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Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Winston TMF ?'s

Re: Winston TMF ?'s

Author: : GreenWeenie

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URL:

I would agree and yet completely disagree with JayL's assessment. Compared to a fast action Sage or Loomis or some of the other cheaper fast action broomsticks out there than yes, one could label the Winston rod a noodle but it is an extremely versatile noodle that can do a lot more than just fish dries at close ranges.

Effectively using and liking a truly traditional medium action rod all comes down to casting stroke and technique. If your casting stroke is tailored around a fast action Sage type rod than absolutely, you will have all kinds of difficulty casting a Winston and you probably won't like it. But if you slow down your casting stroke and let the rod do the work most of the 4 weight Winstons will easily reach out to 45 - 50 feet with the BiiX's and BiiMX's easily hitting 70 feet. With my 9 foot WT 5 weight (medium action) I can toss a cone head #8 muddler with three #4 split shot on the tippet accurately up to 30 - 35 feet without a problem and this distance more than suits my needs. With no split shot that muddler is out to 40 - 45 feet and with a #14 dry as an example, I can easily reach out to 55 - 60 feet in low wind conditions. To me this is pretty versatile. But in order to do so it takes a slower casting stroke and good timing to make the rod come alive in your hands and you either have that casting stroke or you don't. I'm not saying one stroke is right or wrong but if your timing is off you can't add power to the stroke to compensate for poor timing or you will quickly overload the rod and the cast will fall apart.

But within the WT series the TMF rod is definitely more specialized and specifically designed to excel under delicate close-up dry fly fishing conditions. I certainly wouldn't buy this rod to be my all purpose rod, as that is not what it is meant to be, but I wouldn't hesitate to buy a different Winston WT to be my all purpose rod if traditional action feel in graphite is what you want (the BiiT is Winston's traditional action rod except made of Boron). If you don't want a traditional feel but are interested in Winston than stay away from the WT (3 piece) and BiiT (4 piece) series and look at the BiiX (Boron fast action) or BiiMX (Boron extra fast) series rods (both 4 piece). The LT series (Winston's graphite 5 piece series) is a bit faster than the WT but somewhat slower than the BiiX.