

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH 2012



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE

Website: www.irish-trophy-fish.com

Coiste Éisc Mór na hÉirinn

The Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Founded in 1955, the ISFC is an independent voluntary body, representative of angling interests in Ireland, whose principal function is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large (i.e. specimen) fish caught on rod and line by anglers in Ireland, both in freshwater and marine waters. The Committee also ratifies Irish record rod caught fish. The ISFC coordinates and administers the unique specimen awards scheme which is designed to recognize any angler who catches a specimen fish and to publicise the angling venue. Successful anglers are awarded a certificate and a commemorative badge. Specially commissioned silver medals are presented to captors of record fish and special awards are also made to captors of multiple specimen fish (on a cumulative basis). This report is a detailed listing of all particulars relating to specimen and record fish captures in Irish waters in 2012. Over 25,000 claims have been received by the ISFC over the past 57 years. This dataset is one of the most valuable and long-running time-series of its type.

Irish Specimen Fish Committee Members 2012

Trevor Champ, Chairman, Dr. William Roche, Secretary, Shane O'Reilly and Micheál Hennessy (*Inland Fisheries Ireland*), Alan McGurdy, Stewart McGrane (*Game Angling*), Orla Woods (*Faílte Ireland*), Dr. Edward Fahy (*Marine Institute*), Dr. Patrick Boylan (*Loughs Agency*), Der Casey (*Coarse Angling*), Dr. Robert Rosell (*AFBI*) and Hugh O'Rorke (*Sea Angling*).

Awards Presentation

The Annual Presentation of Awards
to anglers whose claims were accepted during 2012

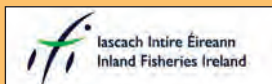
will be held in

Bewleys Airport Hotel
Swords, Co. Dublin at 2.30pm sharp

on Saturday 16th February 2013

All Irish anglers who are due awards are invited to attend

This report was produced by the ISFC with financial support from:



www.fisheriesireland.ie



www.failteireland.ie



www.loughs-agency.org

Cover photo: David Murdoch with a Thick Lipped Mullet from Dundrum Bay

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ISFC Chairman's Review 2012



The specimen fish report is eagerly awaited every year as it presents detailed information on large fish captured by anglers, from home and abroad, in waters all around Ireland. For many it will help to plan the year ahead for specimen hunting and determine angling trip timing and venue. Visiting anglers continue to feature strongly with Dutch anglers now dominating the overall international specimen angler league table. The possibility of beating your personal best specimen of any species is an added attraction for every angler and adds a novel dimension for those anglers travelling from abroad. 2012 has been a record year with 640 claims ratified and two new records established – Bream and Herring. Overall, based on specimen numbers ratified, it has been a good specimen angling year although weather conditions have been very unsettled. The poor summer weather impacted severely on deep sea charter angling days with many days lost and on the north-west coast this was compounded by severe marine algal blooms. The absence of cod, coalfish and ling from the listings

probably reflected these conditions.

Bíonn faire mór ag deireadh gach bliana ar an tuarascáil ar iasc eiseamail mar go gcuirtear i láthair ann eolas mionsonraithe ar iasc mór a mbeireann slatiascairí, as Éirinn agus ó thar lear, orthu in uisce na hÉireann. Cuideoidh sí le go leor pleanáil don bhliain atá ag teacht i dtaobh cuardach eiseamail agus le turais slatiascaireachta a shocrú ó thaobh ama agus áite. Tá slatiascairí cuairte fós láidir agus is slatiascairí as an Ollainn anois is láidre ar thábla sraithe idirnáisiúnta na slatiascairí eiseamail. Bíonn chuile slatiascaire ag iarraidh a churriarracht féin eiseamail in aon speiceas a shárú agus cuireann sé go mór le taithí na slatiascairí a thagann ó thar lear. Ní raibh aon bhliain fós mar 2012 agus 640 éileamh daingnithe agus dhá churriarracht nua déanta – Bran agus Scadán. Tríd is tríd, bunaithe ar an líon eiseamail a daingníodh, ba bhliain mhaith slatiascaireachta eiseamail a bhí inti in aincoinn aimsir bhriste. Bhí tionchar mór ag an drochshamhradh ar laethanta slatiascaireachta domhain-uisce farraige, go leor acu ar lár ar fad agus níor chuidigh an blás mór algach mara ar an gcósta thiar-thuaidh leis sin ach oiread. Léiríu air sin nach hfuil trosc, glasnán ná langa ar bith ar na liostaí cé gur cruthaíodh go maith i dtaobh speicis mhara eile agus i dtaobh líon an eiseamail.

Some marine species have shown well in 2012 – Dab specimen numbers are improving, Smooth Hound numbers are at record levels this year and it is interesting to note that large numbers of 'exotic' species – Gilthead Bream and Golden Grey Mullet – are prominent this year. In freshwater the headline goes to the Lee Reservoir system which is producing extraordinary numbers of cyprinids, particularly cyprinid hybrids.

The Shad Hybrid category was added to the ISFC list of eligible fish this year. Physically the hybrid is indistinguishable from twaite shad so genetic analysis of scales is required to determine its actual parentage. Genetics, while hugely helpful in establishing the actual identification (not always what one would expect meristic characteristics), has shown several instances of interbreeding in closely related species. The Committee decided to backdate the inclusion of shad hybrids to 2011 which means that hybrids caught in 2011 are included in this year's report.

Apart from ratifying specimen and record fish it has been a busy year for the ISFC – working in partnership with Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI), the ISFC has been compiling a Specimen Fish Atlas which maps specimen fish distribution for the 1954 to 2010 period. It is planned to publish this valuable information, dealing with more than 20,000 specimen fish, in 2013.

The Committee received its first length based specimen claim in 2012 – a tope landed off Wicklow in September. Spurdog will be placed on the length based specimen list from 2014. This time lag will allow ISFC to select an appropriate threshold length for specimens and skippers to gear up for measuring properly. We would recommend that skippers/boat anglers would use a bragmat/fish conservation mat. The Committee encourages all anglers to handle elasmobranchs carefully to maximise their conservation. Having regard to international legislation and motivated by an ongoing desire for conservation, the Committee has removed Porbeagle from the specimen listings as has been the case for Skate for many years. For Porbeagle, ISFC would encourage anglers to record location, date and estimated length at capture and return the information to Inland Fisheries Ireland to assist in understanding the biology of this vulnerable species.

Certification of weighing scales generated much discussion during the year. A new dedicated calibration service was initiated by the National Metrology Laboratory, on request from ISFC, and I wish to thank the NML staff for their efficient delivery of this high quality 'fish scale' calibration service.

The ISFC requires the assistance of many to function properly. I am grateful to the committee for their help during the year and, most particularly, the dedicated administrative work of Bridie Fleming of IFI, Swords. On behalf of the committee and the angling community I express my gratitude to IFI, Fáilte Ireland, the Loughs Agency, Fishery owners, Angling Associations and Clubs and individuals for their continued financial support.

I am pleased to welcome Micheál Hennessy on to the Committee as an IFI representative. He has a considerable pedigree in specimen hunting and will bring a high level of angling and marketing knowledge to the ISFC.

Tight lines in 2013!

Trevor Champ, Chairman

19th December, 2012

Report of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee 2012

INTRODUCTION

In 2012 the ISFC processed 724 claims; 640 were ratified, including two new records. A total of 25 were rejected for non-compliance with the rules and a further 59 will be queried further. Details of new records, other special awards and specimen awards 2012 are listed below:

NEW IRISH RECORDS (Engraved Silver Medal)

For fish exceeding the current Irish record weight



NEW RECORD BREAM

6.07 kg, Ballywillan Lough Fishery, Co. Down, 24th June 2012 – Bryan Robinson

**NEW RECORD HERRING**

0.48 kg, Red Bay, Co. Antrim, 17th September 2011 – Hamish Currie

SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES

20 SPECIES AWARD (Engraved Bronze Medal)

Sidney Kennedy, Ballyphehane, Cork

1997	Carp
1998	Eel
2001	Blue Shark
2007	Lesser Spotted Dogfish
2008	Twaite Shad
2009	Tench, Rudd, Rudd/Bream Hybrid, Golden Grey Mullet
2010	Thick Lipped Mullet, Bream
2011	Roach, Roach/Rudd Hybrid, Spur Dogfish, Cuckoo Wrasse, Gilthead Bream, Smooth Hound, Flounder, Shad Hybrid
2012	Tope, Painted Ray, Mackerel

10 SPECIES AWARD (Engraved Bronze Medal)**Philip Fox, Cabra, Dublin 7**

2007	Ballan Wrasse, Gilthead Bream
2008	Three Bearded Rockling
2009	Tope, Flounder
2010	Bream, Tench, Roach/Bream Hybrid, Thick Lipped Mullet
2011	Carp
2012	Golden Grey Mullet, Painted Ray, Spur Dogfish, Smooth Hound

Michael Norton, Swords, Co. Dublin

1997	Roach/Bream Hybrid, Pike (River)
1991	Twaite Shad
1993	Thick Lipped Mullet
1994	Flounder
2005	Tench
2006	Bream
2009	Perch
2011	Dace, Shad Hybrid

Derick O'Brien, Ballyphehane, Cork

2001	Carp, Eel
2007	Cod
2009	Rudd/Bream Hybrid
2010	Bream, Rudd, Twaite Shad, Thick Lipped Mullet
2011	Spur Dogfish, Shad Hybrid
2012	Brown Trout (River)

Ronald Surgenor, Bangor, Co. Down

2002	Ling
2005	Three Bearded Rockling
2006	Lesser Spotted Dogfish, Thick Lipped Mullet, Spur Dogfish,
2008	Twaite Shad
2009	Cuckoo Wrasse
2010	Ballan Wrasse
2011	Shad Hybrid
2012	Golden Grey Mullet

Nicholas Ward, Baltinglass, Wicklow

1995	Trigger Fish
1999	Twaite Shad
2000	Brown Trout (River), Roach/Bream Hybrid, Thick Lipped Mullet
2001	Pollack
2002	Pike (River)
2011	Brown Trout (Lake), Tench
2012	Tope, Smooth Hound, Carp, Perch, Rudd/Bream Hybrid

50 SPECIMENS AWARD (Gold Badge)**Conor Healy, Dripsey, Cork**

1975-1986	Carp (21)
1976-1998	Eel (2)
1997-1999	Tench (5)
1997-2011	Bream (10)
2007-2011	Rudd (7)
2010-2011	Rudd/Bream Hybrid (5)

Ross Macklin, Summerhill South, Cork

2001-2009	Tench (13)
2001-2009	Carp (7)
2001-2007	Thick Lipped Mullet (4)
2002-2008	Carp (6)
2007	Twaite Shad (1)
2007	Eel (1)
2007	Blonde Ray (1)
2007-2008	Roach/Bream Hybrid (3)
2007-2010	Bream (6)
2008-2009	Rudd (2)
2009	Golden Grey Mullet (2)
2009	Rudd/Bream Hybrid (3)
2009	Cuckoo Wrasse (2)
2012	Ballan Wrasse (1)
2012	Brown Trout (River) (1)

Micheál Hennessy, Kenmare, Co. Kerry

1979	Flounder (1)
1980	Dab (1)
1989-2009	Bass (2)
1996-2005	Sea Trout (2)
2000-2010	Twaite Shad (6)
2001-2007	Coalfish (3)
2001	Cod (1)
2002-2003	Ballan Wrasse (4)
2004-2008	Ling (2)
2005-2009	Pollack (4)
2006-2012	Bluemouth (4)
2006	Blonde Ray (1)
2007-2008	Spur Dogfish (3)
2008-2012	Carp (2)
2009	Painted Ray (1)
2009-2012	Thick Lipped Mullet (4)
2010	Garfish (B. bellone) (1)
2010-2012	Golden Grey Mullet (2)
2011-2012	Rudd/Bream Hybrid (6)
2011-2012	Gilthead Bream (4)
2011	Brown Trout (Lake) (1)
2012	Smooth Hound (3)
2012	Roach/Rudd Hybrid (2)

10 SPECIMENS AWARD (Silver Pin)

James Dignam , Malahide, Co. Dublin	2001 - 2012
Glenn Drennan , Newtownards, Co. Down	2011 - 2012
Des Frazer , Sandymount, Dublin 4	1986 - 2012
Ian Latham , Bangor, Co. Down	1990 - 2012
Brian Lombard , Clonakilty, Co. Cork	2009 - 2012
Martin Lordan , Bandon, Co. Cork	1982 - 2012
Robert McClean , Greystones, Co. Wicklow	2005 - 2012
Bert McGregor , St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin	1970 - 2012
Evan Millerick , Kinsealy, Co. Dublin	2007 - 2012
Stephen O'Neill , Carrigaline, Co. Cork	2007 - 2012
Robert Porter , Friars Walk, Cork	2007 - 2012
Tony Tierney , Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim	2009 - 2012
John Twomey , Bandon, Co. Cork	1984 - 2012
William Watson , Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim	2007 - 2012
Des Young , Windsor Road, Belfast	2003 - 2012

DR. MICHAEL KENNEDY AWARD (Engraved Plaque)**MULLET OF THE YEAR**

Dr. Michael Kennedy, the pioneering fisheries biologist and one of the founders of the ISFC, had a lifelong research interest in mullet species. This award, the Kennedy Award, is for the best specimen (highest percentage of the record) and/or a new record of any of the three mullet species for that year.

The 2012 award goes to:

Patrick Lombard, Clonakilty, Co. Cork for his **Golden Grey Mullet** of 1.18 kg taken in Clonakilty on 8th August 2012.

DR. A.E.J. WENT AWARD (Engraved Plaque & Token)**YOUNG SPECIMEN ANGLER OF THE YEAR**

Dr. Arthur Went, the noted fisheries biologist and one of the two founder members of the ISFC, nominated this award which is for the best specimen of the year (based on the highest percentage of the specimen weight) taken by an angler aged 13 years or younger.

The 2012 award goes to:

Evan Millerick, Kinsealy, Co. Dublin for his **Smooth Hound** of 4.76 kg taken in Wicklow 20th July 2012.

The MINISTER'S AWARD (Mounted Bronze Medal)

Inaugurated by the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, this "fish of a lifetime" award is for the best specimen fish of the year (other than a new record), and is presented to the angler who catches a fish which represents the highest percentage of the existing record.

The 2012 award goes to:

Patrick Lombard, Clonakilty, Co. Cork for his **Golden Grey Mullet** of 1.18 kg taken in Clonakilty on 8th August 2012.

BEST INTERNATIONAL SPECIMEN FISH AWARD (Engraved Plaque)

This award is for the best specimen fish (calculated as the highest percentage of the current specimen weight) taken by an overseas angler.

The 2012 award goes to:

Ceri Jones, Wales for his **Brown Trout (Lake)** of 10.75 kg taken in Lough Corrib on 26th May 2012.

***James Dignam with a
Derravaragh Bream***



***Youghal produced
this October Flounder
for Christy Lane***

SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 2012

FRESHWATER FISH 2012

Coarse Fish and Pike

BREAM**New Record 6.07 kg; Specimen Weight, 3.402 kg (7.5 lbs)**

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.07	13.38	–	Ballywillan Lough Fishery	24-Jun	Bryan Robinson	Maggots
5.27	11.63	–	Monalty Lake	28-Apr	Mark Byrne	Maggots/Corn
4.42	9.75	–	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	23-Jul	Eric Thomas (J)	Maggots
4.20	9.26	–	Drumlaheen Lake	04-Jun	Craig Murphy	Maggots
4.20	9.25	–	Lough Derravaragh	23-Sep	James Dignam	Maggots
4.20	9.25	60.0	Lough Ree	16-Jul	Darragh Long	Maggots
3.86	8.50	–	Lough Ree	16-Jul	Darragh Long	Maggots
3.83	8.44	–	Lough Derravaragh	30-Jun	James Dignam	Maggots
3.69	8.13	–	Lough Derravaragh	01-Jul	Brendan Pender	Maggots
3.63	8.00	–	Lough Derravaragh	05-May	James Dignam	Maggots
3.58	7.90	52.0	Derry Lake	23-Jun-11	Philip Fox	Corn
3.57	7.88	–	Lough Derravaragh	28-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Maggots



12 year old Eric Thomas with a fine bream from Lanesborough



Darragh Long with his 3.86 kg Lough Ree Bream

Year of capture is 2012 unless otherwise stated.

Length (L) assumed to be forklength (cm) for species with forked tails. Otherwise total length assumed.

Country of residence of international angler denoted by relevant letter after surname.

(J) after surname denotes juvenile angler.

