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Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : New to the Sport

Re: New to the Sport

Author: : tomgamber

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URL:

I'm gonna disagree with you on this one , Pad. I have a 5-6 wt rod and use weight forward 5wt and a Double taper 6wt line on this rod. I have a couple of 4wt and think there is a really big difference between teh 4 and 5wts. I have used both my 4 and 5 wt for bass...The 4 was much more unintentional but did just fine on a pretty hefty bass. I don't make a habit of iusing the 4wt with bass though. However I would not hesitate to use a 6wt for bass at all. I think its a great wt for for small and largemouth. There are plenty of guides in the Outer Banks that put a 6wt in your hand when they take you out for specks and Schoolie stripers.

Now(sticking to the subject), for a beginner I would reccomend a 9ft 5wt. I don't like putting shorter rods in the hands of beginners. I think it can be discouraging. Yes a 8ft rod is more versatile but 9ft will help you learn to cast much better. If you're looking to only spend about \$100 the courtland outfits are pretty nice. I also like the Cabelas Traditional outfits. They come with a nice reel and they'll set you up with backing and line on the reel before you leave the store. I got on ein an 8wt a few years ago and I like it a lot. Another good start outfit is LLBeans Angler outfit. not a lot of bells and whistle but my first good rod (back when they DID come with wooden reel seats) was an Angler Rod and its still one of my favorites. With that said, I would reccomend that you definately start out with a Weight Forward line. Other than that, if you have the blessing of being able to buy one from a store, not online or mail order, see if you can't get the seller to let you test cast one first.