What's Hot

A spot check of what's selling around the country.

(Ed. Note: Interviews for this month's "What's Hot Where" were conducted in June.

Comments address what is selling at the time of the interviews. Retailers interviewed are selected at random.)

Where	The Expert	Dominant Fishery	Rods & Reels	
South	Dave Westra, Lehr's Economy Tackle; North Fort Myers, Fla.	redfish, tarpon, snook	G.Loomis, St. Croix and Star rods; Quantum's Cabo 30 and 40 reels and Daiwa's SS Tournament Series spinning reels	
	Frank Spencer, Intracoastal Angler; Wilmington, N.C.	redfish, trout, flounder	Shimano Stradic and Quantum Catalyst reels; Crowder and Lamiglas spinning rods (6-foot, 6-inch models)	
Northeast	Paul Bourassa, Dad's Tackle; Buxton, Maine	stripers, shad, brook trout	Eagle Claw and Pflueger trolling rods (9-foot lengths); Pflueger 7- and 9-weight fly rods; large arbor fly reels from Redington, Pflueger and Okuma	
	Kevin Bogan, Bogan's Bait & Tackle; Point Pleasant, N.J.	stripers, bluefish, summer flounder	Penn's 310 GTi conventional reels and SS series spinning reels; store-brand Fish Poison rods	
Midwest	Jeff Mather, Dehner's Sport Center; National City, Mich.	largemouth, smallmouth, crappie, bluegill, walleye	Shimano 2500 series spinning reels, Shakespeare Ugly Stiks and Eagle Claw rods (6 feet, medium action); Berkley Cherrywood ultralight rods	
	Ray Daffron, Ray's Rod & Reel Repair Service; Wichita, Kan.	bass, crappie, channel catfish, bluegill	Wright & McGill Sabalos spinning reels; Zebco 733 spincast combos	
West	Gerry Reller, Reller's Bent Willow; Townsend, Mont.	rainbow trout, walleye	Shakespeare Ugly Stiks and Eagle Claw rods (6- to 7-foot lengths); Okuma and Shimano spinning and trolling reels	
	Phil Trimm, Western Angler; Grand Junction, Colo.	rainbow trout, brown trout, cutthroat trout	Scott and Sage 3- to 6-weight rods; Ross Rhythm and Evolution reels	

BY KEN FREEL

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4	Line	Lures	Terminal Tackle	Overview
	PowerPro and Cortland braids; Seaguar fluorocarbon leaders	Yo-Zuri Pins Minnows, MirrOlure MR 19s, Bomber plugs, Fishbites Shrimp, Berkley Gulp Saltwater and D.O.A. Shrimp	Owner, Gamakatsu and Mustad short-shank bait hooks (No. 2 to 1/0)	"The fishing's been great for tarpon, snook and practically all species."
	Sufix and PowerPro braids (8- to 20-pound tests)	Rapala Skitter Walks and D.O.A. soft baits	Owner hooks (1/0 to 5/0 sizes); Spro swivels	"It's been good overall for red drum, trout and flounder. I hope it will continue."
	Cortland salmon trolling line	Al's Goldfish lures, Gary Yamamoto Senkos, Panther Martin Vivifs	Mustad Octopus Beak hooks (all sizes)	"It's been fantastic for big stripers. It's the best fishing I've ever seen. No one is complaining."
	Ande monofila- ment (20- to 30- pound tests)	Generic diamond jigs and Berkley Gulp	Spro swivels; Gamakatsu's circle and live bait hooks	"Business as a whole is off, but the rod business is very good for inshore species, especially stripers."
	Stren Original and Berkley Trilene XL	Rapala Skitter Pops and Zoom Super Flukes	Tru-Turn snelled and bass hooks; Eagle Claw Aberdeen hooks; South Bend and Danielson swivels	"Not many people are out there because of the weather, but those who are out are catching lots of bass and panfish."
	Cajun Red and PowerPro (up to 30-pound test)	Bill Lewis Rat-L-Traps; Southern Pro crappie jigs	Eagle Claw hooks (No. 1 to No. 6)	"Fishing's been terrible because of too much water lately."
	PowerPro and Berkley Trilene XL (10- to 15-pound tests)	Rapala's Shad Raps and X-Raps, Yum CrawBugs, Berkley Gulp	Mustad Slow Death hooks; Eagle Claw and P-Line swivels	"Folks are catching mostly rainbow trout, but it's been tough for walleye because of the rainy weather."
	Scientific Anglers Mastery Series and Rio lines	Large, generic streamers	Umpqua Tiemco hooks and Rio tippets	"It's been tough because of the runoff from snow melt, but anglers are catching their share of rainbows, browns and cutthroat."

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