BREAM – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.49	7.69	–	Lee Resvr.	28-Sep	Dan Lynch	Maggots
3.45	7.60	–	Drumlaheen Lake	21-Apr	Craig Murphy	Corn
3.43	7.56	–	Lough Derravaragh	06-May	Darragh Long	Maggots

CARP

Record 29 lbs 13 ozs (13.53 kg); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)

9.58	21.13	–	The Lough, Cork	20-Jun-11	Ross Macklin	Boilie
8.85	19.50	–	The Lough	08-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
8.70	19.19	–	The Lough	25-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
8.67	19.13	–	The Lough	07-Mar	Sidney Kennedy	Boilie
8.65	19.06	–	The Lough	16-Sep	Ross Macklin	Boilie
8.62	19.00	72.0	The Lough	17-Jun	Terry Jackson	Boilie
8.22	18.13	–	The Lough	16-Sep	Ross Macklin	Boilie
8.05	17.75	75.0	The Lough	10-Apr	Dan Lynch	Boilie
7.99	17.63	–	The Lough	09-Mar	Shay McDonnell	Boilie
7.71	17.00	–	The Lough	09-Mar	Shay McDonnell	Boilie
7.71	17.00	–	The Lough	20-Jul	John Millerick	Boilie
7.68	16.94	–	The Lough	19-May	Micheál Hennessy	Boilie
7.48	16.50	70.0	The Lough	12-Apr	Dan Lynch	Boilie
7.31	16.13	–	The Lough	16-Sep	Ross Macklin	Boilie
7.03	15.50	–	The Lough	22-Jul	Philip Fox	Boilie
6.92	15.25	70.0	The Lough	20-Aug	Brian Lombard	Boilie
6.80	15.00	67.0	The Lough	17-Jun	Terry Jackson	Boilie



A night Carp for Terry Jackson



Ross Macklin with his 7.31 kg Carp taken in September

CARP – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.61	14.56	–	The Lough	22-Jul	Philip Fox	Boilie
6.58	14.50	72.0	The Lough	20-Aug	Brian Lombard	Boilie
6.46	14.25	65.0	The Lough	23-Feb	Jerry O'Connor	Strawberry Pop Up
6.41	14.13	68.0	The Lough	12-Apr	Dan Lynch	Boilie
6.35	14.00	–	The Lough	21-Jul	John Millerick	Boilie
6.29	13.88	–	The Lough	21-Jul	Liam Millerick (J)	Boilie
6.27	13.81	–	The Lough	22-Jul	Philip Fox	Boilie
6.24	13.75	–	The Lough	26-Feb	Jerry O'Connor	Boilie
6.15	13.56	65.0	The Lough	20-Aug	Brian Lombard	Boilie
6.04	13.31	–	The Lough	17-Mar	Derick O'Brien	Boilie
5.95	13.13	72.0	The Lough	09-Mar	Nicholas Ward	Boilie
5.90	13.00	64.0	The Lough	16-Jun	Terry Jackson	Boilie
5.78	12.74	65.5	Lisaniske Lake	12-Apr-11	Philip Fox	Boilie
5.67	12.50	68.0	The Lough	21-May	Patrick Lombard	Boilie

DACE

Record 1 lbs 2 ozs (0.51 kg); Specimen Weight 0.3 kg (0.66 lbs)

0.32	0.70	–	R. Nore, Thomastown	23-Jul	Noel Darcy	Maggots
0.30	0.66	–	R. Barrow, St. Mullins	13-May	Tadas Mulevicius	Maggots



Nicholas Ward with his Corrib Perch



An Erne Perch admiring Terry Jackson

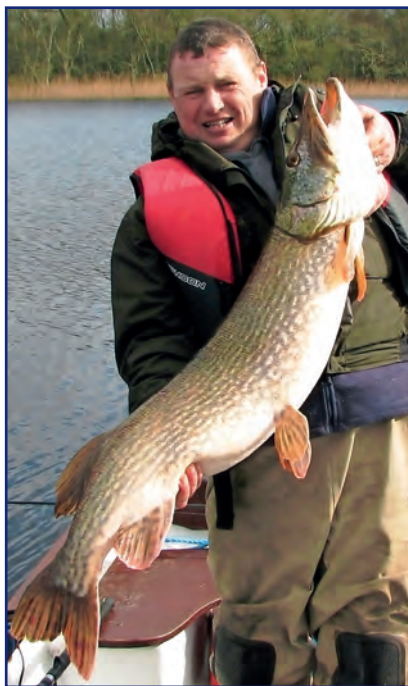
PERCH

Record 5 lbs 8 ozs (2.49 kg); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.646 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.45	3.19	41.0	Lough Erne	01-Aug	Glenn Drennan	Maggots
1.42	3.13	39.0	Lough Erne	01-Aug	Glenn Drennan	Maggots
1.36	3.00	43.0	L. Erne, Carry Bridge	15-Jul	Terry Jackson	Maggots
1.35	2.98	44.5	Lough Corrib	24-Nov	Nicholas Ward	Shad
1.25	2.75	42.5	L. Erne, Carry Bridge	22-Jul	Terry Jackson	Perch



***Sean O'Brien with a Pike
from Ballyforan***



***Heaviest River Pike of 2012 fell to
Kevin Lyons***

PIKE (RIVER)

Record 42 lbs (19.051 kg); Specimen Weight 9.072 kg (20 lbs)

14.74	32.50	115.0	R. Shannon, Rooskey	04-Mar	Kevin Lyons	Mackerel
11.99	26.44	—	Lower R. Shannon	02-Jan	Derek Greene	Sardine
11.40	25.13	105.0	R. Shannon, Rooskey	26-Feb	Kevin Lyons	Roach
10.97	24.19	111.0	R. Shannon, Rooskey	04-Mar	Kevin Lyons	Bulldog



*The Shannon at Athlone
produced this
specimen for
Stephen Gibbons*

PIKE (RIVER) – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
10.26	22.63	—	R. Shannon, Athlone	14-Apr	Martin Byrne	Smelt
10.09	22.25	112.0	R. Blackwater, NI	15-Jan	Terry Jackson	Roach
9.92	21.88	100.0	R. Blackwater, NI	15-Jan	Terry Jackson	Roach
9.84	21.69	—	R. Suck, Ballyforan	29-Oct	Sean O'Brien	Mackerel
9.70	21.38	102.0	R. Shannon, Rooskey	26-Jan	Craig Murphy	Roach
9.53	21.00	—	Lower R. Shannon	02-Jan	Derek Greene	Sardine
9.36	20.63	—	R. Shannon, Athlone	14-Apr	Stephen Gibbons	Pollan
9.30	20.50	—	R. Shannon, Athlone	07-Nov	Martin Byrne	Lamprey Tail
9.19	20.25	—	R. Shannon, Athlone	14-Apr	Ronan Mullen	Herring
9.19	20.25	97.8	R. Blackwater, NI	27-Nov	Terry Jackson	Roach
9.10	20.06	—	R. Shannon, Jamestown	28-Feb	Craig Murphy	Mackerel

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID

Record 7 lbs (3.175 kg); Specimen Weight 1.6 kg (3.528 lbs)

3.10	6.83	55.0	L. Derravaragh	09-Jul	Liam Tully	Maggots
2.95	6.50	—	L. Derravaragh	01-Jul	James Dignam	Maggots
2.86	6.31	—	L. Derravaragh	30-Jun	James Dignam	Maggots
2.85	6.28	55.0	L. Derravaragh	09-Jul	Liam Tully	Maggots
2.83	6.25	52.0	L. Ree	15-Jul	Darragh Long	Pop up Corn

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.83	6.25	–	L. Derravaragh	30-Jun	James Dignam	Maggots
2.82	6.22	47.5	Monalty Lake	20-May-11	Philip Fox	Corn
2.72	6.00	–	L. Derravaragh	09-May	John Millerick	Maggots
2.52	5.56	–	L. Derravaragh	06-May	Darragh Long	Maggots
2.41	5.31	–	L. Derravaragh	06-May	Darragh Long	Maggots
2.40	5.29	53.0	L. Derravaragh	08-Jul	Clare Maurer	Maggots
2.35	5.19	–	L. Kinale	01-Apr-11	Jim Murray	Swimfeeder
2.30	5.07	51.0	L. Derravaragh	09-Jul	Robert Tully	Maggots
2.30	5.07	54.0	L. Derravaragh	09-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
2.20	4.85	50.0	L. Derravaragh	09-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
2.15	4.74	53.0	L. Derravaragh	08-Jul	Liam Tully	Maggots
2.15	4.74	51.0	L. Derravaragh	08-Jul	Clare Maurer	Maggots
2.15	4.74	52.0	L. Derravaragh	08-Jul	Kim Tully	Maggots
2.10	4.63	51.0	Monalty Lake	20-May-11	Philip Fox	Corn
2.10	4.63	49.0	L. Derravaragh	09-Jul	Kim Tully	Maggots
2.05	4.52	50.0	L. Derravaragh	09-Jul	Clare Maurer	Maggots
2.00	4.41	50.0	L. Derravaragh	10-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
2.00	4.40	48.3	Blackies L.	19-Jun-11	Glenn Drennan	Maggot
1.79	3.94	–	L. Derravaragh	30-Jun	Luke	Maggots
					Canavan-Dignam (J)	
1.70	3.75	45.0	L. Derravaragh	08-Jul	Kim Tully	Maggots
1.69	3.73	44.0	Lisaniske Lake	12-Apr-11	Philip Fox	Boilie

ROACH/RUDD HYBRID**Record 2.1 kg (4.63 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)**

1.25	2.75	40.0	R. Lagan, u/s Stranmillis	01-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggots/ Caster
1.22	2.69	43.2	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	08-May	Noel Lane	Maggots/ Sweetcorn
1.19	2.63	40.0	Drumlonan Lake	22-Apr	Terry Jackson	Corn
1.13	2.50	40.0	Drumlonan Lake	02-May	Terry Jackson	Corn/Maggots
1.09	2.40	42.0	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	19-May	Pat Condon	Maggots/ Sweetcorn
1.08	2.38	39.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-Apr	Evan Millerick (J)	Maggots
1.02	2.25	40.6	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	27-May	Noel Lane	Maggots/ Sweetcorn



*One of
Noel Lane's three
specimen
Roach/Rudd*

ROACH/RUDD HYBRID – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.99	2.19	40.6	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	15-Apr	Noel Lane	Maggots/Corn
0.99	2.19	41.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	04-May	Micheál Hennessy	Maggots
0.98	2.15	41.5	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	15-May	Robert Porter	Sweetcorn
0.96	2.13	38.1	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	27-May	Christy Lane	Maggots
0.96	2.13	–	Lough Derravaragh	06-May	James Dignam	Maggots
0.96	2.13	36.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	12-Apr	Liam Millerick (J)	Maggots
0.94	2.06	40.6	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	13-Apr	Christy Lane	Maggots
0.94	2.06	37.5	Drumlonan Lake	21-Apr	Glenn Drennan	Sweetcorn
0.94	2.06	37.5	Drumlonan Lake	21-Apr	Glenn Drennan	Sweetcorn
0.94	2.06	38.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	04-May	Micheál Hennessy	Maggots
0.91	2.00	–	Inniscarra Resvr.	15-Jun-11	Dan Lynch	Maggots
0.91	2.00	40.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	09-May	Des Chew	Maggots
0.91	2.00	40.5	Inniscarra Resvr.	10-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggots

RUDD

Record 4 lbs 8 ozs (2.041 kg); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.09	2.40	—	Lee Resvr.	21-Jun-11	Dan Lynch	Corn
0.96	2.13	38.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	15-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggots
0.94	2.06	39.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggots
0.91	2.00	38.0	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	15-May	Robert Porter	Sweetcorn

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID

Record 7 lbs 10 ozs (3.458 kg); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.64 lbs)

2.66	5.88	51.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	21-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggots
2.66	5.88	51.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	21-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggots
2.55	5.63	50.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	21-May	Ian Mulligan	Maggots
2.13	4.69	52.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	30-Apr	Micheál Hennessy	Maggots
2.04	4.50	50.8	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	27-May	Christy Lane	Maggots
2.01	4.44	48.3	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	14-Apr	Christy Lane	Maggots
1.93	4.25	45.7	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	15-Apr	Christy Lane	Maggots

*Eric Gosnell caught
his Rudd/Bream
in May*



RUDD/BREAM HYBRID – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.90	4.19	49.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	12-Apr	Peter McGrath	Maggots
1.84	4.06	50.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	30-Apr	Micheál Hennessy	Maggots
1.81	4.00	49.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	12-Apr	John Millerick	Maggots
1.67	3.69	48.5	Inniscarra Resvr.	03-Jun	Brian Cooke	Sweetcorn
1.67	3.69	44.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	30-Apr	Micheál Hennessy	Maggots
1.66	3.65	–	Lee Resvr.	12-Jun	Pat Walsh	Maggots
1.64	3.63	49.5	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	19-May	Robert Porter	Sweetcorn
1.64	3.63	44.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-Apr	John Millerick	Maggots
1.62	3.57	–	Inniscarra Resvr.	15-Jun	Peter McCartin	Maggots/Corn
1.62	3.56	48.3	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	27-May	Noel Lane	Maggots/ Sweetcorn
1.60	3.53	–	Inniscarra Resvr.	15-Jun	Sarah Lynch (J)	Maggots/Corn
1.60	3.53	–	Inniscarra Resvr.	15-Jun	Peter McCartin	Maggots/Corn
1.59	3.50	–	Lee Resvr.	12-Jun	Brian McDonnell	Maggots
1.59	3.50	48.3	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	26-May	Noel Lane	Maggots/ Sweetcorn
1.59	3.50	46.5	Inniscarra Resvr.	03-Jun	Brian Cooke	Sweetcorn
1.59	3.50	44.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	02-Jun	Brian Cooke	Sweetcorn
1.59	3.50	44.0	Lee Resvr.	13-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggot/ Caster
1.53	3.38	48.3	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	27-May	Noel Lane	Maggots/ Sweetcorn
1.53	3.38	47.5	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	19-May	Robert Porter	Sweetcorn
1.53	3.38	48.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-Apr	Evan Millerick (J)	Maggots
1.52	3.35	45.5	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	15-May	Pat Condon	Maggots
1.50	3.31	44.0	Lee Resvr.	13-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggots/ Caster
1.50	3.30	47.5	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	19-May	Robert Porter	Sweetcorn
1.47	3.25	46.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-Apr	Liam Millerick (J)	Maggots
1.47	3.25	43.0	Lee Resvr.	13-Jun	Terry Jackson	Maggot/ Caster
1.45	3.20	–	Lee Resvr.	12-Jun	Brian McDonnell	Maggots
1.42	3.13	42.5	Lee Resvr.	29-Mar	Nicholas Ward	Maggots
1.40	3.09	44.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	29-Aug	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ Maggots
1.36	3.00	–	Lee Resvr.	13-Jun	Shay McDonnell	Maggots
1.36	3.00	–	Lee Resvr.	13-Jun	Shay McDonnell	Maggots
1.36	3.00	40.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	12-Apr	Evan Millerick (J)	Maggots

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.36	3.00	44.5	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	02-May	Pat Condon	Maggots
1.36	3.00	44.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	29-Aug	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ Maggots
1.34	2.95	45.0	Carrigadrohid Resvr.	02-May	Pat Condon	Maggots
1.30	2.88	40.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	12-Apr	Liam Millerick (J)	Maggots
1.30	2.88	41.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-Apr	John Millerick	Maggots
1.30	2.88	40.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	12-Apr	Peter McGrath	Maggots
1.29	2.85	–	Lee Resvr.	12-Jun	Brian McDonnell	Maggots
1.28	2.82	42.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	29-Aug	Josie Mahon	Sweetcorn/ Maggots
1.28	2.82	42.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-Sep	Christopher McGregor	Sweetcorn
1.27	2.80	–	Lee Resvr.	12-Jun	Pat Walsh	Maggots
1.27	2.79	41.0	Lee Resvr.	04-Jun	Eric Gosnell	Maggots
1.24	2.73	41.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	29-Aug	Des Chew	Sweetcorn/ Maggots
1.24	2.73	44.0	Lee Resvr.	14-Sep	Patrick Lombard	Maggots
1.22	2.70	–	Lee Resvr.	13-Jun	Shay McDonnell	Maggots
1.22	2.69	44.0	Lee Resvr.	30-May	Eric Gosnell	Maggots
1.22	2.69	–	Inniscarra Resvr.	15-Jun	Peter McCartin	Maggots/ Corn
1.21	2.67	40.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	12-Apr	Evan Millerick (J)	Maggots
1.20	2.65	41.0	Inniscarra Resvr.	11-Apr	Peter McGrath	Maggots

TENCH**Record 8.15 lbs (3.697 kg); Specimen Weight 2.721 kg (6 lbs)**

3.23	7.13	57.2	Ballyeigher Lough	19-Jul	Nick Parry	Lobworm
3.01	6.63	–	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	26-Apr	Daniel O'Callaghan	Maggots
2.95	6.50	53.0	R. Shannon, Lanesboro	05-May	Craig Murphy	Maggots
2.92	6.44	54.0	Monalty Lake	19-May-11	Philip Fox	Corn
2.78	6.13	–	Rahan's Lake	18-Jun	Sidney Kennedy	Maggots



A nice Rahan's Tench for Sidney Kennedy



Peter McGrath with an Inniscarra Reservoir Rudd/Bream

Game Fish

SALMON

Record 57 lbs (25.855 kg); Specimen Weight 9.072 kg (20 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
9.30	20.50	96.5	Cork Blackwater	30-Aug	Robert Porter	Fly

BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

Record 26 lbs 2 ozs (11.85 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)

10.75	23.70	96.5	Lough Corrib	26-May	Ceri Jones (UK)	Roach
6.86	15.13	86.5	Lough Corrib	12-Jul	Uwe Pinnau (D)	Rapala
6.76	14.90	83.8	Lough Mask	14-Apr	Roger Martin	Worm
5.99	13.21	80.5	Lough Corrib	27-Mar	Jim Sloan	Roach



Ceri Jones with his Corrib Brown Trout from May

BROWN TROUT (LAKE) – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
5.42	11.95	73.0	Lough Derg - Sally Bay	26-Aug	Jimmy Kelly	Lane Minnow
4.88	10.76	74.0	Lough Inagh	23-Jun	Kevin Kelly	Fly
4.83	10.64	–	Lough Mask	15-Feb	Johnny Greene	Lure
4.82	10.63	74.9	Lough Mask	20-Mar	Ian Mulligan	Rapala
4.81	10.60	69.9	Lough Derg	17-Jun	Eddie Hynes	Savage Lure
4.76	10.50	75.6	Lough Mask	21-Mar	Ian Mulligan	Rapala



