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ISFC Chairman's Review 2005



In this 50th anniversary year, it is thanks to the foresight of the founders, the hard work and dedication of those committees which followed, the generosity of the sponsors and angling boat skippers and the enthusiasm of the thousands of anglers who submitted claims over the years, that I have the pleasure of writing the introductory note to this years review! A full synopsis of the 50 years is beyond our resources but this report contains a copy of the first specimen report review (1955/56) and a special article by Dr. Michael Kennedy, one of the founder members of the ISFC which provide important narrative about angling for big fish at that time. The Committee is proud that the annual report, apart from being a significant document of record, is very accessible and is important to the angling sector, both at home and abroad.

The 2005 specimen season has seen an increase in the number of claims ratified compared to previous years and two new records, pike (lake) and stone basse, were established. The total number of claims ratified (568) is the highest since 1985 and this is partly due to the enormous number of specimen Coalfish recorded this year.

I welcome four new members appointed to the committee in 2005. The angling and tourism industry, its administrative structures and the legislative measures under which it operates, is undergoing major change. It is inevitable that new demands will be made of the committee in the coming years and fresh thinking will be required to overcome these and to resolve some long-running challenges.

Monthly reports from Met Éireann show a continuing upward trend in coastal water temperatures. This presents the prospect of further new species around our coast, as new territory becomes available for colonisation by species which favour warmer waters. The Gilthead bream (*Sparus aurata* L.) is an example and this species is being added to the specimen list in 2006.

One of the major challenges confronting the ISFC is how to maintain the high standards demanded for ratification of specimens, (for which bodies must be submitted in several cases), and balance this with the obvious need for conservation. The ISFC has considered different solutions to replace the need to weigh fish ashore. However, none of these are feasible at this time and the ISFC will continue to investigate solutions to this problem. Charter skippers and anglers have a role here and all should be investigating methods of keeping fish alive for weighing on *terra firma* and returning alive.

The only rule refinement is that from 2006 onwards, for some species normally requiring a body for identification, the Committee will accept sharp coloured photographs/images which clearly show, to the satisfaction of the Committee, the relevant unique body features e.g. the gurnards. It must be stressed, however, that the onus will always remain with the claimant to ensure positive identification is possible for ratification. In most instances it is likely that a body will still be required. The Committee has been consulted regarding pending legislation which, if introduced as currently drafted, will present difficulties with claims in some of the coarse fish categories. Genetic 'fingerprinting', using scales or other fish tissue, could resolve these difficulties. These techniques, which are only being developed, are expensive but the Committee will pursue possible sources of funding for this important identification/conservation measure. On the marine side, Monkfish and Undulate Ray are being suspended from the specimen list as a conservation measure as data shows that both species are in decline or vulnerable. This situation will be reviewed in December 2008.

On the modernisation front, the Committee will present the report using the metric system (kg) from 2006 onwards reflecting an EU-wide move away from the imperial system. Claims will continue to be accepted using the imperial system but we encourage anglers to embrace the 'newer' system as it will make reporting easier.

Finally, I wish to sincerely thank the Central Fisheries Board for continuing to provide full administrative support to the ISFC and for funding our activities. Our other main sponsors include the Marine Institute, Fáilte Ireland and the Loughs Agency and all are gratefully acknowledged. I look forward to 2006 and the beginning of another 50 years of specimen fish angling in Ireland.

Trevor Champ

Chairman
20th December, 2005

Report of the Irish Specimen Fish Committee 2005

INTRODUCTION

In 2005 the ISFC received 628 claims. 568 were ratified, including 2 new Irish records. A total of 26 was rejected for non-compliance with the rules and a further 34 are being queried. Details of the new records, other special awards and the specimen awards 2005 are listed below:

NEW IRISH RECORDS (Specially commissioned engraved silver medal)

Awarded to anglers for catching fish exceeding the existing Irish record weight



Larry Kelly, Athboy, Co. Meath with his new Irish Record Lake Pike of 42 lbs 12 ozs taken on 25 September 2005 in White Lake



The New Irish Record Stone Basse of 11.72 lbs for UK angler Tony Rainer from Berkshire taken on 14 July 2005 fishing out of Baltimore

SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES

20 SPECIES AWARD (Engraved medal)

For 20 different species of specimen fish

Terry Jackson, 20 Cook's Brae, Kircubbin, Co. Down BT22 2SQ – Ballan Wrasse (2000), Bream (1998), Carp (2004), Cuckoo Wrasse (1992), Dace (2002), Grey Gurnard (2004), Ling (1996), Lesser Spotted Dogfish (2005), Pike (Lake) (2001), Pike (River) (1998), Plaice (1992), Roach (1998), Roach/Bream Hybrid (1996), Rudd (1997), Rudd/Bream Hybrid (1999), Smooth Hound (2005), Spur Dogfish (2003), Tench (2004), Tope (2004), Turbot (2003), Twaite Shad (1998).

