

BEACH & ESTUARY

KING GEORGE WHITING

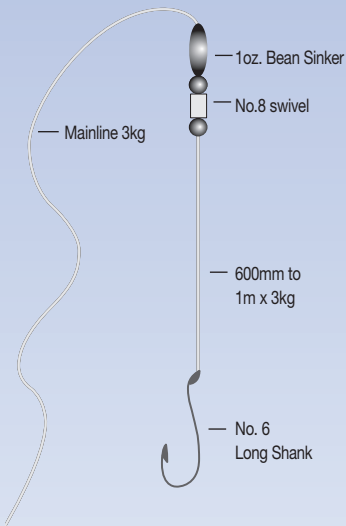


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*“Bloody good tucker
great fighters”*

King George Whiting - Due to regular changes in bag & size limits check with your local fisheries group or bait & tackle shop for current regulations

BAIT RIG



Possibly the most sought after fish in Victorian waters.

When these blokes are running you'll be bagging fish faster than the banks can make money or sack staff. Sorry they don't sack anyone any more, they're much kinder now, they downsize. Using the term downsize makes it much easier for staff to accept that they've been sacked. It gives the staff a nice warm fuzzy feeling knowing they've been lucky enough to have been chosen to be downsized. They're absolutely rapt that they've been downsized in the interest of the shareholders. Ain't it bloody beautiful to see how sensitive and caring the Boards of these institutions can be. Anyway, where not here to give the banks a free plug so lets get on with it.

Catch rates have told us the best time of the year for these blokes is mid October through to early May. I reckon they enjoy a good feed of baits such as bass yabbies, pippis, squid strips, mussels and small strips of WA pillies, cut lengthways to resemble a worm, a hell of a lot

more than some people like being downsized. Around these parts 30 to 32cm fish are pretty common and shout yourself a beer if you hook onto a 50cm whopper. One of the biggest we've heard of weighed in at 1650g. Broken cloud to overcast skies make for good fishing but don't discount any other condition either. For whatever reason they tend to love environments that have broken weed and sand bottoms as well as shale, shell, gravel and rock type bottoms. In areas where the current runs really fast, "ie.channels etc", it's best to keep your fishing to 1 hour either side of the high and low tides. Around weed beds, where there may not be such a powerful tidal rush, they seem to like a slower moving tide. So give it a go from say 1 hour after the start of the run in tide to 1 hour before the top of the tide. This is not to say you won't catch them at other parts of the tide. The smaller legal size ones can form into such massive schools that you'll be wishing you were sacked, "WHOOPS", downsized years ago. With the whoppers, they seem pretty content to have a bunch of around

half a dozen mates. Big or small, they'll give you a good workout when it comes to the fight... OK now here comes the good part, for those who were lucky enough to be downsized, the real bonus, and what you failed to see as the banks real reason for downsizing you, is that the best time to fish for King George Whiting is the daytime. So there you have it in a nutshell, you were only downsized because the bank could see that work was interfering with your fishing and they wanted you to have more fun. Didn't I tell you they were sensitive and caring people?

RODS, REELS AND RIGS

Buy, borrow or beg a slow taper rod between 2 and 2.4m and if it takes your fancy, optionally fit a quiver tip to the end of it. Lash onto this either an overhead reel, a side cast reel or a medium size chopper/eggbeater reel capable of 250m of 3 kg line.

HOW TO CATCH KING GEORGE WHITING

Although we favor fishing at anchor, you take your choice between drift