The River Suir, a celebrated brown trout fishery, produced this 3.4 kg fish for Leon Cullinane in July

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

Record 20 lbs (9.072 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)

5.58	12.31	–	Cong Canal	17-Mar	Brian Newman	Worm
5.32	11.73	79.0	Cong River	25-Jul	Stephen Coyne	Roach
5.16	11.38	76.2	Cong Canal	01-Apr	Michael Cullinane	Worm
5.10	11.24	76.2	Cong Canal	18-Mar	Brian Newman	Rapala
4.52	9.96	–	Black River	03-Apr	Tim McCann (US)	Fly

BROWN TROUT (RIVER) – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.97	8.75	–	Cong River	21-Mar	Mark Gibbons	Roach
3.40	7.50	–	River Suir	15-Jul	Leon Cullinane (J)	Worm
2.78	6.13	–	Cong Canal	22-Mar	Derick O'Brien	Worm
2.73	6.01	64.0	Bealnacarra River	11-Jun	Ulrich Treusch	Fly
2.52	5.56	–	Cong Canal	22-Apr	Ray McElhinney	Minnow
2.38	5.25	–	River Corrib	22-Mar	Ross Macklin	Worm



One of the best Sea Trout fell to David Eccleston

SEA TROUT

Record 16 lbs 6 ozs (7.428 kg); Specimen Weight 2.721 kg (6 lbs)

4.16	9.18	74.9	Lough Currane	22-Aug	Tommy Duffy	Fly
4.11	9.06	69.9	Lough Currane	13-Jun	David Eccleston (UK)	Fly
3.97	8.75	71.1	Lough Currane	20-Apr	Jimmy Sayers	Rapala
3.54	7.80	–	Cork Blackwater	29-Jul	Gavin O'Shea	Fly
2.92	6.44	65.4	Lough Currane	25-Jul	Tim O'Sullivan	Fly
2.86	6.31	64.0	Lough Currane	23-May	Liam Ellis	Fly

MARINE FISH 2012



Fenit was the venue for Damien Cooley's February Bass

BASS

Record 17 lbs 13 ozs (8.08 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.25	13.77	83.0	Ballyteigue	30-Sep	George Lett	Ima Sasuke lure
5.10	11.25	73.7	Waterville	28-Jan	Noel Lane	Peeler Crab
4.93	10.88	80.0	Cork Harbour	02-Sep	Pat O'Shea	Ragworm
4.90	10.81	69.0	Fenit	04-Feb	Damien Cooley	Lugworm/ Mackerel
4.62	10.19	76.2	Greystones	24-Jun	Damian Blackwell	Jellyworm
4.62	10.19	79.0	Cork Harbour	20-Jun	Pat O'Shea	Crab

BLUEMOUTH

Record 1.32 kg (2.91 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.9 kg (1.98 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.94	2.06	–	Dingle Bay	23-Oct	Micheál Hennessy	Mackerel
0.91	2.00	40.0	Dingle Bay	23-Oct	Peter McGroary	Mackerel

CONGER EEL

Record 72 lbs (32.659 kg); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)

22.26	49.07	190.0	Cork Harbour	06-Oct	Maurice Cott	Mackerel
21.26	46.87	176.0	Cork Harbour	06-Oct	Tony Tait	Mackerel
20.98	46.25	167.0	Red Bay	05-Jun	Hamish Currie	Coalfish
18.99	41.88	165.0	Red Bay	14-Mar	Hamish Currie	Coalfish



***Specimen Dab for Paul O'Sullivan (above)
and a specimen Dab and a nice Plaice for
Mike Kempster***



DAB

Record 2 lbs 5.5 ozs (1.06 kg); Specimen Weight 0.6 kg (1.32 lbs)

0.69	1.51	34.3	Courtmacsherry	03-Aug	Nicky Van Esch (NL)	Mackerel Strip
0.68	1.50	–	Dursey Sound	30-Oct	Mike Kempster (UK)	Mackerel
0.66	1.45	41.0	Cork Harbour	06-Sep	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
0.65	1.44	38.0	Clonakilty Bay	06-Aug	Micheal Quirke	Mackerel Strip
0.64	1.41	37.0	Dingle Bay	25-Oct	Francis McNeilly	Razorfish

DAB – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.62	1.37	37.0	Beara Peninsula	22-Jan	Paul O'Sullivan	Lugworm
0.62	1.36	37.8	Clonakilty Bay	15-Jul	Eimear Barry	Mackerel Strip
0.62	1.36	37.0	Dingle Bay	25-Oct	Francis McNeilly	Peeler Crab
0.60	1.32	–	Dursey Sound	06-Jun	Mike Kempster (UK)	Baited Lugworm
0.60	1.32	38.0	Dingle Bay	28-May	Francis McNeilly	Razorfish



***Clonakilty Dab
for
Eimear Barry***

BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH

Record 1.33 kg (2.94 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.0 kg (2.205 lbs)

1.25	2.75	68.5	Red Bay	12-Jul	Cornelis Plomp (NL)	Mackerel
1.19	2.63	68.0	Red Bay	15-Mar	Richard McAlorum	Mackerel
1.13	2.50	67.0	Red Bay	14-Mar	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
1.11	2.44	73.0	Red Bay	08-Jun	Robert McFarland	Mackerel
1.11	2.44	67.0	Red Bay	12-May	Joe McBride	Mackerel
1.08	2.38	73.0	Red Bay	28-May	John O'Rourke	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	73.0	Red Bay	10-Jun	Drew Nelson	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	66.0	Red Bay	15-Apr	Robert McFarland	Mackerel
1.05	2.31	66.0	Red Bay	28-Feb	Andrew Logan	Mackerel
1.00	2.20	69.0	Carnlough	02-Feb	Terry Jackson	Squid
1.00	2.20	69.0	Islandmagee	26-Aug	David Craig	Mackerel

LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH

Record 4 lbs 4ozs (1.928 kg); Specimen Weight 1.47 kg (3.25 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.64	3.63	72.0	Red Bay	23-Jul	Hamish Currie	Crab
1.62	3.56	73.0	Red Bay	23-Oct	Hamish Currie	Crab
1.59	3.50	72.0	Red Bay	03-Dec-11	William Watson	Mackerel
1.56	3.44	72.5	Red Bay	06-Aug	Peter Kleijn (NL)	Ragworm
1.56	3.44	73.5	Red Bay	21-Jul	Pieter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
1.56	3.44	78.7	Cork Harbour	02-Sep	Christy Lane	Mackerel
1.54	3.40	74.0	Cork Harbour	06-Sep	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	26-Aug	William Devlon (UK)	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	06-Jun	Sam Irvine	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	30-Mar	William Watson	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	23-Jun	Robert McFarland	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	09-Jul	Arie de Koning (NL)	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	21-Jul	Peter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
1.53	3.38	73.0	Red Bay	21-Jul	Jan Vrieswijk (NL)	Mackerel

GREATER SPOTTED DOGFISH

Record 23 lbs 13 ozs (10.801 kg); Specimen Weight 7.257 kg (16 lbs)

8.71	19.20	109.0	Kenmare Bay	17-Aug	Cornelis Intveld (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
8.50	18.75	134.0	Red Bay	29-Jul	Mark Woodside	Mackerel
7.85	17.31	130.0	Cork Harbour	31-Jul	Steven Watez (NL)	Mackerel
7.80	17.20	109.0	Kenmare Bay	11-Jun	Eric Vullers (NL)	Mackerel
7.80	17.19	130.0	Red Bay	14-Mar	Hamish Currie	Coalfish
7.80	17.19	105.0	Kenmare Bay	19-Aug	Sjef Verschuren (NL)	Mackerel
7.77	17.13	104.0	Kenmare Bay	03-Oct	Jacobus P de Nood (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
7.67	16.90	102.0	Kenmare Bay	08-Aug	Henk Nutbey (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
7.46	16.44	102.0	Kenmare Bay	06-Oct	Patrick Togher	Mackerel
7.37	16.25	99.1	Beara Shore, Adrigole	01-Aug	Barry Diaper (UK)	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH

Record 10.6 kg (23.38 lbs); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)

10.21	22.50	107.0	Red Bay	17-Aug	Paul Cooke (UK)	Mackerel
9.75	21.50	107.0	Red Bay	26-Jul	Andrew Logan	Whiting
9.53	21.00	106.0	Red Bay	11-Jul	Ad Koekkoek (NL)	Mackerel



***Specimen
Smooth-Hound
were prominent
in 2012.
Gavin Moran had
this one off
Wicklow.***

SPUR DOGFISH – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
9.24	20.38	109.0	Kenmare Bay	06-Oct	Charles Pepper	Mackerel Flapper
8.85	19.50	105.0	Red Bay	11-Jul	Arian Huijbregts (NL)	Mackerel
8.67	19.13	104.5	Red Bay	11-Jul	Antoon De Jongh (NL)	Mackerel Mackerel
8.50	18.75	106.0	Red Bay	26-Jul	Hamish Currie	Whiting
8.45	18.63	116.0	Wicklow	14-Oct	Paul Heffernan	Herring
8.30	18.30	110.0	Kenmare Bay	23-Jun	Klaas Zilverster van der Goot (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
7.99	17.63	105.0	Red Bay	26-Jul	Andrew Logan	Whiting
7.94	17.50	105.0	Red Bay	26-Jul	Hamish Currie	Whiting
7.74	17.06	104.0	Red Bay	28-May	Thomas Doherty	Mackerel
7.71	17.00	102.0	Red Bay	08-Jan	Colin Roberson	Coalfish
7.60	16.75	102.0	Red Bay	10-Jun	Chris Logan	Mackerel
7.48	16.50	–	Ballycastle	12-Oct	Glenn Drennan	Squid
7.31	16.13	104.0	Ballycastle	29-Aug	Ian Latham	Mackerel
7.29	16.06	103.0	Red Bay	08-Jan	Tony Tierney	Coalfish
7.29	16.06	102.0	Red Bay	26-Jul	Hamish Currie	Whiting
7.20	15.88	102.0	Red Bay	18-Jul	Pieter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
7.12	15.70	109.0	Downings	20-Jun	Patrick Joseph Nash	Mackerel Strip
6.99	15.40	110.0	Kenmare Bay	13-Sep	Ruud de Ruijter (NL)	Mackerel Strip
6.92	15.25	100.0	Red Bay	03-Dec-11	Brian Menary	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.89	15.19	105.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
6.86	15.13	35.0	Red Bay	28-May	Andrew Bell	Mackerel
6.83	15.06	93.0	Red Bay	10-Jun	James McFerran	Mackerel
6.80	15.00	104.1	Ballycastle	06-May	David McCormick	Mackerel/Squid
6.80	14.99	109.0	Islandmagee	04-Oct	David Craig	Squid
6.69	14.75	92.0	Red Bay	12-May	Joe McBride	Mackerel
6.65	14.66	108.0	Downings	09-Aug	Piet van der Post (NL)	Mackerel
6.61	14.56	94.0	Red Bay	26-Jul	Henry Laverty	Whiting
6.58	14.50	94.0	Red Bay	21-Aug	Nigel Bell	Mackerel
6.53	14.39	105.0	Islandmagee	26-Aug	David Craig	Mackerel/ Squid cocktail
6.52	14.38	110.0	Wicklow Head	23-Oct	Myles Howell	Herring
6.48	14.28	108.0	Downings	09-Aug	Kees Stofbergen (NL)	Mackerel
6.44	14.19	93.0	Red Bay	28-May	John O'Connor	Mackerel
6.44	14.19	108.0	Wicklow	14-Oct	Anthony Morris	Lure
6.40	14.11	102.0	Ballycastle	05-Oct-11	William F. McLaughlin	Mackerel
6.35	14.00	106.0	Downings	09-Aug	Arend Broeders (NL)	Mackerel
6.35	14.00	93.0	Red Bay	10-Jun	John Tierney	Mackerel
6.27	13.81	93.0	Red Bay	11-Jul	Arian Huijbregts (NL)	Mackerel
6.24	13.75	91.5	Red Bay	12-May	Daniel McMahon	Coalfish
6.24	13.75	93.0	Red Bay	04-Dec	Andrew Logan	Mackerel
6.18	13.63	104.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Glenn Drennan	Mackerel
6.18	13.63	–	Wicklow	24-Nov	Philip Fox	Herring
6.17	13.60	104.0	Downings	09-Aug	Walter Jaspers (NL)	Mackerel
6.15	13.56	92.0	Red Bay	10-Jun	Drew Nelson	Mackerel
6.15	13.56	93.0	Red Bay	19-Feb	Chris Logan	Coalfish
6.15	13.56	99.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Glenn Drennan	Mackerel
6.12	13.50	109.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Andrew Wolsey	Mackerel
6.07	13.38	92.5	Red Bay	10-Jun	John Tierney	Mackerel
6.04	13.31	93.0	Red Bay	16-Jul	Peter van den Berg (NL)	Mackerel
6.04	13.31	100.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Andrew Wolsey	Mackerel
6.03	13.29	103.0	Downings	30-May	Karel Hoogerheijde (NL)	Mackerel Strip
6.01	13.25	97.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Andrew Wolsey	Mackerel
6.00	13.23	98.0	Greencastle	12-Jun	John Hartin	Mackerel
6.00	13.23	100.0	Ballycastle	20-Oct	William F. McLaughlin	Mackerel
5.98	13.19	93.0	Red Bay	26-Aug	Michael Wright (UK)	Mackerel
5.98	13.19	93.0	Red Bay	10-Jul	Arie de Koning (NL)	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
5.95	13.13	103.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Flapper
5.93	13.06	93.0	Red Bay	12-May	Brian Menary	Mackerel/ Squid cocktail
5.90	13.00	104.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Des Young	Mackerel
5.90	13.00	106.0	Ballycastle	10-Jun	Terry Jackson	Squid
5.89	12.99	110.0	Downings	09-Aug	Ricardo Di Bucchianico (NL)	Mackerel
5.87	12.94	92.5	Red Bay	12-May	William Watson	Squid
5.78	12.75	92.5	Red Bay	24-Aug	Clive Stacey (UK)	Herring
5.75	12.69	102.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Des Young	Mackerel
5.73	12.63	103.0	Carrigaholt	17-Aug	Piet Dijkmans (NL)	Mackerel
5.73	12.63	92.0	Red Bay	10-Jun	Drew Nelson	Mackerel
5.73	12.63	92.0	Red Bay	19-Feb	Drew Nelson	Mackerel
5.70	12.56	92.0	Red Bay	08-Jul	Ad Koekkoek (NL)	Mackerel
5.68	12.53	103.0	Downings	09-Aug	Piet van der Post (NL)	Mackerel
5.68	12.51	104.0	Downings	30-May	Arie Dorrepaal (NL)	Mackerel Strip
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	12-May	William Watson	Squid
5.67	12.50	92.0	Red Bay	19-Jul	Jan Vrieswijk (NL)	Mackerel
5.64	12.44	92.0	Red Bay	11-Jul	Arian Huijbregts (NL)	Mackerel
5.61	12.38	91.4	Ballycastle	06-May	David McCormick	Mackerel/Squid
5.56	12.25	100.0	Ballycastle	10-Aug	Des Young	Mackerel
5.56	12.25	91.5	Red Bay	23-Jun	Robert McFarland	Mackerel
5.55	12.24	101.0	Islandmagee	08-Sep	David Craig	Mackerel
5.50	12.13	110.0	Kenmare Bay	11-Sep	Ruud de Ruijter (NL)	Mackerel



***Dutch angler
Piet Dijkmans had
this 5.73 kg
Spurdog
off Carrigaholt***



Bert McGregor (above) had the heaviest Flounder in 2012 while Bannow Bay produced a specimen for Dubliner Thomas Lynch

FLOUNDER

Record 4.91 lbs (2.229 kg); Specimen Weight 1.1 kg (2.436 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.36	3.00	46.0	Cullenstown Estuary	03-Nov	Bert McGregor	Peeler Crab
1.30	2.88	48.0	Clonakilty	14-Jul	Alan O'Dowling	Crab
1.26	2.78	46.6	Ballyteigue	27-Oct	Walter Flynn	Peeler Crab
1.25	2.75	—	Bannow Bay	27-Oct	Thomas Lynch	Peeler Crab
1.23	2.70	44.6	Saleens	04-Oct	David McGuinness	Sandeel
1.16	2.56	—	Cullenstown	29-Oct	John Smyth	Crab/Lugworm
1.15	2.53	—	Cullenstown	04-Nov	John Smyth	Lugworm
1.14	2.51	46.0	Timoleague	03-Nov	Des Chew	Crab
1.14	2.51	45.0	Timoleague	04-Nov	Des Chew	Crab
1.13	2.50	46.4	Youghal Bay	06-Oct	Christy Lane	Crab
1.12	2.47	41.0	Ferrypoint, Youghal	04-Dec-11	Jeremy Power	Crab

FLOUNDER – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.11	2.45	42.5	Dingle Harbour	30-Nov	Jerry O'Connor	Peeler Crab
1.11	2.44	46.4	Courtmacsherry	13-May	Noel Lane	Peeler Crab

***Liam Millerick
with one of the
heaviest
Gilthead Bream
of 2012***

**GILTHEAD BREAM**

Record 3.24 kg (7.14 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.4 kg (3.08 lbs)