Noel Lane, 65 Silverheights Avenue, Mayfield, Cork – Ballan Wrasse (2004), Bass (2004), Bream (1996), Carp (1995), Coalfish (2005), Dab (1985), Eel (1995), Flounder (1982), Golden Grey Mullet (2003), Grey Mullet (2005), Lesser Spotted Dogfish (2001), Painted Ray (2000), Pike (River) (2002), Plaice (1983), Roach/Bream Hybrid (2001), Rudd/Bream Hybrid (1996), Sting Ray (2003), Tench (1996), Turbot (1985), Twaite Shad (1993).

10 SPECIES AWARD (Engraved bronze medal)

For 10 different species of specimen fish

Brian Cooke, 82 Watson Drive, Killiney, Co. Dublin – Bream (1997), Flounder (1981), Grey Mullet (1995), Homelyn Ray (1994), Perch (2005), Pike (River) (2004), Roach/Bream Hybrid (1996), Rudd/Bream Hybrid (2003), Smooth Hound (2003), Tope (2003).

Michael Hennessy, Killaha East, Kenmare, Co. Kerry – Ballan Wrasse (2002), Bass (1989), Coalfish (2001), Cod (2001), Dab (1980), Flounder (1979), Ling (2004), Pollack (2004), Sea Trout (1996), Twaite Shad (2000).

50 SPECIMENS AWARD (Gold badge)

For 50 specimens

Christy Lane, 10 Harrington's Square, Dillons Cross, Cork - 1 Ballan Wrasse, 7 Bream, 4 Carp, 2 Coalfish, 2 Cod, 1 Cuckoo Wrasse, 1 Dab, 1 Eel, 14 Flounder, 2 Grey Mullet, 1 Homelyn Ray, 3 Pike (River), 3 Plaice, 1 Pollack, 4 Roach/Bream, 1 Rudd/Bream, 1 Tench and 3 Twaite Shad – first specimen taken in 1982.

10 SPECIMENS AWARD (Sterling silver tie pin)

For 10 or more specimen fish

Donal Domeney, 20 Courtown Drive, Knocknaheeny, Cork

Tom Fullam, 7 Kilbarron Avenue, Kilmore West, Dublin 5

Sam Oliver, 11 Lislane Road, Limavady, Co. Derry BT49 0PH

Ailbhe O'Sullivan, Green Hill, Fermoy, Co. Cork

James Walsh, 35 Willow Park South, Douglas Road, Cork

DR. A.E.J. WENT YOUNG ANGLER AWARD (Award & token)

The late Dr. Arthur Went, a noted fisheries biologist, donated funds to service this award which is for the best specimen taken by an angler aged 13 years or younger on 31st December 2005.

The 2005 award goes to:

Paul Fahy, Cong, Co. Mayo for a Brown Trout (River) of 6 lbs 11 ozs taken in the Cong River on 20th July 2005

The MINISTER'S AWARD (Mounted bronze medal)

Inaugurated by the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources, this "fish of a lifetime" award is for the best specimen fish of the year (other than a new record), and is presented to the angler who catches a fish which represents the highest percentage weight of the existing record.

The 2005 award goes to:

Pat Foster, 128 Palmerstown Avenue, Palmerstown, Dublin 20 for a Twaite Shad of 1.45 kg taken in the River Barrow at St. Mullins on 19th May 2005



Micheal Flanagan with a Corrib trout of 4.9 kg taken on opening day, 15 February 2005

SPECIMEN FISH CLAIMS RATIFIED BY THE COMMITTEE IN 2005

(Date of capture 2005 unless otherwise stated; overseas anglers and juvenile (J)
anglers are flagged)

FRESHWATER FISH SPECIMEN LISTINGS 2005

Coarse Fish and Pike

BREAM

Record, 12 lbs 3 ozs; Specimen Weight, 7.5 lbs (3.402 kg)

WEIGHT		PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lbs	ozs				
9	6	Ballyhoe Lake	4-May	Tom Fullam	Boilie
9	4	Ballyhoe Lake	27-Aug	Rory Long	Boilie
9	3	Ballyhoe Lake	31-Jul	Rory Long	Boilie
9		Ballyhoe Lake	13-Oct	Alan Kilroy	Boilie
8	10	Ballyhoe Lake	6-Aug	Alan Kilroy	Boilie
8	8	Ballyhoe Lake	4-Feb	Alan Kilroy	Boilie
8	5	Ballyhoe Lake	31-Jul	Rory Long	Boilie
8	3	Paddy Mac's Lake	20-Sep	Florian Peter	Boilie
8		Paddy Mac's Lake	17-Sep	S. Moorehouse	Worm/Corn
7	12	Ballyhoe Lake	15-Oct	S. Moorehouse	Boilie
7	12	Paddy Mac's Lake	28-Jul	S. Moorehouse	Worm/Corn
7	11	Ballycullinan Lake	23-Aug	Nick Parry	Sweetcorn
7	10.5	Ballycullinan Lough	17-Jul	David A. Spokes	Worm
7	10	Ballycullinan Lake	22-Jul	Nick Parry	Bread Flake



Alan Kilroy with a 9 lb Bream from Ballyhoe Lake

CARP

Record, 29 lbs 13 ozs; Specimen Weight, 12 lbs (5.443 kg)

