

# BREAM



*“Table fish of high quality with commendable fighting ability”*

## BREAM = B

### HOW TO CATCH BREAM

In the bays and estuaries drift fish with bait approx. 10m behind dinghy, using either Rig No.1 or Rig No.2. Strike when the extra weight of a fish is felt on the line.

When fishing at anchor, cast into the direction the current is coming from and direct the bait into the deeper water. Take up slack line as current washes bait back towards you. On a snag free bottom use Rig No.2 and either repeat action occasionally or let bait sit. If in an area of snags use Rig No.1 and cast towards the deeper water, letting the current wash the bait back into the snags.

Let the bait sit until a fish has picked it up. Strike when extra weight is felt on the line. Do not allow any slack line on retrieval.

At the beach, cast to the preferred feeding locations in the gutters and suck outs. Take up slack line and let bait sit. Repeat action if bait returns to the beach. Strike when a bite is felt. Retrieve fish slowly, allowing no slack line.

On a year round basis the bream would likely be the most prolific species in the local area when it comes to angling

No fibs, there's more bream here than cheese burgers at McDonalds. In the bays and estuaries, catches between 300g and 450g are not uncommon with fish around 900g being taken at regular intervals. The beach will produce larger fish up to 1.5kg. Appearing in greater numbers between May and September, it is suggested to fish any part of the run in tide, top of tide and last two hours of the run out tide in the early morning, late afternoon and night.

Fish around the deep holes and drop offs in the estuaries, rivers and canals while keeping in mind that angling close to mangrove trees and oyster leases will also deliver pleasing results. Gravel, silt and sand bottoms along with rock headwalls make for ideal bream habitats.

Fish the gutters and suck outs at the beach.

Preferential winds will be up to 10 knots coming from either the south, south-east, south-west, east and north-east, with westerlies more suited to the beach. Cloudy to overcast skies and rain all make for excellent weather conditions, with clear skies having justified merit in the deeper water. Drift fishing or fishing at anchor are both suitable practices for bream fishing in the bays and estuaries. A berley of bread, bran or laying pellets used lightly will assist to attract bream to your bait. An old and ongoing debate exists among anglers as to which is the more productive bait. As bream

will take a large variety of baits, some of the more commonly used and readily available have been selected. Take your pick between yabbies, blood worms, beach worms, small live baits, fresh fish strips, mullet gut, chicken gut, dough, peeled fresh prawns and pipis or eugaries.

### DOUGH RECIPE

Mix plain flour with a strong smelling cheese such as blue vein and a few drops of tuna oil. Add water and mix together until a firm but pliable consistency is achieved.

### HANDLING

A little respect should be shown when handling bream. Although not overly painful, their dorsal and anal spines can deliver annoying puncture wounds. Hold with a cloth on the underside of the body behind the head.

### RODS, REELS AND RIGS

In the bays and estuaries, try a medium to fast taper boat rod to 3m, along with a 125mm or 150mm side cast reel or a medium size egg-beater reel capable of 130m of 4kg to 5kg mono.

For the beach, balance up a 150mm side cast reel with a surf rod to suit the individual.

### WHERE TO CATCH BREAM

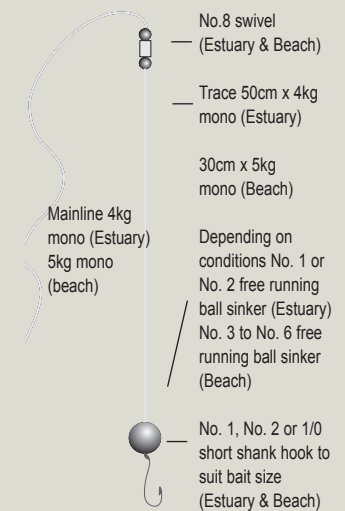
#### ESTUARIES

Refer to Estuary maps.

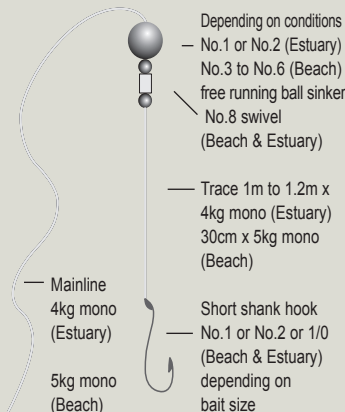
#### BEACH

Refer to How to Read the Beach diagram.

### SNAG BOTTOM NO. 1



### SNAG FREE BOTTOM NO. 2



**BAIT:** Yabbies, Blood & Beach Worms, Pipis, Fresh Fish Strips, Mullet & Chicken gut.