2.27	5.00	50.2	Courtmacsherry	02-Sep	Martin Lordan	Crab
2.13	4.69	48.0	Clonakilty Bay	21-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
2.13	4.69	–	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
2.13	4.69	–	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Ragworm
2.10	4.63	53.3	Clonakilty Bay	21-Jul	Noel Lane	Ragworm
2.10	4.63	52.0	Rosscarbery	12-Aug	Liam Millerick (J)	Ling
2.10	4.63	–	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Micheál Hennessy	Lugworm
2.10	4.63	–	Rosscarbery	20-Aug	Philip Fox	Crab
2.10	4.63	–	Clonakilty Bay	03-Sep	Robert Reid	Lugworm
2.04	4.50	48.3	Courtmacsherry	02-Sep	Martin Lordan	Crab
2.04	4.50	–	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Conor Hennessy (J)	Lugworm
2.01	4.44	49.5	Courtmacsherry	02-Sep	John Twomey	Crab
1.96	4.31	–	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Crab

GILTHEAD BREAM – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.84	4.06	47.0	Courtmacsherry	02-Sep	Martin Lordan	Crab
1.81	4.00	45.0	Rosscarbery	12-Aug	Peter McGrath	Lugworm
1.79	3.94	–	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Philip Fox	Crab
1.72	3.78	47.0	Clonakilty Bay	21-Aug	Patrick Wrenne	Baited Lugworm
1.70	3.75	44.0	Clonakilty Bay	21-Jul	Alan O'Dowling	Peeler Crab
1.67	3.69	47.0	Clonakilty Bay	21-Jul	Christy Lane	Ragworm
1.64	3.63	45.0	Rosscarbery	11-Aug	Liam Millerick (J)	Lugworm
1.64	3.63	–	Rosscarbery	21-Aug	Philip Fox	Crab
1.60	3.53	42.0	Bannow Bay	05-Sep	Joseph Connell	Lugworm
1.59	3.50	–	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Conor Hennessy (J)	Lugworm
1.55	3.41	45.7	Courtmacsherry	02-Sep	John Twomey	Crab
1.53	3.38	43.0	Rosscarbery	12-Aug	Liam Millerick (J)	Lugworm
1.53	3.38	45.0	Clonakilty Bay	21-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
1.49	3.28	45.7	Courtmacasherry	03-Sep	John Twomey	Crab
1.47	3.25	41.5	Clonakilty Bay	21-Jul	Alan O'Dowling	Peeler Crab

GREY GURNARD**Record 3 lbs 1 oz (1.39 kg); Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)**

0.73	1.60	44.0	Cork Harbour	11-Aug	Pat Condon	Mackerel Strip
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*A fine Gilthead for Conor Hennessy**Well known specimen hunter Tony Tait with a Red Gurnard from Cork Harbour*

RED GURNARD

Record 3 lbs 9.5 ozs (1.63 kg); Specimen Weight 0.907 kg (2 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.22	2.69	47.0	Cork Harbour	16-Oct	Jeremy Power	Mackerel Strip
1.09	2.40	48.0	Ling Rocks	04-Jun	Sean Clohessy	Mackerel
1.09	2.40	49.0	Cork Harbour	28-Jul	Patrick Togher	Mackerel
1.00	2.20	45.0	Cork Harbour	09-May	Philip Barry	Mackerel Strip
0.98	2.15	47.5	Ling Rocks	29-Oct	Sean Clohessy	Mackerel
0.93	2.05	46.0	Cork Harbour	14-Jul	Tony Tait	Mackerel Strip
0.92	2.03	44.0	Hook Head	02-Sep	John O'Connor	Lure
0.92	2.03	46.0	Carrigaholt	18-Jun	Bernard Singleton (UK)	Mackerel
0.91	2.00	45.0	Cork Harbour	06-Sep	Stephen O'Neill	Mackerel

TUB GURNARD

Record 12 lbs 3.5 ozs (5.424 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)

2.38	5.25	—	Clare Island, Clew Bay	02-Jul	Eddie Bauer (UK)	Baited Bulls Eye rig
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HERRING

New Record 0.48 kg (1.06 lb); Specimen Weight 0.34 kg (0.75 lbs)

0.48	1.06	41.0	Red Bay	17-Sep-11	Hamish Currie	Shrimp rig
0.40	0.88	41.0	Red Bay	07-Nov	Paul Morrow	Shrimp rig
0.39	0.86	40.0	Red Bay	10-Nov	Frank Donnan	Shrimp rig



Koen de Bievre from Belgium had the only specimen John Dory recorded in 2012

JOHN DORY

Record 7 lbs 8 ozs (3.4 kg) Specimen Weight 1.814 kg (4 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.31	5.09	53.0	Carrigaholt	26-Jul	Koen de Bievre (B)	Shad

MACKEREL

Record 4 lbs 2 ozs (1.87 kg) Specimen Weight 1 kg (2.205 lbs)

1.08	2.38	47.0	Cork Harbour	19-Sep	Jim Clohessy	Mackerel Strip
1.05	2.31	45.2	Cork Harbour	09-Aug	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel



*Top Megrim of 2012
toll to Benny Carolan
fishing out of
Enniscrone*

MEGRIM

Record 1.85 kg (4.08 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.794 kg (1.75 lbs)

1.60	3.53	48.0	Killala Bay	22-Apr	Benny Carolan	Mackerel Strip
0.86	1.90	49.0	Cork Harbour	16-Jul	Philip Barry	Mackerel Fillet
0.82	1.80	43.0	Cork Harbour	09-May	Philip Barry	Razor fish/ Mackerel Cocktail



***Another good year
for Thick Lipped
Mullet specimens.
Nicky McEvoy
releases his 2.45 kg
specimen back into
the water at
Rosscarbery.***

THICK-LIPPED MULLET

Record 9.1 lbs (4.128 kg); Specimen Weight 2.268 kg (5 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.08	6.80	63.0	Rosscarbery	03-Sep	Ronald Surgenor	Bread
2.92	6.44	62.0	Rosscarbery	10-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
2.86	6.31	—	Wicklow	28-Jul	Brian Cooke	Bread Flake
2.64	5.81	63.0	Rosscarbery	10-May	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.63	5.80	—	Rosscarbery	19-Aug	Nicholas McEvoy	Bread Flake
2.61	5.75	59.0	Rosscarbery	19-Mar	Brian Lombard	Bread
2.61	5.75	—	Vartry Estuary, Wicklow	18-Aug	Des Chew	Bread Flake
2.58	5.69	—	Cobh	10-Apr	Myles Kelly	Bread
2.55	5.63	56.0	Rosscarbery	11-Aug	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
2.48	5.47	57.0	Rosscarbery	07-Sep	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.47	5.45	60.5	Dundrum	13-Oct	David Murdoch	Bread
2.45	5.40	—	Rosscarbery	16-Sep	Nicholas McEvoy	Bread Flake
2.44	5.38	—	Rosscarbery	18-Jun	Des Chew	Bread Flake
2.44	5.38	55.9	Strangford Lough	06-Aug	Terry Jackson	Bread Flake
2.38	5.25	59.0	Rosscarbery	15-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Bread Flake
2.32	5.13	—	Wicklow	04-Aug	Brian Cooke	Bread Flake
2.32	5.13	—	Rosscarbery	20-Aug	Micheál Hennessy	Bread
2.30	5.06	55.9	Rosscarbery	26-Feb	Christy Lane	Bread Flake
2.29	5.05	58.0	Rosscarbery	01-Sep	Ronald Surgenor	Bread

THICK-LIPPED MULLET – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.28	5.03	58.0	Rosscarbery	26-Jul	Patrick Lombard	Bread
2.27	5.00	60.0	Dundrum	10-Oct	Ronald Surgenor	Bread



***Weighing just over
99% of the record
Patrick Lombard's
Golden Grey Mullet
was the ISFC's
Fish of a Lifetime
Award winner in 2012***

GOLDEN GREY MULLET

Record 1.191 kg (2.63 lbs); Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)

1.18	2.60	49.0	Clonakilty	08-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
1.02	2.25	—	Rosscarbery	07-Sep	Brian Cooke	Maddies
1.01	2.22	44.0	Clonakilty	09-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm
0.99	2.19	48.0	Rosscarbery	16-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
0.99	2.19	—	Ring, Clonakilty	05-Aug	James O'Donnell (UK)	Artificial Worm
0.96	2.13	46.0	Rosscarbery	15-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
0.96	2.13	45.0	Rosscarbery	16-Sep	Ian Mulligan	Maddies
0.95	2.10	47.5	Rosscarbery	02-Sep	David Murdoch	Ragworm
0.88	1.94	46.2	Clonakilty	09-Aug	David Barry	Ragworm
0.88	1.94	45.0	Rosscarbery	08-Sep	John Millerick	Ragworm
0.88	1.94	44.0	Rosscarbery	02-Sep	Ronald Surgenor	Ragworm
0.82	1.81	—	Rosscarbery	20-Aug	Micheál Hennessy	Maddies
0.82	1.81	—	Rosscarbery	20-Aug	Philip Fox	Ragworm
0.82	1.80	44.0	Rosscarbery	01-Sep	David Murdoch	Ragworm
0.79	1.75	46.0	Clonakilty	23-Aug	Brian Lombard	Ragworm
0.79	1.75	44.0	Rosscarbery	02-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Maddies

GOLDEN GREY MULLET – *continued*

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.77	1.69	44.0	Rosscarbery	02-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Maddies
0.75	1.65	45.0	Rosscarbery	31-Aug	Ronald Surgenor	Ragworm
0.74	1.63	–	Clonakilty	24-Sep	Des Frazer	Ragworm
0.74	1.63	–	Clonakilty	23-Sep	Des Frazer	Ragworm
0.74	1.63	43.0	Rosscarbery	03-Sep	Terry Jackson	Ragworm/Spoon
0.72	1.59	44.0	Clonakilty	24-Aug	Patrick Lombard	Ragworm/Spinner
0.71	1.56	42.0	Ring	11-Aug	Peter McGrath	Ragworm
0.71	1.56	–	Rosscarbery	20-Aug	Philip Fox	Ragworm
0.69	1.51	42.5	Clonakilty	10-Aug	Eric Gosnell	Ragworm
0.68	1.50	41.0	Rosscarbery	02-Sep	Terry Jackson	Ragworm/Spoon
0.68	1.50	40.0	Rosscarbery	01-Sep	Sidney Kennedy	Maddies
0.68	1.50	–	Rosscarbery	14-Sep	Nicholas McEvoy	Mepps/Ragworm
0.68	1.50	–	Rosscarbery	15-Sep	Nicholas McEvoy	Mepps/Ragworm

THIN LIPPED MULLET**Record 2.83 kg; Specimen Weight 1.5 kg (3.31 lbs)**

1.90	4.19	54.6	Cork Harbour	24-Jun	Noel Lane	Ragworm
1.67	3.69	49.5	Cork Harbour	05-Jul	Christy Lane	Ragworm

PLAICE**Record 8.23 lbs (3.74 kg); Specimen Weight 1.5 kg (3.31 lbs)**

1.91	4.20	54.0	Cork Harbour	23-May	Stephen O'Neill	Ragworm
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POLLACK**Record 19 lbs 3 ozs (8.703 kg); Specimen Weight 5.443 kg (12 lbs)**

8.22	18.13	90.0	Union Hall	19-Feb	William Worth	Jellyworm
6.80	15.00	76.2	Courtmacsherry	26-Feb	Andrius Mesas	Savage lure
6.38	14.06	88.0	Red Bay	05-Aug	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
6.18	13.63	88.0	Cork Harbour	10-Jun	Tony Tait	Rubber Eel
5.98	13.19	86.0	Red Bay	04-Aug	Drew McConnell	Mackerel
5.67	12.50	76.2	Courtmacsherry	18-Feb	Roger Smith (UK)	Sidewinder Shad
5.53	12.19	86.0	Cork	19-Oct	Jim Clohessy	Minnow



*A trio of specimen
Pollack*

*UK based angler
Roger Smith*

*William Worth from
Dublin*



Drew McConnell

BLONDE RAY

Record 37 lbs (16.78 kg); Specimen Weight 11.34 kg (25 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
11.85	26.13	99.0	Red Bay	10-Jun	Hamish Currie	Whiting
11.68	25.75	98.0	Red Bay	15-Jul	Richard Fowler	Mackerel
11.51	25.38	98.0	Red Bay	03-Aug	Harry Ritchie	Mackerel



*Harry Ritchie with a Blonde Ray
from Red Bay*



*Andrew Wolsey with a
Garryvoe Painted Ray*

PAINTED RAY

Record 17.21 lbs (7.806 kg); Specimen Weight 4.536 kg (10 lbs)

5.75	12.68	89.5	Ferrypoint	22-Oct	Keith McGrath	Crab/Mackerel
5.67	12.50	86.0	Garryvoe	29-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
5.27	11.63	85.2	Garryvoe	28-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
5.13	11.31	85.0	Garryvoe	29-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
5.13	11.31	79.0	Tralee Bay	21-Oct	Jerry O'Connor	Sandeel
5.10	11.25	83.0	Garryvoe	02-Nov	Des Chew	Mackerel Strip
5.04	11.11	—	Brandon Bay	24-Oct	Francis McNeilly	Sandeel

PAINTED RAY – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
4.99	11.00	81.3	Garryvoe	26-Oct	Terry Jackson	Sandeel
4.99	11.00	81.3	Garryvoe	05-Nov	Philip Fox	Crab
4.70	10.36	82.0	Youghal	05-Nov	John Owens	Crab
4.69	10.35	–	Stradbally	24-Oct	Dan Lynch	Mackerel
4.65	10.25	78.7	Garryvoe	27-Oct	Andrew Wolsey	Sandeel



***Jerry O'Connor
with the only
specimen
Sting Ray
of 2012***

STING RAY

Record 33.2 kg (73.21 lbs); Specimen Weight 13.608 kg (30 lbs)

19.05	42.00	137.2	Tralee Bay	27-May	Jerry O'Connor	Crab
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THREE BEARDED ROCKLING

Record 3 lbs 1 oz (1.389 kg); Specimen Weight 0.794 kg (1.75 lbs)

1.19	2.63	47.0	Portrush	03-Mar	David McCormick	Mackerel
1.08	2.38	48.0	Dun Laoghaire	01-Oct	Patrick Mulvaney (J)	Mackerel



*Portrush
produced this
1.19 kg
Three Bearded
Rockling
for David
McCormick*

SCAD

Record 1.97 lbs (0.89 kg); Specimen Weight 0.68 kg (1.5 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.69	1.52	41.3	Caherciveen	29-Aug-11	Des O'Connell	Launce



*The late Chris Murphy
with a Barrow
Twaite Shad*



*Noel Darcy (right)
with a late evening
Twaite Shad*



A happy Kevin McClean with a Shad prior to returning it alive

TWAITE SHAD

Record 1.54 kg (3.4 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.2 kg (2.56 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.44	3.17	48.0	R. Barrow, St. Mullins	11-May-11	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.40	3.09	49.0	St. Mullins	03-May	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.38	3.04	47.0	St. Mullins	05-May-11	Andrew Boyce	Tasmanian Devil
1.36	3.00	48.3	St. Mullins	16-May	Thomas Lynch	Tasmanian Devil
1.36	3.00	–	St. Mullins	12-May	Matthew Fitzsimons	Tasmanian Devil
1.35	2.98	50.0	St. Mullins	07-May	Frank Cronin	Tasmanian Devil
1.35	2.98	48.0	St. Mullins	17-May	Philip Barry	Tasmanian Devil
1.35	2.98	–	St. Mullins	05-May	Duncan Cole	Tasmanian Devil
1.35	2.98	48.0	St. Mullins	06-May	Eddie Butler	Tasmanian Devil
1.34	2.95	–	St. Mullins	10-May	Chris Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
1.34	2.95	–	St. Mullins	23-May	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.94	–	St. Mullins	10-May-11	Dara Tuohy	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.93	45.0	St. Mullins	22-May	Terry Jackson	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.87	–	St. Mullins	04-May	Francis McNeilly	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.87	48.0	St. Mullins	18-May	Philip Barry	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.87	–	St. Mullins	04-May	Liam Kane	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.85	50.0	St. Mullins	08-May	Eric Gosnell	Tasmanian Devil

TWAITE SHAD – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.29	2.84	–	St. Mullins	07-May	Chris Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	–	St. Mullins	11-May	Noel Darcy	Tasmanian Devil
1.26	2.78	–	St. Mullins	20-May	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.26	2.78	49.0	St. Mullins	23-Apr	Kevin McClean	Tasmanian Devil
1.26	2.77	–	St. Mullins	09-May	David Murphy	Tasmanian Devil
1.25	2.76	47.0	St. Mullins	17-May	Philip Barry	Tasmanian Devil
1.25	2.75	–	St. Mullins	14-May	Noel Darcy	Tasmanian Devil
1.25	2.75	49.5	St. Mullins	02-May	Thomas Lynch	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	–	St. Mullins	23-Apr	Robert McClean	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	48.0	St. Mullins	27-Apr-11	Mark Byrne	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	44.0	St. Mullins	05-May	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	45.0	St. Mullins	06-May	Eddie Butler	Tasmanian Devil
1.22	2.69	–	St. Mullins	20-May	Brian Cooke	Tasmanian Devil
1.20	2.65	–	St. Mullins	04-May	Thomas McDonnell	Tasmanian Devil
1.20	2.65	46.0	St. Mullins	07-May	Con Cronin	Tasmanian Devil
1.18	2.60	42.0	St. Mullins	18-Apr-11	Joseph Marsella	Tasmanian Devil



*Blaine O'Sullivan is
delighted with his
specimen
Shad Hybrid
(photograph by Ron
Surgenor)*