WEIGHT		PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lbs	ozs				
21	14	Gorteen Lake	20-Sep	Denis Curtin	Boilie
18	10	The Lough, Cork	1-Oct	Florian Peter	Boilie
18	8	The Lough, Cork	20-Jun	Stephen O'Neill	Boilie
16	14	The Lough, Cork	25-Aug	Florian Peter	Boilie
16	12	Gorteen Lake	27-May	Denis Curtin	Sweetcorn
14	5	The Lough, Cork	20-Jun	Stephen O'Neill	Boilie
14	4	The Lough, Cork	25-Aug	Florian Peter	Boilie
14	3	The Lough, Cork	2-Jul	Stephen O'Neill	Boilie
5.925	kg	The Lough, Cork	4-Apr	Terry Jackson	Sweetcorn
5.9	kg	The Lough, Cork	3-Jan	Terry Jackson	Boilie/Sweetcorn
12	8	Corkagh Park, Clondalkin	28-May	Ben Carvosso	Halibut Pellet
12	2	The Lough, Cork	1-Nov	Nick Parry	Boilie



*Denis Curtin with the heaviest
Carp of 2005*

EEL

Record, 6 lb 15 ozs; Specimen Weight, 3 lbs (1.361 kg)

1.675	kg	Inniscarra Lake	31-Aug	Dirk Mueller (D)	Worm
1.535	kg	River Lee	12-Aug	Heinz Rügen (D)	Worm

PERCH

Record, 5 lbs 8 ozs; Specimen Weight, 2.646 lbs (1.2 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
3 4	River Barrow, Athy	28-Mar	Dan Smith	Worm
3 4	River Barrow, Athy	23-Mar	Brian Cooke	Lobworm
3.16	Drumcor Lough	23-Oct	Justin Blake	Pollack
1.425 kg	River Barrow, Athy	29-Mar	Tom Fullam	Worms
3 2	River Barrow, Athy	10-Apr	Damian Blackwell	Lobworm
3 2	River Barrow, Athy	5-Feb	Dan Smith	Worm
3 2	River Barrow, Carlow	20-Mar	John Millerick	Worm
1.4 kg	River Barrow, Athy	29-Mar	Liam Kane	Lobworms
3 1	River Barrow, Athy	5-Apr	Damian Blackwell	Lobworm
3 1	River Barrow, Carlow	20-Mar	John Millerick	Worm
2 15	River Barrow, Athy	22-Apr	Oliver Doyle	Lobworm
2 14	River Barrow, Athy	16-Apr	Damian Blackwell	Lobworm
2 14	River Barrow, Athy	2-Apr	Tom Fullam	Worms
2 14	River Barrow, Athy	26-Mar	Gary Doyle	Worm
2 14	River Barrow, Athy	23-Mar	John Millerick	Worm
2 14	River Barrow, Carlow	20-Mar	Brian Cooke	Lobworm
2 13	R. Barrow, Bagenalstown	16-Apr	Gary Doyle	Worm
2 13	River Barrow, Carlow	20-Mar	Brian Cooke	Lobworm
2 13	R. Barrow, Bagenalstown	16-Jan	Gary Doyle	Worm
1.25 kg	River Barrow, Athy	13-Mar	Liam Kane	Lobworms
2 12	River Barrow, Athy	31-Mar	Tom Fullam	Casters
2 11	River Barrow, Athy	22-Apr	Oliver Doyle	Lobworm



A 3 lb 4 oz Perch for Brian Cooke from the Barrow at Athy in March

PIKE (LAKE)

New Irish Record, 42 lbs 12 ozs; Specimen Weight, 30 lbs (13.608 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
42 12	White Lake	25-Sep	Larry Kelly	Pike
30 8	Glaslough	22-Dec-04	Rory Long	Rudd
30 5	Lough Beg	30-Jun	Kenneth Crooks	Copper Spoon

PIKE (RIVER)

Record, 42 lbs; Specimen Weight, 20 lbs (9.072 kg)

31 11	River Lee	19-Jul	David Magee	Fly
30 3	River Lee	17-Jul	David Magee	Fly
29	River Suck, Ballyforan	25-Mar	Robert Dempsey	Rubber fish
26 10	River Inny, Inny Bridge	17-Jan	Ian Mulligan	Trout



Regular specimen hunter Jan Tinnemans from the Netherlands with his 23.32 lbs Pike from the River Corrib

PIKE (RIVER) Contd.

