Subject: : Gear Talk
Topic: : orvis rods, are they good?
Re: orvis rods, are they good?
Author: : pcray1231
Date: : 2010/12/21 13:36:33
URL:

Quote:

> is the sage a fast action, i want to throw streamers and big bugs.

Sage is a company, and offers an entire lineup of models, from slow action to fast action, and from fairly expensive to ridiculously expensive, lol. They do tend to be known more for their faster action rods. Though I've never owned one (too expensive), a Sage XP was perhaps the sweetest rod I've ever cast. The XP is no longer made and was replaced with the Z-axis, I've manfondled them in shops but never really cast one.

Quote:

> i dont see a GL3 on sage web site.

The GL3 is/was a model made by G. Loomis, and Loomis was always one of the closer comparisons to Sage (i.e. known for good fast rods and fairly expensive). It was a "value" priced model, in the same price range as the Orvis Power Matrix, but a step higher than their entry level GL2, which I've never tried. The GL3 would be described as medium-fast, but IMO its much more powerful than the Power Matrix and would make a much better streamer rod. G Loomis' more expensive, faster model was always the GLX, and was more in the price range of the Sage XP/Z-axis category (i.e. very expensive). I cast one at a shop once and had a very positive first impression, but never was able to give a GLX a true looksee on a stream. Loomis underwent some significant changes rather recently, and I don't know what they make these days, but if there's something you want you can usually find one around somewhere even if its not still in production.

As far as rod quality, if you find an Orvis you really like, go for it, but their tapers never screamed powerful or streamer rod to me, rather they excelled in soft actions and that just ain't my cup o tea (perhaps why I never liked their rods). Of the so-called fast action rods they make, there was always something a little funny in the feel of the cast, not smooth enough or something. For streamer fishing, I think you want something with some backbone. Sage and Loomis do have some fast, powerful rods for streamer type work, but you don't have to go that expensive.

I fall far short of knowing the lineups for these companies, but its a place to start.

Cortland - always found their rods to be nice and crisp at a nice price range.

Winston
TFO
Thomas and Thomas
Scott
St. Croix
Redington

And the big box names, like Cabelas, can have some decent stuff, but its hit or miss.

Remember, the warranty is a consideration as well.