SHAD HYBRID

Record - kg (- lbs); Specimen Weight (2011) 1.1 kg (2.426 lbs)

1.40	3.09	49.0	St. Mullins	01-May-11	Martyn Rayner	Tasmanian Devil
1.38	3.04	–	St. Mullins	26-Apr-11	Paul Marsella	Tasmanian Devil

SHAD HYBRID – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
1.38	3.04	49.5	St. Mullins	19-May-11	Terry Jackson	Tasmanian Devil
1.38	3.04	47.0	St. Mullins	05-May-11	Andrew Boyce	Tasmanian Devil
1.37	3.02	–	St. Mullins	09-May-11	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.33	2.94	–	St. Mullins	10-May-11	Dara Tuohy	Tasmanian Devil
1.32	2.91	46.0	St. Mullins	04-May-11	Jerry O'Connor	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.88	–	St. Mullins	24-Apr-11	Peter Bolger	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.88	–	St. Mullins	29-May-11	Derick O'Brien	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.88	–	St. Mullins	29-May-11	Sidney Kennedy	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.87	–	St. Mullins	12-May-11	Thomas McDonnell	Tasmanian Devil
1.30	2.87	–	St. Mullins	11-May-11	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	49.0	St. Mullins	10-May-11	Don Whelton	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	53.0	St. Mullins	07-May-11	Blaine O'Sullivan (J)	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.82	48.3	St. Mullins	19-May-11	Terry Jackson	Tasmanian Devil
1.28	2.81	–	St. Mullins	29-May-11	Sidney Kennedy	Tasmanian Devil
1.26	2.78	–	St. Mullins	18-May-11	Terry Jackson	Tasmanian Devil
1.20	2.65	48.0	St. Mullins	01-May-11	Martyn Rayner	Tasmanian Devil
1.18	2.60	45.7	St. Mullins	04-May-11	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Tasmanian Devil
1.18	2.60	–	St. Mullins	19-May-11	Paul Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	–	St. Mullins	29-May-11	Derick O'Brien	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	–	St. Mullins	28-May-11	Sidney Kennedy	Tasmanian Devil
1.16	2.56	49.0	St. Mullins	06-May-11	Ronald Surgenor	Tasmanian Devil
1.14	2.51	46.0	St. Mullins	10-May-11	Brian Lombard	Tasmanian Devil
1.14	2.51	42.0	St. Mullins	10-May-11	Brian Lombard	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	–	St. Mullins	24-Apr-11	Peter Bolger	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	–	St. Mullins	12-May-11	Paul Marsella	Tasmanian Devil
1.13	2.50	–	St. Mullins	22-Apr-11	Michael Norton	Tasmanian Devil
1.12	2.47	50.0	St. Mullins	09-May-11	David Murdoch	Tasmanian Devil
1.12	2.47	–	St. Mullins	08-May-11	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.11	2.45	43.0	St. Mullins	01-May-11	Eddie Butler	Tasmanian Devil
1.11	2.44	–	St. Mullins	26-Apr-11	Thomas McDonnell	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	45.0	St. Mullins	19-May-11	Alan Hobbs	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	–	St. Mullins	13-May-11	John Collins	Tasmanian Devil
1.10	2.43	–	St. Mullins	15-May-11	Emmet Ryan	Tasmanian Devil



***Robert Reid,
Robert McClean,
Albert Allen and
Josie Mahon pose
with four Wicklow
Smooth-Hound***





*Well-known angling
journalist
Mike Thrussell
and one of his
Smooth-Hound
taken in July*

SMOOTH-HOUND

Record 16.58 lbs (7.52 kg); Specimen Weight 3 kg (6.62 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
6.35	14.00	108.0	Wicklow	13-Jul	Norman Dunlop	Crab
6.12	13.50	125.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Eamon Power	Crab
5.90	13.01	112.0	Wicklow	25-Jul	Roger Buggy	Peeler Crab
5.73	12.63	114.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	John Millerick	Crab
5.44	12.00	120.0	Wicklow	27-Jul	Des Chew	Crab
4.82	10.63	104.0	Wicklow	29-Jul	Geoff Finan	Peeler Crab
4.82	10.63	102.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	John Millerick	Crab
4.82	10.63	105.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Peeler Crab
4.76	10.50	96.0	Wicklow	27-Jul	Des Chew	Crab
4.76	10.50	98.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Evan Millerick (J)	Crab
4.73	10.44	–	Wicklow	20-Jul	Norman Dunlop	Crab
4.71	10.38	102.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Micheál Hennessy	Crab
4.59	10.13	97.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Mike Thrussell (UK)	Crab
4.54	10.00	–	Wicklow	12-Jul	Brian Cooke	Crab
4.54	10.00	110.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Robert Reid	Peeler Crab
4.42	9.75	100.0	Wicklow	13-Jul	Des Chew	Peeler Crab
4.39	9.69	105.0	Wicklow	26-Aug	Boris Siegel	Peeler Crab
4.31	9.50	99.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Peeler Crab
4.20	9.25	–	Wicklow	12-Jul	Brian Cooke	Crab

SMOOTH-HOUND – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
4.11	9.06	105.0	Wicklow	20-Jul	Micheál Hennessy	Crab
4.08	9.00	101.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Kit Dunne	Crab
4.08	9.00	105.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Philip Fox	Crab
4.07	8.97	100.0	Wicklow	13-Jul	Mike Thrussell (UK)	Crab
4.05	8.94	–	Wicklow	14-Jul	Jerry O'Connor	Peeler Crab
4.05	8.94	–	Wicklow	13-Jul	Micheál Hennessy	Crab
3.97	8.75	95.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	John Millerick	Crab
3.91	8.63	95.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Peeler Crab
3.91	8.63	102.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Philip Fox	Crab
3.78	8.33	–	Kilmore Quay	10-Sep	Siert Schuls	Crab
3.74	8.25	95.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Christopher McGregor	Crab
3.69	8.13	99.1	Wicklow	27-Jul	Josie Mahon	Peeler Crab
3.60	7.94	106.0	Courtown	06-Jul	Albert Allan	Peeler Crab
3.54	7.81	104.0	Courtown	06-Jul	Dennis Brock	Peeler Crab
3.52	7.75	–	Wicklow	14-Jul	Jerry O'Connor	Peeler Crab
3.50	7.72	99.0	Wicklow	17-Jun	Ken Hegarty	Peeler Crab
3.43	7.56	94.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Kit Dunne	Crab
3.41	7.52	99.0	Wicklow	28-Jul	Robert McClean	Peeler Crab
3.40	7.50	–	Wicklow	12-Jul	Brian Cooke	Crab
3.29	7.25	95.0	Courtown	06-Jul	Fintan Kavanagh	Peeler Crab
3.29	7.25	94.0	Wicklow	12-Jul	Kit Dunne	Crab
3.26	7.19	98.0	Wicklow	10-Aug	Gavin Moran	Peeler Crab
3.25	7.17	98.0	Courtown	04-Jul	Philip Barry	Crab
3.23	7.13	96.5	Wicklow	27-Jul	Josie Mahon	Crab
3.20	7.05	98.0	Wicklow	18-Jul	Nicholas Ward	Peeler Crab
3.10	6.83	95.0	Wicklow	25-Jul	Robert McClean	Peeler Crab



***Sidney Kennedy
with the heaviest
specimen Tope of
2012***

TOPE

Record 66 lbs 8 ozs (30.159 kg); Specimen Weight 18.144 kg (40 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
27.30	60.19	167.0	Wicklow Bay	20-Oct	Sidney Kennedy	Mackerel
21.50	47.40	156.0	Greystones	05-Oct	Nicholas Ward	Pollack
20.50	45.19	158.0	Kilcoole	05-Oct	Shane O'Neill	Mackerel
18.60	41.00	135.9	Cahore	29-Jul	Philip Fox	Mackerel

TOPE

Length based specimen; Specimen Qualifying Length 160 cm

–	–	160.5	Wicklow	28-Sep	Kit Dunne, Snr	Mackerel
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Dutch angler Arie Dorrepaal with a Downings Torsk

TORSK

Record 4.858 kg (10.71 lbs); Specimen Weight 2.721 kg (6 lbs)

3.30	7.26	71.0	Downings	29-May	Arie Dorrepaal (NL)	Mackerel
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TRIGGER FISH

Record 2.54 kg (5.6 lbs); Specimen Weight 1.474 kg (3.25 lbs)

2.30	5.06	48.0	Kilmore Quay	10-Sep	Gordon Thornes (UK)	Mackerel
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*Gordon Thornes
caught this specimen
Trigger Fish during
the Rosslare Small
Boats Festival*

BALLAN WRASSE

Record 4.3 kg (9.47 lbs); Specimen Weight 2.154 kg (4.75 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
3.16	6.97	58.0	Kilmore Quay	10-Sep	Neville Murphy	Ragworm
2.67	5.89	52.0	Kerry Head	02-Sep	Philip Barry	Peeler Crab



*This specimen
Ballan Wrasse fell to
Neville Murphy at
the Rosslare Small
Boats Festival*

BALLAN WRASSE – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.31	5.10	51.0	Bridges of Ross	05-Sep	Ronald Surgenor	Crab
2.30	5.07	47.0	Roshine	10-Oct	Tommy Hegarty	Limpets
2.30	5.06	–	Slea Head	20-Aug	Ross Macklin	Crab
2.27	5.00	–	Bridges of Ross	22-Sep	Bill Ryan	Crab/Limpet
2.24	4.94	49.0	Rinboy Point, Fanad	15-Sep	Duncan Cole	Lugworm
2.24	4.94	50.0	Red Bay	23-Oct	Hamish Currie	Crab
2.19	4.83	50.0	Kerry Head	02-Sep	Philip Barry	Peeler Crab
2.18	4.81	–	Bridges of Ross	27-Sep	Bill Ryan	Crab
2.18	4.81	50.0	Dunmore East	11-Nov	John O'Connor	Baited Feathers



***Specimen Ballan Wrasse
for Bill Ryan (left)
and Duncan Cole***





*The third heaviest
Ballan Wrasse
of 2012 was landed
by Ronald Surgenor*

CUCKOO WRASSE

Record 2 lbs 7 ozs (1.106 kg); Specimen Weight 0.567 kg (1.25 lbs)

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.82	1.80	41.0	Ballycastle	10-Sep	Ian Latham	Mackerel baited spoon
0.79	1.75	38.0	Ballycastle	14-Jul	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Strip
0.77	1.69	38.0	Red Bay	05-Oct	Paul Strange	Mackerel



*Dunmore East was
the venue for
John O'Connor's
boat caught
specimen Ballan*

CUCKOO WRASSE – continued

<u>WT</u> (kg)	<u>WT</u> (lbs)	<u>L</u> (cm)	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
0.74	1.63	38.0	Red Bay	18-Aug	Nigel Bell	Mackerel
0.74	1.63	37.0	Red Bay	10-Nov	Brian Menary	Ragworm
0.71	1.56	38.0	Red Bay	09-Aug	Paul Dijkman (NL)	Mackerel
0.71	1.56	38.0	Red Bay	10-Aug	Hans Dijkman (NL)	Mackerel
0.71	1.56	38.0	Red Bay	09-Aug	Odmar Dijkman (NL)	Mackerel
0.68	1.50	–	Kenmare Bay	28-Apr	Emile Schutte (NL)	Mackerel
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	30-Aug	Sean McGrane	Mackerel
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	03-Oct	Hamish Currie	Crab
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	26-Jul	Hamish Currie	Crab
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	24-Jul	Nigel Bell	Mackerel
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	20-Oct	Connor McNeill	Crab
0.65	1.44	37.0	Red Bay	11-Nov	Chris Logan	Ragworm
0.62	1.38	37.0	Red Bay	01-Oct	Hamish Currie	Crab
0.62	1.38	37.0	Red Bay	29-Jul	Nigel Bell	Mackerel
0.62	1.38	–	Ballycastle	10-Sep	Glenn Drennan	Mackerel
0.61	1.34	34.0	Carrigaholt	26-Aug	Michael Kraus (D)	Mackerel
0.60	1.31	36.0	Red Bay	12-Aug	James McFerran	Mackerel
0.60	1.31	36.0	Red Bay	10-Nov	Frank Donnan	Mackerel
0.59	1.30	–	Dingle	23-Oct	Dave Lewis (UK)	Mackerel
0.57	1.26	–	Cod's Head, Eyeries	31-Oct	Mike Kempster (UK)	Baited Lugworm
0.57	1.25	34.0	Ballycastle	26-Aug	Des Young	Mackerel Strip
0.57	1.25	36.0	Ballycastle	18-Aug	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Strip



***A Dingle Cuckoo
Wrasse for
well-known angler
and writer
Dave Lewis***

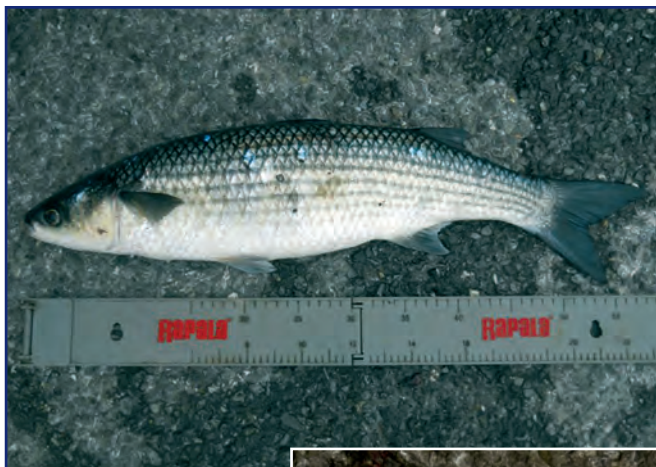
***A 9.19 kg River Pike
for
Ronan Mullen***



***A specimen
Blonde Ray
for Robert Fowler***



A brace of specimen Pike for Terry Jackson taken in the River Blackwater (NI) in mid-January



*Examples of
photographs required
for Mullet species
identification
(courtesy of
Paul O'Sullivan)*



Special Notices

SPECIMEN WEIGHT REVISION

The specimen weight for Shad Hybrids will be 1.2 kg from January 1st 2013.

GEOGRAPHICAL LIMIT FOR MARINE SPECIES CLAIMS

The geographical limit for claiming marine specimen fish is defined as the marine waters bound by the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland sectors of the European Economic Zone (EEZ), and on the north east coast by the midpoint between NI and the remainder of the United Kingdom landmass.

IMPLICATIONS OF COARSE FISH BYE-LAW FOR ISFC AND ANGLERS

In July 2006 the Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources introduced a bye law titled CONSERVATION OF AND PROHIBITION ON SALE OF COARSE FISH BYE-LAW NO. 806, 2006 which provided for the following conservation measures:

- a bag limit of 4 coarse fish in any one day,
- prohibits the killing of any coarse fish greater than 25 cm in length,
- prohibits the sale of any coarse fish in Ireland (excluding NI), this provision will not apply to fishing tackle dealers and fish bait suppliers who have been granted an exemption by Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI).

This bye-law means that the ISFC cannot accept bodies of any coarse fish (dace, roach, rudd or any hybrids > 25 cm) from anglers for the purposes of claiming a specimen. Bodies were required to positively identify to species or hybrid level because of the similarity of their external features.

For many years the Committee recognised that genetic fingerprinting of cyprinids was required for consistent identification of fish, to enable fish to be returned alive to the water and, importantly, to allow anglers to continue to claim specimen cyprinids. Arising from research into the dynamics of selected cyprinid species in some Irish lakes, carried out by researchers in the School of Biology and Environmental Science at University College Dublin and funded by IFI, genetic fingerprinting of cyprinid specimens commenced in 2007.

Results showed clear differentiation and identifications have been made using a combination of these results and all photographic evidence received. Several fish were not as claimed which demonstrated the scope of the technique. Since 2009 this technology has been adopted by the ISFC as the standard approach to cyprinid identification. Arising from the capacity to distinguish between hybrids, rudd/roach hybrids were added to the list of eligible species from 2010.

To support a claim, anglers are requested to submit a small sample of scales (3 scales) in a dry envelope (not in a plastic bag or tin foil) and good quality colour photographs. The entire fish on its side with, the dorsal and anal fins fully splayed, and close up photographs of the head (side on) are required for each fish claimed.

GENETIC FINGERPRINTING OF SHAD AND SMOOTH-HOUND

The success of ongoing collaborations between the ISFC, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the School of Biology and Environmental Science at University College Dublin on shad (*Alosa* spp.) and smooth-hound (*Mustelas* spp.) meant these species could be identified by genetic fingerprinting from 2009 onwards.

This eliminated the requirement for a body to be presented for both groups of fish. An extensive study of smooth-hound carried out by Dr. Edward Farrell, formerly UCD, found no evidence of *M. mustelas* (Common smooth-hound) in Irish waters despite extensive sampling. Therefore ISFC no longer require a tissue sample for genetic analysis to support a claim for a smooth-hound.

For shad 3 scales are required. Scale storage and photographic requirements are described below.

Sample requirements for genetic analysis of selected cyprinids and shads for species/hybrid determination			
Species	Sample required	Storage	Additional information
Roach, Rudd and their hybrids	3 scales	In an envelope with fish details and date	Good quality photographs required
Shad species	3 scales	In an envelope with fish details and date	Ensure fish is retained in water as much as is feasible
Notes: As all fish can be returned alive please handle carefully. Allow envelope to dry out to preserve the sample. Do not store scales or tissue in plastic as sample will degrade.			

As genetic analysis of scales requires considerable time to process samples anglers are requested to submit scale samples as soon as is feasible and before 15th October.