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
26	River Barrow, Carlow	6-Feb	John Millerick	Roach
25.64	River Clare	18-Oct	Paul Folan	Roach
11.3 kg	River Suck, Dunamon	1-Nov	Kenneth Sloan	Roach
24 6	River Inny, Ballinalack	18-Dec-04	Stephen Featherstone	Sardine
24 6	River Inny, Inny Bridge	12-Jan	Ian Mulligan	Smelt
24 2	River Lee	17-Jul	David Magee	Fly
24 2	River Inny, Float Bridge	22-Dec-04	Ian Mulligan	Sardines
23 14	River Barrow, Borris	30-Dec-04	Jason Dingle	Lamprey
23 10	River Inny, Ballinalack	9-Dec-04	Ian Mulligan	Trout
23.45	River Suck, Ballyforan	30-Nov	Shay McDonnell	Mackerel
23 7	River Barrow, Bagenalstown	8-Feb	Philip Brennan	Roach
23.32	River Corrib	15-May	Jan Tinnemans (NL)	Roach
22 13	River Barrow, Bagenalstown	2-Feb	Mark Byrne	Roach
22 12	River Inny, Ballinalack	14-Dec-04	Ian Mulligan	Trout
22 10	River Barrow, Borris	16-Jan	Michael Norton	Smelt
22 8	River Suck, Ballyforan	13-Mar	Noel Lane	Herring
22.1	River Barrow, Goresbridge	3-Jan	Ray Bannerman	Smelt
22	River Suck, Athleague	11-Nov	Nick Parry	Roach
21 14	River Suck, Athleague	11-Nov	Nick Parry	Roach
9.8 kg	Ballinamore Canal	4-May	Bob O'Callaghan	Roach
21 8	River Inny, Ballinalack	8-Jan	Damian Blackwell	Roach
21 7	River Inny, Ballinalack	9-Oct-04	Nikola Brady	Smelt
21 6	River Barrow, Bagenalstown	10-Jan	Vincent Behan	Roach
21 6	River Barrow, Bagenalstown	9-Feb	Philip Brennan	Roach
21 5	River Barrow, Bagenalstown	15-Jan	Tom Fullam	Herring
21	River Inny, Ballinalack	10-Dec-04	Shay McDonnell	Mackerel
21	River Suck, Coreen	20-Mar	Raymond Fogarty	Herring
21	Royal Canal, Mullingar	3-Jun	Rinus de Bruin	Lure
9.5 kg	River Inny, Legan	6-Feb	Liam Kane	Trout
20.7	River Barrow, Slyguff	13-Feb	Michael Norton	Roach
20 10	River Suck, Athleague	11-Nov	Nick Parry	Roach
20 4	River Inny, Ballinalack	18-Dec-04	Stephen Featherstone	Sardine
20 4	River Clare	28-Aug-04	Nick Parry	Rapala
20 3	River Suck, Shannonbridge	13-Mar	Michael Walsh	Eel

ROACH

Record, 1.425 kg; Specimen Weight, 2 lbs (0.907 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
1.3 kg	Lough Magherarney	9-May	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Caster
1.25 kg	Lough Magherarney	27-Mar	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Caster
1.2 kg	Lough Magherarney	27-Mar	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Caster
1 kg	Lough Magherarney	15-May	David Craig	Maggots
0.975 kg	Lough Magherarney	15-May	David Craig	Maggots



David Craig with one of his three specimen Roach/Bream Hybrids from the Lower Bann

ROACH/BREAM HYBRID**Record, 7 lbs; Specimen Weight, 3.528 lbs (1.6 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
5 14	Monalty Lake	1-Oct	John Millerick	Boilie
5 8	Lough Derravaragh	23-Aug	Liam Tully	Worm
5 3	River Bann, Toome	13-Apr	Kenneth Crooks	Maggots/Worm
5 2	River Bann, Toome	20-Apr	Kenneth Crooks	Maggots/Corn
2.25 kg	R. Bann, Portglenone	5-May	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Sweetcorn
4 14	Lough Derravaragh	11-Jul	Derek Smith	Maggots
2.2 kg	River Bann, Toome	17-Apr	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Sweetcorn
2.2 kg	River Bann, Toome	17-Apr	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Sweetcorn
4 12	River Bann, Toome	8-Apr	Kenneth Crooks	Maggots/Worm
4 8	Lough Derravaragh	22-Aug	Philip Connolly	Maggots
4 8	Lough Derravaragh	22-Aug	Zoe Tully	Maggots
4 8	Lough Derravaragh	12-Jul	Zoe Tully	Maggots
4 8	Lough Derravaragh	12-Jul	Kim Tully	Maggots
1.95 kg	Lower River Bann	24-Apr	David Craig	Maggots
4 4	Lough Derravaragh	23-Aug	Philip Connolly	Maggots
4 4	Lough Derravaragh	12-Jul	Kim Tully	Maggots
1.925 kg	Lower River Bann	24-Apr	David Craig	Maggots
1.9 kg	Lower River Bann	24-Apr	David Craig	Maggots
1.88 kg	River Bann, Toome	19-Jun	Jim Sloan	Corn/Worm
4 2	Lough Derravaragh	12-Jul	Philip Connolly	Maggots
4 2	Lough Derravaragh	23-Aug	Kim Tully	Maggots
4	Lough Derravaragh	22-Aug	Paul Fitzgibbon	Maggots
3 14	River Barrow, Leighlinbridge	19-Jun	Michael Norton	Maggots
3 13.5	River Bann, Toome	20-Apr	Nick Parry	Bread/Maggots
1.72 kg	River Bann, Toome	16-Apr	Garnett Coulter	Maggots
3 12	River Bann, Toome	8-Apr	Nick Parry	Bread/Maggots
3 10	River Bann, Toome	20-Apr	Nick Parry	Bread/Maggots
1.64 kg	River Bann, Toome	16-Apr	Garnett Coulter	Maggots
1.64 kg	River Bann, Toome	16-Apr	Garnett Coulter	Maggots
1.62 kg	River Barrow, Leighlinbridge	22-May	Michael Norton	Maggots

