

TACKLE NEWS



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EXCLUSIVE NEW GEAR REVIEWS BY MARK SAWYER



AnglingTimes
TESTED ON THE BANK
Maver Diamond Feeder
10ft 6ins rod

FEEDER RODS FOR DIAMOND GEEZERS!

Commercial matchmen will love Maver's mini-marvels

S **HORT feeder rods are still very much in vogue on commercial fisheries.**

Super-accurate on the cast, they can be tucked down the side of a platform out of the wind, and are that bit easier all round to handle when elbow room is at a premium.

Provided you're not faced with a seriously long chuck, rods like this will cast far enough to put you on the fish on most commercials. And, needless to say, they are ideal

for Method tactics in the margins where really big fish are about.

Many modern match anglers will tell you that 10ft is as short as you ever need to go with a feeder rod.

Bang on cue, enter Maver's latest Diamond Feeder. This 10ft 6ins rod in two sections is the perfect length for most commercial feeder and straight lead tactics.

It's one of four in the range, all boasting high-modulus carbon, cork handle with EVA casting

and thumb grips, low-profile lined ceramic guides and the ever-handy folding keeper ring. You also get three graded carbon quivertips.

Unlike a number of other shorter rods that I have tested, Maver's 10ft 6ins Diamond Feeder has the casting clout to propel a 30g

flatbed Method feeder a decent distance with a fair degree of accuracy. I proved this during a live test at Decoy's mixed-stock Horseshoe Lake... and before any of you familiar with this venue clamour that this lake hasn't got a long cast on it, I also spent some time casting different weights

"The Diamond Feeder is an ideal Method rod for the margins where really big fish are about"

READY TO GO...

Two equal length sections - with the tips attached - make the rod suitable for carrying ready made-up to the bank.



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and distances on the much larger Beastie Lake.

My findings weren't all that different from Maver's recommendations, but in my opinion the blank's limits are being pushed with anything over 60g (2oz) chucked 60 yards.

To be honest, that's more than enough power and distance for most day-ticket fisheries.

A huge plus point is the rod's non-locking, progressive action

with no flat spots.

As you can see from the picture, it tightens up really quickly from a third of the way down the top section, putting you in command when a fish is at the net.

Despite this the rod is not overly stiff, and you'd need to be really clumsy to suffer many hook-pulls. As Dame Shirley Bassey sang, 'Diamonds are forever'...and sure enough, this rod's a keeper!

Price: £189.99



THE DIAMOND RANGE

THE latest Maver Diamond Feeder rod range features 9ft, 10ft 6ins (live-tested here), 12ft and 12ft 8ins models. All have quality two-piece carbon blanks that offer a high degree of tactical flexibility. The two longer rods are best suited to distance feeder fishing, where their anti-locking properties and progressive actions allow them to be used with lighter hooklengths and smaller hooks – ideal for long-range bream and skimmer work. All rods come with three graded push-in carbon quivertips.

Price: 9ft £179.99, 10ft 6ins £189.99, 12ft £199.99, 12ft 8ins £215



The three other Diamond Feeder rods in the range.

"This rod can be used with a wide choice of weights for tactical flexibility"

MARK'S VERDICT

THE delightful jet black Diamond Feeder gets a huge thumbs-up from me. It's everything you could wish for. It'll cast a fair distance when you need to, it's super-accurate at short range, and it can be used with a wide choice of weights for tactical flexibility. At just 181g it's very light, and its progressive action combines controlled pulling power with enough softness to make it suitable for reel lines from 4lb to 8lb, with hooklengths down to 0.12mm.



Just part of Mark's tackle test catch.