SHAD HYBRIDS

Considerable numbers of hybrid shad, which were identified by genetic analysis, have been taken by anglers in recent years. The Committee decided to add this Allis/Twaite hybrid to the listing of eligible fish in 2012 because of the numbers of claims being submitted. Fish taken in 2011 onwards were ratified this year. No hybrids were identified in 2012. Following a review no statistically significant difference in mean weight of specimens was determined between Twaite and the Hybrid Shad. Consequently the Committee has decided to set the qualifying weight at 1.2 kg for the Hybrid also.

ESTABLISHING A NEW SPECIMEN FISH CATEGORY

An important function of the ISFC is to act as a focal point for data collection on the occurrence of notable, rare or unusual species taken on rod and line in Irish waters. In some instances this has led to species previously regarded as “unusual” being added to the list of eligible species. Examples from recent years include smooth-hound (*Mustelas asterias*) and three bearded rockling (*Gaidropsarus vulgaris*), (from 1983), garfish (*Belone svetovidovi*) (from 1986), torsk (*Brosme brosme*) (from 1988), trigger fish (*Balistes carolinensis*) (from 1992), bluemouth (*Helicolenus dactylopterus*) (from 2002), albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) (from 2002), golden grey mullet (*Liza aurata* (Risso)) (from 2005), gilthead bream (*Sparus aurata* L.) (from 2007), blackmouthed dogfish (*Galeus melastomus*) (from 2008), Black Bream (*Spondyllosoma cantharus*) (from 2009), and thin lipped mullet (*Liza ramada*) from 2011.

To begin the process of attempting to establish a new specimen fish category, anglers **are requested to submit a completed claim form** for each fish captured. This is particularly important as it will establish a database for the species and enable further investigation and comparison of future claims. Claims for 10 fish of that species must be submitted for it to be considered for possible inclusion on the listings. The specimen weight will be set from this dataset and other relevant data. The record fish will be ratified after 5 fish exceeding specimen weight are ratified.

With some species a body may have to be forwarded for positive identification. Other arrangements would apply for larger fish. The availability of a body will allow the Committee to verify positive identification of the species and the claims will allow monitoring of numbers and weights of the species. This facilitates assessment of the likelihood of capture, the likely specimen weight and the availability and seasonality of the species. It is difficult to legislate for every situation that may arise but the final decision will rest with the Committee and will be based on a balanced review of the information available. While this process is progressing some details of interesting fish captured will be reported in the annual report.

GUIDANCE NOTE TO ASSIST ANGLERS TAKING FISH PHOTOGRAPHS FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES

In 2005 the ISFC added a clause to Rule 4 which facilitated anglers who wished to present photographs for fish identification purposes instead of presenting a fish body.

This means that, for the few species where a body is normally required, photographs may be sufficient **if they provide conclusive evidence of the identity of the fish**. To assist anglers, a list of some external identification features for these particular species are presented below. However, **the Committee cautions that a body, which will be examined by a biologist, is the only reliable means of ensuring a correct identification.**

Photographs should be taken as soon as possible after the fish is captured. The photograph must be in focus, clear and in colour, printed on good quality paper and show the relevant identification



High quality Roach/Bream Hybrid identification images from Dubliner Philip Brennan

features. It should include the name of the angler and date of capture. Close up photographs are required for many features and these photographs should fill the entire frame. **Retain the fish if unsure of photograph quality.**

Species	Features to photograph (a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
All cyprinids (Dace, Roach, Roach/Bream, Roach/Rudd, Rudd, Rudd/Bream)	Body with fins extended and close ups of: (a) mouth - closed (b) dorsal fin (c) full lateral line (d) anal fin Three scales to be taken
Angler Fish	Head area showing head appendages upright
Brill	Close up of skin
Cuckoo Wrasse	Body – lateral view, close up of head
Dab	Close up of skin and lateral line
Flounder	Full body and close up of lateral line scales close to head
Garfish (<i>B. belone</i>)	Gill rakers count - body required
Garfish (<i>B. svetovidovi</i>)	Gill rakers count - body required
Golden Grey Mullet Thin-Lipped Mullet	Close up of: (a) head including pectoral fin (lying flat) (b) mouth showing upper lip (c) underside of head
Grey Gurnard	Close up of lateral line and head
Grey Mullet	Close up of head showing upper lip (head-on), underside of head to back of gills
Herring	Keel of fish
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	Underside of head
Mackerel	Close up of stripes on back
Megrim	Head
Ray's Bream	Close up of head
All Gurnards	Detail of lateral line, head with pectoral fin fully expanded
Red Mullet	Close up of head
River Eel (in tidal water)	Fully extended body
Scad	Close up of entire lateral line
Shad - Allis, Twaite & Hybrid	Three scales to be taken

Species	Features to photograph: (a) the whole body (lateral view) must be photographed for all species AND (b) the specific features detailed below
Smooth-hound	Close ups of: (a) tail fin (b) underside of head showing mouth (c) back in region of dorsal fin
Three Bearded Rockling	Close up of head and chin area, and close up of area in front of dorsal fin
Torsk	Close up of skin, and dorsal and tail fin area

IMPORTANT POINTS REGARDING CLAIMS

Photographic evidence for new records: Except in the few cases where a body or presentation of the fish is required for species identification, a series of clear photographs must accompany all **record** fish claims. The photograph(s) must show the full fish lying on a flat surface and include a measure of scale (measurement mat, ruler, mobile phone, etc.). Preferably it would be photographed on a measuring mat or similar. Supplementary photographs showing the fish being weighed and the recorded weight would assist in further substantiating the claim.

Place of capture: For freshwater species all claims must include the name of the water in which the fish was caught (e.g., Monalty Lake) and in the case of the larger systems, the area (e.g., River Shannon – Rooskey). For marine species taken by boat angling the port of origin, and the place of capture (examples: Burford Bank, 5 km West of Stags Head or Smiths) should be stated.

Closed seasons: Closed seasons apply to several species (e.g. bass, brown trout, salmon, eel etc). Any fish taken in the closed season will not be ratified.

Maximum number of claims per species: A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. However, if an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures a larger fish, this fish can be claimed. However, the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three. By including this provision, it ensures that the anglers' competitive spirit is kept up and higher achievements could still be sought.

Exclusion from specimen status (stocked fish): Where species of fish are introduced to a fishery at or above existing specimen weights, those species from that particular fishery shall not be considered for specimen or record status. Escapees from fish farms either freshwater or marine are also excluded.

Exclusion from specimen status – Common Skate, Undulate Ray, Monkfish, Porbeagle and Eel: Sharks and rays (elasmobranchs) are a group of fishes requiring special consideration. In terms of conservation status, Porbeagle (*Lamna nasus*) are deemed as vulnerable, Undulate Ray (*Raja undulata*) are deemed as endangered while Common Skate (*Raja Batis*) and Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) are deemed as critically endangered (IUCN, 2008 & 2012). In 2009, the Common Skate received protection from the European Council in ICES boxes IIa, IIIa, IV, VIIa-k, VIII and IX (which include all Irish coastal fisheries) which means that the species cannot be retained by commercial fishermen if captured. Undulate Ray and Angelshark (or Monkfish) also received full protection in 2009 from the European Council in ICES boxes VIa-b, VIIa-k, VIII and IX, meaning that neither

species can be retained or landed if caught. Fishing mortality is likely to be substantially reduced due to this mandatory release order.

In 1976, the ISFC, in the interests of conservation, decided to remove the Common Skate from the list of eligible fishes and not to consider any claims whatsoever, except for a possible new record (i.e., a fish weighing in excess of 100 kg (221 lbs)).

Undulate Ray and Angleshark were suspended from the list of eligible species in 2006. Claims for a new record in either species will be considered provided that the fish is weighed on shore, photographed and returned alive. In 2006, as the ISFC wanted to ensure no mortalities arising from specimen angling, both were suspended from the listings for a period of three years. Based on a review of all available data for both species in 2009, which showed a decline in the numbers of Angleshark being caught and released by anglers, and no major change in Undulate Ray catches, the ISFC decided that the moratorium on all three species would continue until 2012. The ISFC has decided to maintain this precautionary approach for these species (and include Porbeagle) until they are reviewed in 2015.

Freshwater eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) has been suspended from the specimen listings since mid May 2009 because of the introduction of Bye-law No C.S. 303, 2009 which prohibits angling for eel. This bye-law was introduced to assist in the recovery of eel stocks which have virtually collapsed throughout its natural range in Europe. The outcomes of the impact of various management measures for eel stock recovery are currently being reviewed. The ISFC will decide on its approach following publication of this review; eel will remain as an excluded species for specimen angling in 2013.

Handling fish: Rays and monkfish sharks are elasmobranchs with a flattened shape. Sharks have a more cylindrical form and many species are vulnerable because they mature slowly and produce small numbers of young. Female sharks are often larger than males, and the heaviest are likely to be pregnant when they achieve specimen size. Handle them gently and return them to the water as quickly as possible. The ISFC urges anglers to apply the same handling principles to all species particularly around spawning time.

Captors Addresses: Because of difficulties in establishing eligibility for the 20 Species, 10 Species, 50 Specimen and 10 Specimen Awards, captors are advised to inform the Committee of any changes in their addresses.

BIG GAME FISH

Since 2000 the ISFC has adopted a watching brief with regard to the rules governing the capture of big game fish. Based on the deliberations of an ISFC sub-committee appointed in 2002, revised rules derived from relevant sections from the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) rules have been incorporated into the existing ISFC rules (see Rule 2).

IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT WEIGHING OF FISH

Weighing instruments and certification: The Committee insists that all fish be weighed on scales which are verified for accuracy. Shop scales normally used in trade are checked regularly by officers of the Legal Metrology Service (National Standards Authority of Ireland) and are acceptable for weighing specimen and record fish. Club or personalised (i.e. scales not normally certified by the Weights and Measures Authority for trade purposes) can be certified for accuracy. Such scales, if certified in advance by a reputable agency/company are acceptable to the Committee for weighing

purposes. Certification will be valid for one year from the date of issue of the certificate of accuracy. The manufacturers certificate of accuracy will not suffice. Weights from scales which are not certified at the time of weighing or certified in retrospect will not be accepted.

Since 2012 the National Metrology Laboratory (NML), on request from ISFC, has provided a service to calibrate mechanical and digital fish scales (personal/club) based on EN 45501, from 0 – 100kg. The NML is the national metrology institute for Ireland and is responsible for establishing, maintaining and developing the national measurement standards for physical quantities and their dissemination to Irish users. NML operates as a division of NSAI (The National Standards Authority of Ireland).

Contact details:

NSAI National Metrology Laboratory (Rory Hanrahan)

Griffith Avenue Extension

Glasnevin

Dublin 9

Tel: 01 8082609

<http://www.nsai.ie/Our-Services/Measurement/Calibration-Services/Fish-Scale-Calibration.aspx>

Metrification: Since 2006, fish weights have been presented in kilograms in the Annual Report. Many anglers continue to use imperial measurements for fish and, recognising this, the ISFC decided to report in both metric (SI) and imperial metric systems since 2010. Claims will be accepted under either system unless legislation dictates otherwise.

Weight conversion figures: The ISFC decided to use the metric system (kg) for reporting from 2006 onwards, although some older record fish will be reported in the imperial system until a new record is set.

To aid anglers in the conversion between both systems conversion factors are provided below:

Kilogrammes to pounds

X kg divided by 0.454 = Y metric pounds

Pounds to kilogrammes

X lbs divided by 2.205 = Y kg

REVIEW OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS

In 2009 the ISFC began to systematically review all species and weights of specimen fish based on the data collated since the ISFC was established. This process aims to reflect current developments in specimen angling and other issues including conservation. This process was carried out for some species in recent years (e.g. Coalfish in 2006 and 2007). Factors taken into account included the number of specimens taken per annum, the geographical distribution of specimens around Ireland and trends in the numbers taken over different periods. In 2010 the review was completed (from Garfish (*B. svetovidovi*) to Cuckoo Wrasse) and resulted in reductions in specimen weights for some species, several of which had not been adjusted since the ISFC was founded. Specimen weights were reduced for three of the eighteen fish categories in freshwater (16.7%) and 15 of 69 marine species (21.7%).

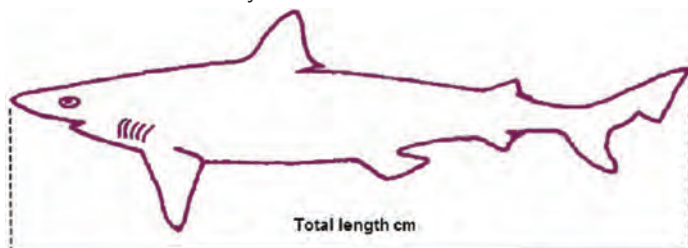
The complete list of specimen weight changes is as per following table:

Species	Previous specimen weight (kg)	Revised specimen weight (kg)
Rudd	1.021	0.9
Rudd/Bream	1.361	1.2
Dace	0.35	0.3
Anglerfish	18.144	12.0
Black sole	0.907	0.8
Brill	2.268	2.0
Dab	0.68	0.6
Garfish	1.021	1.0
Hake	4.536	3.5
Halibut	22.68	15
Mackerel	1.134	1.0
Plaice	1.814	1.5
Cuckoo Ray	2.041	1.8
Thornback Ray	9.072	8.0
Ray's Bream	2.268	2.0
Red Sea Bream	2.041	1.8
Smooth-hound	3.175	3.0
Turbot	8.165	7.0

LENGTH-BASED SPECIMENS (CONSERVATION SPECIMENS)

Anglers are increasingly conservation orientated and submissions have been received by the ISFC from anglers and others in recent years regarding the desirability of using length as a proxy for weight. This would allow fish (particularly elasmobranchs) to be returned alive to the water without the requirement for measuring weight on land as is required under the existing ISFC rules. The ISFC undertook to examine the possibility of a "Conservation Specimen" category in 2009, for two species Tope and Blue Shark, which would be based on fish length.

A length-based specimen award commenced on a pilot basis for Tope for 2011. The threshold length is 1.6 m or 160 cm. Claims will be made on the existing claim form and the angler will specify that length only is being measured. On board weighing of fish is not acceptable (except where a certified motion compensated balance is used). All length data to be given as total length; this is the measurement most often used as an independent variable and is the standard measurement in scientific shark literature (e.g. Campagno, 1984). The fish has to be placed belly down on the measuring device with its dorsal caudal lobe depressed into line with its body axis and total length measured as a point to point distance (not over the curve of the body) from the snout tip to the tip of the dorsal caudal lobe. The snout tip must be placed against a perpendicular front bar or plate to index the 0 cm measurement accurately.



The following evidence must accompany each length-based specimen claim:

- (a) Photograph(s) showing fish placed belly down on properly extended measuring device with snout against perpendicular bar or plate with the actual recorded length (cm) visible and
- (b) the sex of the fish. Males can be identified by their claspers (modified pelvic fins) which are thin elongated paired fins situated behind the pelvic fins. Females do not have claspers but have an opening between the pelvic fins.

Permanent attachment of a durable, accurate measuring device to the deck of a boat is the preferred means of providing an accurate measurement. High quality, self adhesive measuring tapes are available from various retailers.

SPUR DOGFISH: *Squalis acanthias* is deemed vulnerable (IUCN, 2012) and a zero Total Allowable Catch (TAC) applied in EU waters in 2012. Recognising their vulnerable status ISFC has decided that Spurdog will be regarded as a length based specimen from 2014 onwards. The weight based specimen system will continue to operate for Spurdog in 2013 while the Committee determines an appropriate threshold length. ISFC requests that charter skippers and boat anglers use this time lag to prepare to implement the length based specimen system.

Lengths (cm) as submitted on each claim form were presented in this report for the first time in 2009. Lengths should be recorded on all claims submitted. Significant length variation is evident for most species. This is due to natural variability (time of year, sex, location, feeding etc) but it is likely that fish length measurement techniques were inconsistent also.

The ISFC requests that all specimen fish are measured according to table below:

Species	Measurement (cm) required	Technique
ALL Marine species except Bass	Total length	Place fish on top of measuring device and measure in a straight line from tip of snout to end of tail
ALL Marine species (except ray and skate)	Girth	Measure greatest girth using tape measure – usually in front of dorsal fin
Ray and skate	Wingspan	Place fish on top of measuring device and measure from wingtip to wingtip
ALL Freshwater species AND Bass	Forklength	Place fish on top of measuring device and measure from tip of snout to middle rays of tail
ALL Sharks, Rays and Skates	Sex – state on claim form if fish is male or female	Males can be identified by their claspers (modified pelvic fins) which are thin elongated paired fins situated behind the pelvic fins. Females do not have claspers but have an opening between the pelvic fins.

TAGGING PHOTOGRAPHS

The annual report is greatly enhanced by photographs. Many, particularly digital images, are sent by different means including DVD, CD and email. For greater efficiency please tag all photographs, DVDs, CDs and emailed photographs with relevant details. DVDs and CDs should have a list of the angler(s), the species, the weight and date(s) of capture printed on the disk. All emailed photographs should be tagged with abbreviated angler name, species and weight.



***Bream being measured on Inland Fisheries Ireland Fish Conservation Mat
(courtesy of Darragh Long)***



Shark being measured on IGFA measuring mat

PRESENTATION OF 2011 AWARDS

Minister Fergus O'Dowd, Dept. of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and Derek Davis, Chairman of the National Inland Fisheries Forum, broadcaster and angler, made the Annual Presentation of Awards to successful anglers at the Red Cow Morans Hotel, Dublin on 3rd March 2012.