RUDD**Record, 4 lbs 8 ozs; Specimen Weight, 2.25 lbs (1.021 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
2 5	R. Fergus, Nr Ruan	10-Sep	Nick Parry	Bread
2 4.5	R. Fergus, Nr. Ruan	10-Sep	Nick Parry	Bread

RUDD/BREAM HYBRID**Record, 7 lbs 10 ozs; Specimen Weight, 3 lbs (1.361 kg)**

1.4 kg	Lisgrea Lake	13-Aug	Liam Kane	Corn/Worms
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TENCH**Record, 8.15 lbs; Specimen Weight, 6 lbs (2.721 kg)**

6 15	Ballyhoe Lake	20-May	Tom Fullam	Boilie
6 14	Ballyhoe Lake	14-Jun	Pierce Moran	Boilie
6 12	Ballyhoe Lake	23-Jun	Dan Smith	Boilie
2.955 kg	Ballyhoe Lake	31-May	Barry Lister	Boilie
6 8	Ballyhoe Lake	13-Oct	Alan Kilroy	Boilie/Corn
6 6.5	Ballyeighter Lake	31-May	Nick Parry	Sweetcorn
6 5.5	Ballyhoe Lake	10-May	Pierce Moran	Boilie
6.3	Ballyhoe Lake	28-Jun	Michael Norton	Boilie
2.85 kg	Rahan's Lake	6-Jun	Ray McElhinney	Sweetcorn
2.85 kg	Glastrie Pit	11-May	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Sweetcorn
6 4.5	Ballycullinan Lake	22-Aug-04	Nick Parry	Worm
6 4	Ballyhoe Lake	23-Jun	Dan Smith	Boilie
6 4	Ballyhoe Lake	20-May	Tom Fullam	Boilie
6 4	Ballyhoe Lake	28-Aug	Rory Long	Boilies
2.825 kg	Glastrie Pit	11-May	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Sweetcorn
2.8 kg	Glastrie Pit	11-May	Terry Jackson	Maggots/Sweetcorn

TENCH Contd.

<u>WEIGHT</u>		<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs	ozs				
6	2	Lakyle Lake	26-Aug	Florian Peter	Sweetcorn
6	2	Ballyhoe Lake	12-Aug	Rory Long	Boilie
6	2	Monalty lake	18-Sep	John Millerick	Maggots/Corn
6	1	Ballyeighter Lake	7-Jun	Nick Parry	Sweetcorn
6	1	Ballyhoe Lake	20-May	Tom Fullam	Boilie
6	1	Lakyle Lake	23-Aug	Florian Peter	Sweetcorn
6		Ballycullinan Lake	22-Aug	Nick Parry	Sweetcorn
6		Ballyhoe Lake	31-Jul	Rory Long	Boilie



A night session produced this 6 lb 6½ oz Tench for Nick Parry

Game Fish**SALMON**

Record, 57 lbs; Specimen Weight, 20 lbs (9.072 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>		<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs	ozs				
11.96	kg	River Lee, Laurels	3-Sep	Gary Ronayne	Flying C
23	8	River Boyne, Navan	22-Apr	Ken Gillick	Worm



The Boyne produced this 23½ lb Salmon for Ken Gillick in April

BROWN TROUT (LAKE)**Record, 26 lbs 2 ozs; Specimen Weight, 10 lbs (4.536 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u> lbs ozs	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
7.37 kg	Lough Mask	27-Aug	Brian Garvey	Rapala
16	Lough Mask	20-Mar	Lorraine Nolan	Rapala
15 8	Lough Corrib	12-Jun	John Gibbons	Roach
14 5	Lower Lough Corrib	5-Mar	Niall O'Donoghue	Tasmanian Devil
6.37 kg	Lough Mask	1-May	Jim Flanagan	Rapala
13.31	Lough Corrib	18-Jun	Vincent Hughes	Roach
12 12	Lough Corrib	5-Jun	John Fahy	Roach
12 8	Lough Corrib	19-May	Eric Flynn	Minnow
12 6	Lough Sheelin	8-Jun	Peter Donoghue	Dryfly
11.88	Lough Mask	19-Mar	Brian Halligan	Flying C
5.325 kg	Lough Erne	25-Mar	Geoffrey J. Cutler	Rapala
5.3 kg	Lough Corrib	17-May	Dieter Klein (D)	Rapala
5.2 kg	Lough Corrib	17-May	Heinrich Schneider (D)	Rapala

*Russell Taylor with a beautiful 4.85 kg Brown Trout from Lough Corrib***BROWN TROUT (LAKE) Contd.**

