

Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : South Bend Bamboo

Re: South Bend Bamboo

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Rod action 101 (according to Joe E): There is no accepted terms defining rod action that can be truly agreed upon when you have more than 10 casts in the room. Some try and slow down the rod as other try and speed it up (one line weight up and one line weight down). One rod may be fast for one caster and slow for another it all depend on what you like and the fishing situation you have at hand. Rod Actions for bamboo were described as Dry fly Action, Modified dry fly, Semi-parabolic and Parabolic. Today most rod tapers are described a fast, medium or slow and has nothing to do with distance casting. I can cast a semi-parabolic taper further than a dry fly action rod. The wet tip on a bamboo rod has a few thousands of an inch added to the upper portion of the tip section and you can fish dry just as well with the wet tip as you can the dry tip. The loop may be a little tighter with the dry tip but your accuracy and distance will better with the wet tip (IMO). I like Semi-parabolic and Parabolic action (Slow) for long casts and/or big fish and the dry and modified dry fly action (Medium to fast) for casting dries. But that really means nothing to someone who fishes fast action plastic because even a fast action bamboo is slow. So if you like it fish it no matter what other say but the 323 is an awesome rod. I hope your 323 has a wet and dry tip, if it does and you will see and feel the difference in casting what a few thousands of an inch added to the tip can do and make a difference. My .02...

Joe E