In March 2012, Dutch and Belgian anglers were presented with their awards by Peter Dohmen, renowned angling journalist and Shane O'Reilly, Inland Fisheries Ireland, at VISMA, Rotterdam, in association with Tourism Ireland.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Photographs: The majority of photographs in this report are taken by anglers. Good quality photographs have enhanced the report considerably over the past decade and anglers are encouraged to send photographs of specimen fish catches to the Committee.

All will be considered for publication. The Committee is extremely grateful to anglers, staff, charter skippers and other supporters who submitted photographs this year.

Special acknowledgements: Charter skippers, club members, guesthouse owners, tackle dealers and the many staff from Inland Fisheries Ireland who follow up claims and ensure that the necessary paperwork is attended to are gratefully acknowledged.

Sincere thanks to Myles Kelly, IFI and ISFC webmaster, for his input throughout 2012 and special thanks to Hans van Loenen for his article.

AFBINI continues to provide an excellent fish identification service for anglers in the northern part of Ireland and the ISFC is indebted to those staff.

Special thanks are due to the extremely cooperative staff of the National Metrology Laboratory NSAI for certification of anglers' scales over the past 14 years.

The genetic fingerprinting work undertaken by Dr. Stefano Mariani (up to 2011) and Dr. Jens Carlsson and their team at UCD has significantly advanced ISFC fish identification procedures and the Committee is very grateful to everyone involved in this important activity.

Inland Fisheries Ireland provides unstinting administrative support and other services to the ISFC and is sincerely acknowledged. Bridie Fleming supports all activity in the ISFC and is a vital part of the continued success of the Committee.

DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIMEN AWARDS

Nationalities of anglers whose claims were ratified:

Year	Ireland	Netherlands (NL)	United Kingdom (UK)	Germany (D)	Belgium (B)	France (F)	Other	TOTAL
1985	443	25	90	15	3	2	n/d	578
1986	349	21	93	16	3	7	n/d	489
1987	300	36	59	8	1	4	n/d	408
1988	259	14	60	5	4	4	n/d	346
1989	261	18	48	10	0	0	n/d	337
1990	286	21	45	23	4	1	n/d	380
1991	332	30	46	19	1	3	n/d	431
1992	336	32	56	9	1	3	n/d	437
1993	352	30	45	16	3	4	n/d	450
1994	282	33	39	13	1	2	n/d	370
1995	295	35	55	18	7	1	n/d	411
1996	307	27	69	6	4	2	n/d	415
1997	449	28	57	9	5	4	n/d	552
1998	344	46	53	6	5	4	n/d	458
1999	310	33	35	3	1	1	1	384
2000	403	41	48	13	1	0	2	508
2001	427	28	37	5	4	3	4	508
2002	471	23	43	7	6	2	7	559
2003	384	63	41	11	13	4	5	521
2004	412	48	38	3	9	4	4	518
2005	432	62	52	10	7	4	1	568
2006	351	44	42	2	10	0	2	449
2007	424	56	28	6	12	2	2	530
2008	429	46	23	1	3	0	0	502
2009	470	39	15	5	0	0	2	531
2010	521	45	26	6	5	1	3	607
2011	519	50	14	0	3	0	1	587
2012	578	40	18	2	1	0	1	640

n/d = not determined

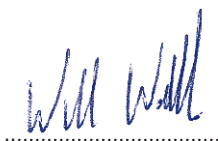
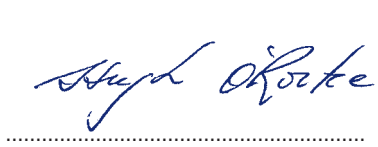
Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Expenditure and Revenue Accounts - 1st January to 31st December 2011

2010	Expenditure	2011	2010	Revenue	2011
€		€	€		€
				Balance b/f	22427.23
				Grants	
5614.00	Printing	5819.25	14000.00	IFI	5000.00
1513.71	Award Medals / Trophies	596.04	0.00	Loughs Agency	4688.55
579.66	Miscellaneous / Postage	659.14	2500.00	Faillte Ireland	0.00
45.45	ISFC meeting expenses	74.75	0.00	TAFI	400.00
810.00	Awards Day costs	998	0.00	ICSA/Clubs	108.89
10.97	Bank charges	8.98			
	Total	8156.16	572.78	Donations	
	Balance c/d	24938.44		Anglers	469.93
		33094.60			33094.60
				Balance b/d	24938.44

"The ISFC has prepared a revenue and expenditure account for 12 months ending 31st December 2011 based on the movements in the bank. Upon review of the financial records provided we are satisfied that this Income and Expenditure Account accurately reflects the underlying transactions."

Signed:

W. Walsh & H. O'Rourke (Auditors)

DONATIONS

Donations: The ISFC is a voluntary body and all of its activities are funded by donations from diverse sources. The ISFC is extremely grateful to all donors.

Benefactors in 2012 were:

Inland Fisheries Ireland, Failte Ireland; Loughs Agency; Irish Charters Skippers Association; Delphi Fishery Ltd.; Val Atkins, 4 Abbey Park, Ferrybank, Waterford; **Sean Clohessy**, Castlehyde, Richmond, Dunkettle, Co. Cork; **Maurice Cott**, 5 Thornton Park, Whitegate, Co. Cork; **Jim Dooley**, 6 Bawnleigh Court, Banduff, Cork; **Eric Gosnell**, 52 Marian Park, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork; **Thomas Grogan**, 9-10 Granby Row, Dublin 1; **Richard Hancox**, 30 Greenfield Avenue, Northampton, NN3 2AA, England; **Burkhard Hobler**, Inishmacatreer, Cross, Co. Mayo; **Christy Lane**, 10 Harrington's Square, Dillons Cross, Cork City; **Noel Lane**, 65 Silverheights Avenue, Mayfield, Cork; **David McCormick**, 25a Craigboy Road, Donaghadee, Co. Down, BT21 0LP; **Nicholas McEvoy**, 6 Francis Crescent, Grange Heights, Waterford City; **Bert McGregor**, 34 Rivermead Park, St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin; **Vincent McKernan**, 19 Drummaul Park, Randalstown, Co. Armagh, BT41 3AR; **W. F. McLaughlin**, 27 Castle Gardens, Limavady, Co. Londonderry, BT49 OSD; **Derek J. Miller**, 35 Greenmeadows Road, Madeley, Crewe, Cheshire, CW3 9EY, England; **Jim Newell**, 129 Haypark Avenue, Belfast, BT7 3FG; **Karl O'Leary**, 33 Meadowlawn, Raheen, Limerick; **Stephen O'Neill**, 35 Ferndale, Carrigaline, Co. Cork.



Roger Buggy had the third heaviest Smooth-Hound of 2012

IRISH RECORD FISH

FRESHWATER SPECIES

Species	Weight		Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
	lbs	ozs			
Bream	6.07	kg	24.6.2012	Ballywillan Lough Fishery, Co. Down	Bryan Robinson
Carp	29	13	5.7.1998	The Lough, Cork	Sidney Kennedy
Dace	1	2	8.8.1966	River Blackwater, Cappoquin	John T. Henry
Eel	6	15	12.6.1979	Lough Droumenisa, Bantry	J. Murnane
Perch	5	8	1946	Lough Erne	S. Drum
Pike (Lake)	42	12	25.9.2005	White Lake	Larry Kelly
Pike (River)	42		22.3.1964	River Barrow	M. Watkins
Roach	1.425	kg	6.10.2002	Drumacritten Lake	Terry Jackson
Roach/Bream Hybrid	7		24.4.2002	River Bann, Toome	Roy Gretton
Roach/Rudd Hybrid	2.1	kg	5.5.2009	River Lagan, Co. Antrim	Terry Jackson
Rudd	4	8	5.9.1996	Coney Lake	Hugh Gough
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	19.10.1996	Monalty Lake	Brendan Doran
Tench	8.15		20.6.1995	Ballyeigher Lake	Nick Parry
Salmon	57		1874	River Suir	M. Maher
Brown Trout (Lake)	26	2	15.7.1894	Lough Ennell	Wm. Mears
Brown Trout (River)	20		22.2.1957	River Shannon, Corbally	Major Hugh Place
Sea Trout	16	6	29.10.1983	Shimna River, Co. Down	Thomas McManus

MARINE SPECIES

Species	Weight		Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
	lbs	ozs			
Angler Fish	42.985	kg	3.11.1985	Belfast Lough	Sean Neill
Bass	17	13	21.10.2000	Doughmore Strand	Emmet Naughton
Black Sole	6.32	kg	28.12.1986	Ballycotton	Eddie Cull
Bluemouth	1.32	kg	28.7.2008	Caherciveen	Sue Tait
Brill	9	8	8.9.1984	Causeway Coast	Deborah Gregg
Coalfish	15.1	kg	30.8.2003	Castletownshend	Roger Barham (UK)
Cod	42		1921	Ballycotton	I.L. Stewart
Conger Eel	72		June, 1914	Valentia	J. Green
Dab	2	5.5	2.10.2002	Cork Harbour	Mick Duff (UK)
Blackmouthed Dogfish	1.33	kg	10.8.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Jan Vrieswijk (NL)
Spur Dogfish	10.6	kg	25.7.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Albert Koawenhoun (NL)
Greater Spotted Dogfish	23	13	17.09.2003	Kenmare Bay	Perry Dumay (NL)
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	4	4	26.7.1982	Valentia	Cor Heinis (NL)
Flounder	4.91		2.10.1993	Ballyteigue	Brian Russell
Garfish (<i>B. belone</i>)	1.729		28.5.2007	Cork Harbour	Stephen O'Neill
Garfish (<i>B. svetovidovi</i>)	1.11		5.8.1994	Courtmacsherry	Eric Leijten (NL)
Gilthead Bream	3.24	kg	10.9.2007	Cork Harbour	Robert McClean

MARINE SPECIES (Contd.)

Species	Weight lbs ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
Tub Gurnard	12 3.5	8.8.1973	Bullsmouth, Achill	Robert Seaman
Grey Gurnard	3 1	21.9.1967	Rosslare Bay	Brendan Walsh
Red Gurnard	3 9.5	17.7.1968	Belmullet	James Prescott
Haddock	5.39 kg	21.2.2010	Union Hall	Tony Santry
Hake	25 5.5	28.4.1962	Belfast Lough	H. W. Steele
Halibut	156	23.7.1972	Belmullet	Frank Brogan
Herring	0.48 kg	17.9.2011	Red Bay, Co. Antrim	Hamish Currie
John Dory	7 8	12.8.1984	Killala Bay	Cleona Walkin
Ling	55	3.1.2004	Cork Harbour	Ailbhe O'Sullivan
Mackerel	4 2	18.9.1979	Ballycotton	Ulrich Plassmann (D)
Megrim	1.85 kg	26.7.1987	Killala	Paul Hennigan
Monkfish	73	1.6.1980	Fenit, Co. Kerry	James Boyd
Grey Mullet	9.10	26.9.1993	Cork Harbour	Cay Heerwagen (D)
Golden Grey Mullet	1.191 kg	24.6.2006	Cork Harbour	Noel Lane
Thin Lipped Mullet	2.83 kg	14.9.2011	Cork Harbour	Noel Lane
Red Mullet	0.82 kg	20.9.2010	Kilmore Quay	Sue Tait
Plaice	8.23	23.1.1982	Ballycotton Pier	Edmund Cull
Pollack	19 3	1904	Ballycotton	J. N. Hearne
Pouting	4 13.5	2.4.1983	Kilmore Quay	John Devereaux
Thornback Ray	37	28.5.1961	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	M. J. Fitzgerald
Blonde Ray	37	10.10.2005	Cobh	Paul Tennant
Sting Ray	33.2 kg	19.5.1999	Tralee Bay	Michael Wall
Cuckoo Ray	5 11	3. 8.1975	Causeway Coast	V. Morrison
Undulate Ray	18	11.6.1977	Fenit	Ann-Mari Liedecke (DK)
Homelyn Ray	8.28	28.9.1983	Cork Harbour	Edmund Cull
Painted Ray	17.21	29.8.1994	Garryvoe, Co. Cork	Edmund Cull
Electric Ray	40 kg	24.8.2002	Achill	Shay Boylan
Ray's Bream	6 4.25	26.8.1978	Valentia	Martin Sarney (UK)
Red Sea Bream	9 6	24.8.1963	Valentia	P. Maguire
Twaite Shad	1.54 kg	7.5.1999	St. Mullins	Michael O'Leary
Porbeagle Shark	365	1932	Keem Bay, Achill	Dr. O'Donel Brown
Blue Shark	206	7.10.59	Achill Head	J. McMonagle
Six Gilled Shark	480 kg	16.6.09	Carrigaholt	Joe Waldis
Common Skate	221	1913	Ballycotton	T. Tucker
White Skate	165	7.8.1966	Clew Bay	Jack Stack
Scad	1.97	6.9.1986	Clonakilty	Master R. McCarthy
Smooth-Hound	16.58	25.9.2000	Carne	Keith Gray
Stone Basse	11.72	14.7.2005	Baltimore	Tony Rainer (UK)
Three Bearded Rockling	3 1	1.5.1990	Arklow	Maurice Laurent
Tope	66 8	15.7.1979	Carlingford Lough	Cyril Young
Torsk	4.858 kg	26.6.2006	Rosguill	Jan de Bakker (NL)
Trigger Fish	2.54 kg	7.9.2006	Slea Head	Bob Moss
Turbot	34	9.6.1982	Cork Harbour	Frank Fleming
Tuna – Albacore	29.96 kg	5.9.2007	Caherciveen	Henry McAuley
– Bluefin	440 kg	5.10.2001	Donegal Bay	Adrian Molloy
Whiting	4 14.5	19.3.1981	Kenmare Bay	Comdt. M. J. O'Connor
Ballan Wrasse	4.3 kg	20.8.1983	Clogher Head	Bertrand Kron (F)
Cuckoo Wrasse	2 7	15.9.1998	Causeway Coast	Brian McLoughlin

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
FRESHWATER FISH	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs	
Bream (<i>Abramis brama</i>)	6.07	kg	3.402	7.5	-
Carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>)	29	13	5.443	12	-
Dace (<i>Leuciscus leuciscus</i>)	1	2	0.3	0.66	Scales* & photos*
Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	6	15	suspended from listings		
Perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>)	5	8	1.2	2.646	-
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (Lake)	42	12	13.608	30	-
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (River)	42		9.072	20	-
Roach (<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>)	1.425	kg	0.907	2	Scales* & photos*
Roach/Bream Hybrid	7		1.6	3.528	Scales* & photos*
Roach/Rudd Hybrid	-		0.9	1.98	Scales* & photos*
Rudd (<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>)	4	8	0.9	1.98	Scales* & photos*
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	1.2	2.64	Scales* & photos*
Tench (<i>Tinca tinca</i>)	8.15		2.722	6	-
Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	57		9.072	20	Scales
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (Lake)	26	2	4.536	10	Scales
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (River)	20		2.268	5	Scales
Sea Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	16	6	2.722	6	Scales
Slob Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	-		4.536	10	Scales
* for genetic fingerprinting feasibility study					
SEA FISH					
Angler Fish (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>)	42.985	kg	12.0	26.43	Body
Bass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>)	17	13	4.536	10	-
Black Sole (<i>Solea solea</i>)	6.32		0.8	1.76	-
Black Bream (<i>Spondylusoma cantharus</i>)	-		1.0	2.205	Body
Bluemouth (<i>Helicolenus dactylopterus</i>)	1.32	kg	0.9	1.9845	Photo
Brill (<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>)	9	8	2.0	4.4	Body
Coalfish (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	15.1	kg	6.804	15	Photo
Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)	42		9.072	20	-
Conger eel (<i>Conger conger</i>)	72		18.144	40	-
Dab (<i>Limanda limanda</i>)	2	5.5	0.6	1.32	Body
Dogfish – Blackmouthed (<i>Galeus melastomus</i>)	1.31	kg	1.0	2.205	Photo
Dogfish - Lesser Spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus caniculus</i>)	4	4	1.474	3.25	Body
Dogfish - Greater Spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i>)	23	13	7.257	16	-
Dogfish – Spur (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)	10.43	kg	5.443	12	-
Flounder (<i>Platichthys flesus</i>)	4.91		1.1	2.4255	Body
Garfish (<i>Belone belone</i>)	1.729	kg	1.0	2.205	Head and gills
Garfish (<i>Belone svetovidovi</i>)	1.11		0.355	0.875	Head and gills
Gilthead bream (<i>Sparus aurata</i>)	3.24	kg	1.4	3.08	Photo (whole body, head shot showing mouth and eyes)
Gurnard - Grey (<i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i>)	3	1	0.68	1.5	Body
Gurnard - Red (<i>Aspitrigla cuculus</i>)	3	9.5	0.907	2	Body
Gurnard - Tub (<i>Trigla lucerna</i>)	12	3.5	2.268	5	Photo (pectoral fins must be fully expanded)
Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>)	5.39	kg	3.175	7.0	-