<u>WEIGHT</u> lbs ozs	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
11 6	Lough Mask	23-Apr	Frankie Dolan	Rapala
11 4	Lough Lein	29-Apr	Jerry Bambury	Rapala
4.9 kg	Lough Corrib	15-Feb	Michael Flanagan	Rapala
4.85 kg	Lough Corrib	21-Jul	Russell Taylor	Wobbler
10 10	Lough Corrib	12-May	Tuiskon Neuhaus (D)	Roach
10 10	Lough Mask	2-Apr	Darren Dolan	Tasmanian Devil
10.56	Lough Corrib	1-Jun	Joel Dubost (F)	Worm
10.52	Lough Corrib	30-Mar	Vincent Hughes	Rudd
10 8	Lough Corrib	2-Apr	John Gibbons	Minnow
10 7	Lough Corrib	15-Apr	Andrew Boyd	Fly
10.19	Lough Mask	24-Apr	Pat Dermody	Rapala
10 3	Lough Derg	3-Apr	Thomas Haskett	Spinner
10	Lough Corrib	30-May	Paul Breen	Plug

*Bernd Rall from Germany with a 4.06 kg Sea Trout from Lough Currane*

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

Record, 20 lbs; Specimen Weight, 5 lbs (2.268 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
6 11	Cong River	20-Jul	Paul Fahy (J)	Worm
6.67	Cong Canal	14-Sep	Barry Cleary	Worm
6.64	Cong Canal	14-Sep	Eamonn Cleary, Snr	Worm
6 10	River Shannon, Athlone	27-Aug	Christopher Grogan	Minnow
6 8.5	River Moyola	9-Oct-04	Paul Burns	Mepps
2.845 kg	River Fergus, Corofin	7-Jun	Liam Hayes	Fly
6.25	Cong Canal	14-Sep	Eamonn Cleary, Jnr	Worm
5.48	River Clare	8-Jul	Pat O'Farrell	Fly
5.379	River Clare	1-Jul	George Frazer	Worm
5 6	River Corrib, Menlo	16-Jun	Michael Quinlivan	Dry Fly
2.306 kg	Fertha River	28-Aug	Brendan Casey	Flying C
5.05	River Clare	11-Jul	Sean O'Donovan	Fly



An early morning session in June produced this 6.35 lbs Sea Trout for Michael Hennessy on Lough Currane

SEA TROUT

Record, 16 lbs 6 ozs; Specimen Weight, 6 lbs (2.721 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
5.094 kg	Lough Currane	17-Jun	David Treacy	Fly
4.818 kg	Lough Currane	30-Apr	Cathal McGuire	Rapala
10 2	Lough Currane	1-Jul	Jean Baptiste Juge (F)	Fly
4.064 kg	Lough Currane	20-Mar	Bernd Rall (D)	Rapala
8 6	River Boyne, Oldbridge Fishery	6-Sep	James Condra	Fly
8 4	Lough Currane	18-Jun	Tony Murphy	Fly
3.65 kg	Lough Currane	26-Apr	Dr. Rudy Krautwurst (D)	Rapala
3.51 kg	Lough Currane	31-May	Keith Gregory (UK)	Fly
3.38 kg	Lough Currane	24-Mar	Walter Rusch (ZH)	Rapala
3.312 kg	Lough Currane	16-May	Arthur White (UK)	Fly
3.306 kg	Lough Currane	26-Mar	Sylvester Donnelly	Rapala
3.25 kg	Lough Currane	21-Jun	David Hutchinson	Fly
7 2	Lough Currane	18-May	Tom O'Shea	Fly
3.226 kg	Lough Currane	30-Apr	Dr. Rudy Krautwurst (D)	Rapala
7	Lough Currane	26-Mar	Michael McCormack	Lure
7	Lough Currane	22-Apr	Ken Furey	Rapala
6 8	Lough Currane	17-Jun	Gordon Bloodworth (UK)	Fly
2.91 kg	Cloonaghlin Lough	7-Jul	Colin James Stamp (UK)	Fly
2.894 kg	Lough Currane	6-May	Aidan O'Halloran	Fly
6.35	Lough Currane	23-Jun	Michael Hennessy	Fly
2.8 kg	Lough Currane	15-Jun	Daniel Gluck (UK)	Fly
2.77 kg	Lough Currane	25-Sep	Michael MacSwiney (UK)	Fly
6	Lough Currane	23-Jun	Daniel Dijols (F)	Fly



Arthur White's specimen Sea Trout – Lough Currane – 2005

MARINE FISH SPECIMEN LISTINGS 2005**BASS****Record, 17 lbs 13 ozs; Specimen Weight, 10 lbs (4.536 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
16 4.5	Benone Beach	5-Nov	Declan McDaid	Ragworm/Squid
6.465 kg	Tramore	8-Dec-04	Michael Roche	Squid/Mackerel
5.85 kg	Inch Bay	4-Dec-04	Kenneth Warne	Ragworm
12.25	Tramore	10-Jul	Brendan O'Gara	Kilty Lure
11.28	Duncannon	23-Jun-04	Val Atkins	Kilty Lure
5.052 kg	Clonakilty	10-Jul	David Barry	ABU Toby
10.8	Shannon Estuary	18-Nov-04	Gerard Doyle	Peeler Crab
10 12	Inch Strand	5-Feb	Samuel J. Harbin	Jensen Tobis
4.765 kg	Courtmacsherry	18-Sep	Stephen McGrath	Sandeel
10.5	Tramore	26-Nov-04	George Reynolds	Razor fish
10 8	Ring, Clonakilty	30-Jan	John McDermott	Lugworm/Cockles
10.47	Coolmain Beach	2-Apr	Thomas O'Driscoll	Peeler Crab
4.7 kg	Benone Strand	13-Jun	William F. McLaughlin	Ragworm



Tramore produced two specimen Bass in 2005 including this 4.63 kg fish for Vincent Fortune

BASS Contd.

