

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Cheap Rods & Gear You Are Proud to Own

Re: Cheap Rods & Gear You Are Proud to Own

Author: : DGC

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URL:

I understand from the H&H site that you can no longer buy just a spool for the Medalist, which was always around \$10-15 vs. \$25.00 for the reel. The reel has been at that price for what seems like forever.

The Akron made Medalists from the 60's are my favorites as fishing tools, though the earlier models have the collector cache. There is nothing wrong with any of the later versions per se, though I think the aluminum is softer on the CJs (Japan) and AKs (China). The Diamolite line guard on the Akrons is harder and smoother than the line guards on the later models, as well. The pawl on the Akrons was metal, on the overseas models it's some sort of graphite composite.

For trout and bass, I don't think twice about using any of them, whether made in the US or overseas.

They do run a bit heavy, but that is perfect if you are also buying a less expensive rod, because they also run a bit heavier.

I use them because that's what my old man used and I kind of like that linkage to tradition so long as it works in the field and stream.

Edit: While on the subject I would like to clear up a common misconception. Medalists with the suffix DA as in 1494DA, were made in Fayetteville, AR. The DA does not mean Dual Action.