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Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : St. Croix Legend Elite Series (5wt.)

Re: St. Croix Legend Elite Series (5wt.)

Author: : krayfish

Date: : 2013/8/29 12:21:44

URL:

Can't agree with a majority of post #10. Does the Helios have a nicer finish-guides-cork? Yes. With the overall weights close, the swing weights close, warranty on both is good and the performance also close, is the Helios2 worth an additional \$350-400? Not to me. I could use that other money for a new pair of waders, reel or lines.

I've had the Ultras from 10 years ago and then compare them to the last year they were made and there's a big difference. You then take the Ultra and put it up against an Elite and they are 2 totally different rods. The Ultra was labeled "fast" and it may have been compared to rods in the early 2000's. The Elite is a huge step above in performance. As I mentioned in my earlier post, my z-axis is the back up rod and the Elite is the preferred weapon.

I don't know too many people that can detect 0.3 oz overall rod weight differences. I sure can't. Where there may be a difference is in the swing weight. I traded the OP a reel for a 10' BVK. I'm not sure I'll use it after casting it in the yard. To me, it felt quite tip heavy. Maybe a heavy reel and use it for nymphing from the boat will work.

If you look at what many will consider the top rods on the market, They are all \$715-\$795 except for the Elite which is the \$450 range. Big difference in price but not performance. Dave Rothrock used mine for a newbie jam a year or two ago for a casting demo. After casting it, he said "that's a damn nice rod. I like it. What is it?". He's what I'd consider a pretty darn advanced angler / caster. It just confirmed what I felt. I have some Sage rods so it's not that I'm a tight azz with the wallet. I'm frugal and can't justify paying \$400 for the same thing because it has a prettier stripping guide or a neater cork. If you see it as an artwork, pay for the extras. I use mine to catch fish so I won't pay that extra \$\$\$. My 0.02 and now I'll go away. God bless.

Overall rod weight:

Orvis H2 - 2.4 oz \$795

Elite - 2.9 oz \$450

Sage one - 2.6 oz \$775

WInston Billx - 3.3 oz \$795

Hardy Zenith - 3 oz \$675

Just to make sure I contradict myself, after casting a H2 tip flex, I'd buy one. It's a nice stick.