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
10 5	Youghal	1-Dec	Noel Lane	Peeler Crab
10 4	Saleens	18-Sep	Eamon Power	Sandeel
4.645 kg	River Bann Estuary	16-Aug	Ryan Pollock	Plug
4.63 kg	Tramore	3-Jul	Vincent Fortune	Mackerel/Squid
10 3	Timoleague Estuary	1-May	John Twomey	Peeler Crab
10.15	Cahore	18-Jun	Tony Hayes	Rapala

COALFISH**Record, 15.1 kg; Specimen Weight, 15 lbs (6.804 kg)**

29 4	Kinsale	5-Sep-04	Mattie Foley	Shad
28.8	Courtmacsherry	27-Aug	Kevin McCann	Baited Muppet
28.6	Courtmacsherry	13-Jul	Gerard van der Vegt (NL)	Pirk
28.35	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Bob De Heus (NL)	Pirk
28.25	Kinsale	23-Nov	Sean Clohessy	Shad
27.5	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Denis Cornelisse (NL)	Pilker
27.3	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Ron Meijer (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
27.1	Courtmacsherry	27-Aug	Bob De Heus (NL)	Pirk
26.9	Courtmacsherry	17-Sep	Hennie de Jong (NL)	Shad
26.9	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Gerrit Smit (NL)	Leadhead/ Twister
26 11	Kinsale	10-Sep	James Walsh	Shad
26.65	Courtmacsherry	11-Sep	Davy Geerts (B)	Rubber Eel
12 kg	Kinsale	29-Aug	Simon Rem (NL)	Shad
26.35	Courtmacsherry	10-Aug	Jim Henly (UK)	Pirk
26.3	Courtmacsherry	15-Jul	Hans Koelen (NL)	Shad
26.3	Courtmacsherry	27-Aug	Nicky Snoeks (NL)	Pilker
26.1	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Erwin Klok (NL)	Pilker
25.8	Kinsale	10-Jul	Mattie Foley	Shad
25.7	Kinsale	21-Jul	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Shad
25.6	Kinsale	23-Nov	Robert McClean	Shad
11.5 kg	Kinsale	24-Aug	Willem Jan Van Dijk	Muppet
25.2	Courtmacsherry	17-Sep	Gerard van Vliet (NL)	Shad
25.1	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Nicky Snoeks (NL)	Shad
24.85	Courtmacsherry	15-Aug	Daan Oprek (NL)	Pirk
24.6	Courtmacsherry	2-Oct	Ian Mulligan	Shad
24.6	Courtmacsherry	27-Aug	Bob De Heus (NL)	Pirk
24.5	Kinsale	23-Nov	Jim Clohessy	Shad
24 8	Kinsale	10-Sep	James Walsh	Shad
24 6.5	Kinsale	1-Sep	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Shad
24.4	Courtmacsherry	15-Aug	Rini Anemaet (NL)	Pirk
24.3	Kinsale	23-Nov	Jim Clohessy	Shad
24.2	Courtmacsherry	13-Jul	Han Koelen (NL)	Pirk
24.1	Courtmacsherry	13-Jul	Gerard van der Vegt (NL)	Pirk
24.05	Courtmacsherry	10-Aug	Jim Grant (UK)	Jellyworm
23.8	Courtmacsherry	1-Aug	Alan Browne	Shad
22				

COALFISH Contd.

WEIGHT lbs ozs	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
23.7	Kinsale	23-Nov	Jim Clohessy	Shad
23.6	Courtmacsherry	17-Sep	Hennie de Jong (NL)	Shad
23.4	Kinsale	21-Jul	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Shad
23.3	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Mark E. Gannon	Shad
23.2	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Erwin Klok (NL)	Pilker
23.1	Courtmacsherry	1-Aug	Dirk J. Kruyskamp (NL)	Mackerel
23	Courtmacsherry	11-Sep	Mark E. Gannon	Pirk
23	Courtmacsherry	1-Aug	Piet Tielen (NL)	Shad
22.9	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Denis Cornelisse (NL)	Pilker
22.9	Courtmacsherry	10-Aug	Jim Grant (UK)	Jellyworm
22.9	Kinsale	23-Nov	Sean Clohessy	Shad
22	10 Kinsale	10-Mar	Brian Foley	Shad
22.5	Courtmacsherry	1-Aug	Alan Browne	Shad
22	8 Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Ian Rush	Shad
22.1	Kinsale	23-Nov	Sean Clohessy	Shad
22	Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Ger Sweetnam	Shad
22	Courtmacsherry	13-Jul	Hans Koelen (NL)	Shad
22	Kinsale	21-Jul	Paul Ross	Shad
22	Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Maurice O'Keeffe	Shad
21	14 Union Hall	18-Sep	John O'Mahony	Shad
21	12 Kinsale	16-Jul	James Walsh	Shad
21.5	Courtmacsherry	15-Aug	Rinus Hage (NL)	Shad



Denis Cornelisse with a Coalfish of 22.9 lbs

COALFISH Contd.

