



Tips & Tactics for TROPHY MUSKY



Dedicated musky fishermen are on the water in the fall. Giving up time from duck, grouse and bow hunting, they will fish until the lakes ice over. Fall is an excellent time to fish muskies. Although preparations for the cold weather fishing can turn some anglers off, if properly dressed it's an exhilarating experience.

Warm clothing is important, as is a good pair of warm boots. Surgical gloves worn under a pair of cold weather fishing gloves will keep hands dry.

Fall is the time of year when chances are best to land a true wall-hanger musky of 50 inches or larger. Musky feed heavy during the fall, adding body fat to get them through the cold winter. Understanding the habits of the baitfish they feed on at this time is crucial.

In North America's top musky waters, the lakes and flowages of northern Wisconsin, ciscos and whitefish are both fall staples in a musky's diet. Evenings, in late fall, these fish enter the shallows to spawn. Muskies follow them in to feed. Heavy populations of these baitfish provide the oily meat that really adds weight.

Both Mepps Musky and Giant Killers emulate ciscos and whitefish. Try a silver or rainbow scale blade with a white or black and white bucktail. Either can be deadly this time of year.

Remaining as quiet as possible while fishing these shallows is absolutely essential; don't even use an electric trolling motor. Drift into shore and cast on the way.

Sunny fall days will provide calm afternoon water and are excellent times to fish

Musky fishing requires a great deal of patience, dedication and enthusiasm. The old cliché of having to make 10,000 casts seems a little unrealistic for a single musky, but there's a lot of truth to it. At times this dedication is referred to as "Musky Fever," a sickness.

a Musky Killer in the cabbage weeds. It's here the muskies go to warm themselves. They also take advantage of the shadows to stalk their prey. Because of the similarity of weather conditions, this is also an excellent place to find muskies in the early summer.

Musky season opens early. Fishing lakes shallower than 20 feet can be the key to early season action. A slow presentation is needed. Muskies do not become aggressive until water temperatures reach 70 to 75 degrees. Fish shallow bays and large flats of weeds early in the season with a Mepps Musky Killer.



Magnum Musky Killers are 143% bigger than Mepps Musky Killers. These big lures feature an extra heavy #7 solid brass blade for unequalled flash, and a vibration you can feel all the way up to your shoulders.

Both the Magnum Musky Killer and Mepps Musky Marabou can run as deep as eight feet, making them excellent choices for fishing the mid-summer haunts of big

muskies, including weed lines bordering deep water. They are also excellent warm water spinners for fishing over weeds with a rapid retrieve.

Remember to keep your rod tip high and start your retrieve quickly when "working" the weeds with any big lure.

The Mepps Giant Killer also produces a very definite vibration when retrieved. This classic Mepps spinner has always been a great producer of large fish because it's so well suited for water depths of four to 12 feet. Big musky are found in these depths all summer long. Giant Killers with a single bucktail weigh 1-1/4 ounces, and tandem bucktails weigh 1-3/4 ounces. The Giant Killer's heavy blade and body make long casts possible with little effort.



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After you've caught four different qualifying species of fish you'll become a **Mepps Master Angler**, one of the highest honors in our sport. Once you've caught 10 different qualifying species you'll be awarded a **Mepps Expert Fisherman patch**, identifying you as one of the best fishermen in the country. There are fewer than 500 Mepps Expert Anglers worldwide.

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