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS – *contd.*

	IRISH RECORD WEIGHT		SPECIMEN WEIGHT		SPECIES IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
	lbs	ozs	kg	lbs	
Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>)	25	5.5	3.5	7.72	-
Halibut (<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>)	156		15	33.08	-
Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)	0.48 kg		0.34	0.75	Body
John Dory (<i>Zeus faber</i>)	7	8	1.814	4	-
Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	55		11.34	25	-
Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)	4	2	1.0	2.205	Body
Megrim (<i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i>)	1.85 kg		0.794	1.75	Body
Monkfish (<i>Squatina squatina</i>)	73		suspended from listings		
Mullet - Grey, thick lipped (<i>Chelon labrosus</i>)	9.1		2.268	5	Body
Mullet - Golden Grey (<i>Liza aurata</i>)	1.191 kg		0.68	1.5	Body
Mullet - Thin Lipped (<i>Liza ramada</i>)	2.83 kg		1.5	3.31	Body
Mullet - Red (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>)	0.82 kg		0.454	1.0	Body
Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)	8.23		1.5	3.31	-
Pollack (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>)	19	3	5.443	12	Photo
Pouting (<i>Trisopterus luscus</i>)	4	13.5	1.361	3	-
Ray - Blonde (<i>Raja brachyura</i>)	37		11.34	25	Photo
Ray - Cuckoo (<i>Raja naevus</i>)	5	11	1.8	4.0	Photo
Ray - Electric (<i>Torpedo nobiliana</i>)	40 kg		9.072	20	Photo
Ray - Homelyn (<i>Raja montagui</i>)	8.28		2.268	5	Photo
Ray - Painted (<i>Raja microocellata</i>)	17.21		4.536	10	Photo
Ray - Sting (<i>Dasyatis pastinaca</i>)	33.2 kg		13.608	30	Photo
Ray - Thornback (<i>Raja clavata</i>)	37		8.0	17.64	Photo
Ray - Undulate (<i>Raja undulata</i>)	18		suspended from listings		
Ray's Bream (<i>Brama brama</i>)	6	4.25	2.0	4.41	Body
Red Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>)	9	6	1.8	4.0	-
Rockling, Three Bearded (<i>Gaidropsarus vulgaris</i>)	3	1	0.794	1.75	Body
Scad (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>)	1.97		0.680	1.5	Body
Shad - Allis (<i>Alosa alosa</i>)	-		1.814	4	Scales
Shad - Twaite (<i>Alosa fallax</i>)	1.54 kg		1.1	2.4255	Scales
Shark - Blue (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	206		45.359	100	Photo
Shark - Mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>)	-		90.718	200	Photo
Shark - Porbeagle (<i>Lamna nasus</i>)	365		suspended from listings		
Shark - Six-Gilled (<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>)	480 kg		45.359	100	Photo
Shark - Thresher (<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>)	-		54.431	120	Photo
Skate - Common (<i>Raja batis</i>)	221		suspended from listings		
Skate - Long Nosed (<i>Raja oxyrinchus</i>)	-		36.287	80	Photo
Skate - White (<i>Raja alba</i>)	165		54.431	120	Photo
Smooth-Hound (<i>Mustelas asterias</i>)	16.58		3.0	6.62	Photo
Stone Basse (<i>Polyprion americanus</i>)	11.72		3.628	8	-
Tope (<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>)	66	8	18.144	40	Photo
Torsk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	4.858 kg		2.721	6	Body
Trigger Fish (<i>Balistes carolinensis</i>)	2.54 kg		1.474	3.25	Photo
Tuna - Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	29.96 kg		12	26.46	Photo
Tuna - Bluefin (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>)	440 kg		250	551.88	-
Turbot (<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>)	34		7	15.44	-
Whiting (<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>)	4	14.5	1.361	3	-
Wrasse Ballan (<i>Labrus bergylta</i>)	4.3 kg		2.154	4.75	Photo
Wrasse Cuckoo (<i>Labrus mixtus</i>)	2	7	0.567	1.25	Body

N.B. Where species identification states body required, high quality photographs (see Rule 4) may suffice.

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE RULES

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- (1) **IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE:** This Committee consists of representatives of the Irish Angling Federations and the Government Departments and official organisations interested in angling. Its objective is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large fish on rod and line in Irish waters. A list of Specimen Fish is published annually by the Committee. Only fish which can be fully vouched for as to weight and species can be accepted and listed by the Committee. Except in exceptional circumstances, claims will remain valid for a period of one year following the year of capture.
- (2) **FAIR ANGLING:** “Fair Angling” means any legitimate method of angling with rod and reel which is recognised as a fair and sporting method. A fish must be hooked in or in the immediate vicinity of the mouth when it has taken the bait or lure; fish which have been foul-hooked, even accidentally, are not eligible. A fish in respect of which a claim is made must be hooked, played and brought to gaff or net by the angler **UNAIDED**, though the fish may be gaffed or netted by another, and it is permissible for the person using the gaff to take hold of the trace or doubled line (in the case of big game fishing) to steady the fish when it has been played out and brought within reach. If a fixed rod holder is in use while boat fishing, and a fish strikes, the rod must be removed from the holder as quickly as possible. This is to ensure that the angler hooks and plays the fish with rod in hand. Where a fighting chair is employed, it must not have any mechanically driven device which aids the angler in playing a fish. Body harnesses (which attach the rod to the body) are permissible but must not be fixed to the chair. Gimbals must be free swinging including those which move in the vertical plane. Gimbals which permit the angler to rest or reduce strain while playing a fish are prohibited. Breakage of rod, reel or line, or alteration or substitution of tackle, while a fish is being played, disqualify it for claim or record purposes. A fish may not be shot, lanced, clubbed or harpooned before landing. Claims for fish caught during the statutory close season for the species (where this applies) cannot be accepted.
- (3) **WEIGHING:** Fish must be weighed in the presence of independent, reliable witnesses on a properly certified scales, e.g., a shop scales or an official club scales which is covered by a calibration certificate from an appropriate service provider (e.g. NML). Claims cannot be accepted in respect of fish weighed on scales inappropriate to the size of the fish, e.g., fish in the 1 to 3 kg range weighed on balances weighing up to 50 kg or over and graduated in large divisions. Best guidance regarding minimum weights recommends that fish being weighed should exceed 20 times the scale weighing interval (e.g. $20 \times 20\text{g} = 400\text{g}$). Where weights are in large divisions (e.g. 1 lb/1 kg divisions) the weight of a fish must be rounded **DOWN** to the nearest actual division.

CLAIMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED IN THE CASE OF FISH WHICH HAVE BEEN WEIGHED ON BOARD A BOAT, UNLESS WEIGHED ON A CERTIFIED MOTION-COMPENSATED BALANCE.

*Please note: All club and personal scales **MUST** be certified annually by an independent agency. Weighing scales must be covered by a Certificate of Accuracy at the time of weighing. They cannot be certified in retrospect, i.e. after the fish has been weighed.*

- (4) IDENTIFICATION:** The identification of a fish must be fully documented where there is a possibility of its confusion with any other (and particularly larger) species. For this reason, the Committee, in respect of some species, insists that scales from the fish, close up photographs or the actual body must be forwarded as actual proof of identification, before it will consider claims.

FISH SCALES must be submitted in respect of claims for **SALMON, SEA TROUT, BROWN TROUT** (including **SLOB TROUT**), **RUDD, ROACH**, and their hybrids, and **SHAD**. Any brown trout taken in tidal waters, i.e., in the sea or in an estuary below the freshwater boundary as defined for that river will be regarded for claim purposes as a slob trout. About 10 scales scraped from one shoulder of the salmonid should be sent with the claim.

THE ACTUAL BODY must be forwarded for identification in the case of the following species:- **MACKEREL, SCAD, HERRING, FLOUNDER, DAB, BRILL, MEGRIM, GREY & RED GURNARDS, GREY MULLET, GOLDEN GREY, THIN-LIPPED AND RED MULLET, ANGLER FISH, LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH, THREE BEARDED ROCKLING, BLACK BREAM, RAYS BREAM, CUCKOO WRASSE, TORSK, "RIVER" EELS** taken in tidal waters and **GARFISH** (head and gills only). Claims may be ratified where a photograph is of sufficient quality to provide conclusive evidence (i.e. key identification features clearly visible) to identify a fish, to the satisfaction of the Committee. However, the onus to provide suitable evidence rests solely with the angler.

CLEAR, SHARP, CLOSE-UP PHOTOGRAPHS, showing the entire fish with its fins and other features easily seen, and not fore-shortened or obscured by shadows or bystanders must be provided in the case of **TOPE, SHARKS, RAYS, BLUEMOUTH, POLLACK, COALFISH, BALLAN WRASSE, TRIGGER FISH, ALBACORE, TUB GURNARD** (pectoral fins of gurnard must be fully expanded), **GILTHEAD BREAM** (whole body and head shot showing mouth and eyes) and **BLACKMOUTHED DOGFISH**.

RECORD FISH: Claim must be supported by a series of clear photographs showing relevant features for positive identification and an indication of fish length (preferably a ruler/fish measurement mat). Records will be weight based only.

In the case of skates and rays, photographs of both back and belly surfaces should be provided and particulars of the coloration given (with particular reference to the presence of dark or grey spots, or streaks or patches on the belly side). Detailed photographs of the teeth should be furnished in the case of Porbeagle and Mako Sharks. In addition, there should be a clear close-up photograph showing the jaws and teeth exposed.

- (5) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF CLAIMS:** A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. However, provision will be made that when an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures larger fish, these will be taken into account but the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three awards. By including this latter provision, it

will ensure that the anglers competitive spirit is kept up and higher achievements could still be sought.

(6) SENDING FISH TO THE COMMITTEE:

Please

- (1) Notify the Committee when a fish is being sent in for identification.
Telephone: 01-884 2600; Fax: 01-836 0060.
E-mail: bridie.fleming@fisheriesireland.ie
- (2) Do not forward fish to the Committee before Bank Holidays or weekends; (keep in a cold store or preferably frozen if fish cannot be delivered quickly on or before Friday afternoon).
- (3) Please attach a label to each fish forwarded for identification giving the captor's name and address, date and place of capture and the weight of the fish.
- (4) Fish should not be sent in polythene bags or wrapped in aluminium foil as this causes rapid decomposition. Specimens should be wrapped in greaseproof paper and then in newspaper and brown paper.

(7) AWARDS: Anglers whose claims have been accepted by the Committee will be awarded special "Merit Badges" in the case of Specimen Fish and Silver Medals in the case of Record Fish. Specimen Fish Certificates will also be issued in respect of all ratified claims. Only one merit badge will be awarded to any angler per annum even where multiple claims are received. Specially commissioned awards are made to anglers for cumulative specimen fish captures of 20 species, 10 species, 50 specimens or 10 specimens. Other special awards are the Dr. Micheal Kennedy Award (Mullet of the year), the Dr. Arthur Went Award (Young Specimen Angler of the Year), the Minister's Award (Fish of a Lifetime) and the Failte Ireland's Best International Specimen Fish Award (for the best overseas angler specimen).

IMPORTANT – Completed claim forms should be sent to: The Irish Specimen Fish Committee, Inland Fisheries Ireland, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin, Rep. of Ireland (Tel. 00-353-1-884 2600) before 15th November each year. Where required for identification purposes (see Rule 4) fish should be sent to the same address. Scales from shad and cyprinid hybrids for genetic analysis must be forwarded to ISFC before 15th October.

For marine fish taken in Northern Ireland contact Dr. Steven Beggs, AFBINI, Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX, Ph: +44 (0) 28 9025 5503.
Email: steven.beggs@afbini.gov.uk

For freshwater fish taken in Northern Ireland contact Dr. Robert Rosell, AFBINI, Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX. Tel: +44 (0) 28 9025 5236,
Fax: +44 (0) 28 9025 5004.
Email: robert.rosell@afbini.gov.uk

A DUTCH ANGLE

Part 2

Over the past 40 years **Hans van Loenen**, a species and specimen hunter (200+ species), has written many articles for different angling magazines. He has fished in Kenya, Alaska, Venezuela and northern Norway, and in many countries in between, including Ireland. He has visited Ireland over 50 times and has fished all over the country for both freshwater and saltwater species. For more than 30 years Hans has been chairman of the Dutch Record Sea Fish Committee.



Hans van Loenen with his largest-ever fish. This enormous cod was taken during a winter trip to the top of Norway. It was 155 cm long and weighed 36.09 kg.

I was the first ever contributor of an article for the annual Irish Specimen Fish Committee Report. That was back in 1989. Now, 23 years later, I have the honour of updating readers on Dutch anglers fishing in Irish waters.

The Netherlands is a small, over-populated country and despite the current economic crisis, most Dutch people are still exceptionally busy. During the working week it is not unusual to spend 40 hours in the office and another 10 hours stuck in traffic jams. Besides being hard working the Dutch are also very competitive. On the sporting side we have a great football team and some of the world's best swimmers, skaters and hockey players. Apart from being competitive in sport we also like other leisure activities including angling.

Nearly 1.5 million Dutch people like to fish and this is mainly done on canals, lakes and rivers for bream, roach, carp and pike throughout the country. Fishing is quite excellent in freshwater due to much improved water quality.

But many Dutch anglers also like to fish in seawater – it is estimated between 400,000 to 500,000 anglers fish in the sea mainly for flatfish, whiting and cod, but increasingly for

bass, a species that has recently colonized the coastal waters and wrecks along the Dutch coast. (Global warming over the last two decades is a likely factor for this change). Anglers rarely catch large individuals (over 5 kg) of any of these species. Other species are too small to be of any major interest.

The lack of big fish and the limited number of interesting species to target means that many Dutch anglers travel all over Europe and further afield, to catch a range of species including tuna, marlin, blue shark, skate or big ling and/or trout and pike. Those travelling/flying Dutchmen will usually travel as a group and often book a hotel and boat fishing package, and will fish for 5 or 6 days at any one time. Every year approximately 18,000 Dutch people travel to Ireland for activities including walking, golf and sea and freshwater fishing. More than 3000 people go exclusively for fishing – 54% for sea fishing and 46% for freshwater fishing.

Everywhere the Dutch angler goes he/she likes to document catches of large fish and the Dutch Record Sea Fish Committee www.ncrz.nl has several record lists (Table 1) where catches by Dutch anglers in international waters are specially recorded. The Irish Specimen Fish Committee has worked closely with the Dutch Committee over many years to assist our work.

From the Irish Specimen Fish Committee records it is clear that the Dutch are good anglers. Every year numerous Dutch fishermen catch large numbers of fish in Irish waters and many of these are specimens. In the past 12 years alone the Dutch have caught 545 specimen fish in Ireland. Only 8 of these were freshwater fish – Dutch freshwater fishermen prefer to measure rather than weigh their catch before releasing. Although a typical Dutch angler will normally visit Ireland once a year for a one week fishing trip, it is quite remarkable that 6 Dutch sea fishermen hold current Irish sea fish records.

The ISFC listings of angler nationality shows that Irish fishermen top the list of specimen fish catches every year but, since 2003, the Dutch have caught many more specimen fish compared to anglers from Great Britain, Denmark, Germany and France. For example, in 2011 Dutch anglers caught 8.5% of the total number of specimens compared to 2.4% for UK anglers.

Table 1. Record lists for Dutch sea anglers

In Holland three sea fishing record lists operate (www.ncrz.nl)
Record list for Dutch marine waters
Record list European marine waters (including Ireland) <i>109 records of which 24 were caught in Ireland</i>
Record list marine waters outside Europe

Why do the Dutch fishermen catch so many more specimens (saltwater fish) compared to other international fishermen? Are we really better fishermen? I will try to provide the answer.

Looking back on the last 20 years or so, anglers will generally be familiar with developments in sport fishing. This includes better, safer and faster boats and really hardworking charter skippers, and high quality GPS, radars, fish finders and depth sounders. But these developments are the same for every tourist angler travelling to Ireland so no obvious advantage for Dutch anglers over others.

The Dutch are a competitive nation and this is certainly true for the Dutch tourist angler. For example, in 2012 our women's and men's teams became the shore fishing world champions! Dutch anglers prepare well for these overseas trips and read a lot about our hobby. The Dutch not only like to catch large numbers of fish, but specimen and species hunting have also become popular in recent years. This doesn't mean fishing for a whole week for blue shark, but changing tactics every day to catch as many species as possible. This attitude, combined with a good knowledge of the species being targeted, and using the right equipment gives us the best chance of success. Technology has improved chances of success – over the years rods and reels have improved and specialist lines like Dyneema have really helped to change fishing completely. (A few years ago I fished in Norway at a depth of 500 metres and saw every bite – impossible with nylon line!).

Common sense is important too – as long as your line and hook are in the water everything is possible!

Dutch anglers really enjoy coming to Ireland. The Dutch and Irish people really like each other. We think you live in a beautiful country and you can offer us good quality freshwater and sea fishing for a really fair price. Dutch anglers visiting Ireland will be trying to catch more fish and break records for many years to come.

Kind regards,

Hans van Loenen

Chairman of the Dutch Record Sea Fish Committee.

International Game Fish Association representative for the Netherlands.

Dames en heren, Nederlandse sportvissers. Laten wij de Ieren ook in 2013 verrassen met een enorme hoeveelheid specimen. En misschien zelfs een paar Ierse records. Succes!

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Philip Fox with a specimen Gilthead Bream

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IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE

Some important points for claiming specimen fish:

1. Use official ISFC claim form and complete **ALL** relevant sections fully.
2. **Print** your name, address (including country) and telephone number in block capitals in Section 2.
3. **Weighing:** Fish **MUST** be weighed (on land) on **CERTIFIED** club scales etc. or alternatively, on a shop scales. If in doubt, use a shop scales. Fish must not be weighed on board a boat.
4. **Scales must be certified annually** by a competent independent authority and the certificate of accuracy must be current at time of weighing. Certificate must accompany each claim.
5. **Fish scales, actual bodies or photographs** of some species are required (See Section 4 of the Rules for details).
6. You **MUST** sign and date Section 6 of the Claim Form. Ensure witnesses sign the Claim Form.

Back Cover: *Sean Clohessy's Red Gurnard and
Duncan Cole's beautifully coloured Ballan Wrasse*

