
- Hardy – tel: 01665 602 771; web: www.hardyfishing.com
- Loop – tel: 01933 412 211; web: www.looptackle.com

- Marrayat – tel: 01963 237 31; web: www.fishingmatters.biz
- Orvis – tel: 0870 066 4177; web: www.orvis.co.uk/fishing
- Partridge – tel: 01527 513 802; web: www.partridge-of-redditch.co.uk
- Redington – tel: 01757 210 160; web: guideflyfishing.co.uk
- Ron Thompson – tel: 029 2079 1700; web: www.svendsen-sports.co.uk
- Sage – tel: 01606 882 891; web: www.sageflyfish.com
- Sierra – tel: 029 2079 1700; web: www.scierra.com
- Shimano – tel: 01386 425 826; web: fish.shimano-eu.com
- Snowbee – tel: 01752 334 933; web: snowbee.co.uk
- Vision – tel: 01757 210 160; web: guideflyfishing.co.uk
- Wychwood – tel: 0800 1300 621; web: wychwood-tackle.co.uk