WEIGHT lbs ozs	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
21.1	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Gerrit Smit (NL)	Leadhead/Twister
20.9	Courtmacsherry	10-Aug	Jim Henly (UK)	Pirk
20.85	Kinsale	21-Jul	Christy Lane	Shad
20.75	Kinsale	10-Jul	Mattie Foley	Shad
20	11 Kinsale	10-Mar	Brian Foley	Shad
20.6	Kinsale	6-Sep	Mattie Foley	Pirk
20	7 Kinsale	10-Sep	Gerry Mulcair	Shad
20.4	Courtmacsherry	10-Aug	Tom Sewry (UK)	Pirk
19.9	Courtmacsherry	17-Sep	Kees Aerts (NL)	Shad
19.7	Courtmacsherry	12-Jun	Niall O'Sullivan	Shad
19.6	Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Donal Domoney	Shad
19.5	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Denis Cornelisse (NL)	Mackerel
19.5	Courtmacsherry	13-Jul	Gerard v. d. Vegt (NL)	Pirk
19	8 Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Ger Sweetnam	Shad
19	8 Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Tony Tait (UK)	Shad
19.25	Courtmacsherry	2-Apr	Niall O'Sullivan	Shad
18.5	Castletownbere	11-Jul	Leslie Payne	Shad
18	8 Kinsale	10-Mar	Brian Foley	Shad
18.35	Courtmacsherry	2-Apr	Gerard Boland	Shad
18	3 Kinsale	10-Sep	Gerry Mulcair	Shad
18.1	Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Edward Howard	Shad
17	8 Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Kieran Ryan	Shad
17.4	Courtmacsherry	2-Apr	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Pirk
17.3	Courtmacsherry	24-Apr	Maurice O'Keeffe	Shad
17.15	Courtmacsherry	1-Aug	Dylan Drexler (NL)	Shad
17	Courtmacsherry	1-Aug	Dylan Drexler (NL)	Shad
17	Kinsale	10-Jul	Christy Lane	Shad
7.7 kg	Crosshaven	3-Oct	Ian Murphy	Shad
16	13 Kinsale	30-Mar	Philip Barry	Shad
16.45	Kinsale	23-Nov	Robert McClean	Shad
16.3	Courtmacsherry	30-Aug	Gerrit Smit (NL)	Leadhead/Twister
16.05	Kinsale	3-Feb	Pat Condon	Shad
16	East Ferry	16-Jul	Paul Sweeney	Jellyworm
16	Brandon Bay	5-Jun	Desmond Frazer	Mackerel
15.9	Courtmacsherry	17-Jul	Let v.d. Berg (NL)	Shad
15.9	Castletownbere	11-Jul	John Angles	Shad
15.75	Courtmacsherry	2-Oct	Ian Mulligan	Shad
7.1 kg	Crosshaven	3-Oct	Ian Murphy	Shad
15.5	Courtmacsherry	10-Aug	Roy Hebburn (UK)	Shad
15	8 Union Hall	8-Oct	Noel Lane	Pirk
15.4	Courtmacsherry	1-Aug	Alan Browne	Shad
15	Courtmacsherry	17-Feb	Philip Barry	Shad

COD**Record, 42 lbs; Specimen Weight, 20 lbs (9.072 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs	ozs			
27.05	Kinsale	9-Jul	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Shad
26	12 Kinsale	20-Aug	Ailbhe O'Sullivan	Pirk
25.3	Kinsale	8-Jul	Pat Condon	Shad
24.3	Kinsale	30-May	Christy Lane	Shad
24.15	Kinsale	9-Jul	Paul Ross	Mackerel
23	8 Kinsale	17-Jun	John O'Sullivan	Artificial Shad
22.8	Kinsale	7-Aug	Mattie Foley	Shad
22.7	Kinsale	21-Jul	Christy Lane	Shad
21.9	Crosshaven	26-Jun	Jonathan Leahy	Mackerel
21.75	Courtmacsherry	12-Jun	Frank Fitzgerald	Pirk
21.3	Guileen	12-Jun	Ollie Steele	Mackerel/Hokkai
20.75	Kinsale	7-Aug	Mattie Foley	Shad
20.6	Courtmacsherry	15-Jul	Hans Koelan (NL)	Mackerel
20.1	Crosshaven	2-Sep	Peter Arens (NL)	Mackerel Strip

CONGER EEL**Record, 72 lbs; Specimen Weight, 40 lbs (18.144 kg)**

60	Courtmacsherry	11-Sep	Davy Geerts (B)	Mackerel Fillet
43	Cork Harbour	10-Sep	Peter Spierings (NL)	Mackerel
42	East Ferry	17-Jul	Paul O'Callaghan	Mackerel
40	Castletownbere	18-Aug	Ellis Matthews (UK)	Mackerel Fillet



*Ailbhe O'Sullivan
with one of his
Kinsale specimen
Cod*

DAB**Record, 2 lbs 5.5 ozs; Specimen Weight, 1.5 lbs (0.68 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs	ozs			
1.5	Cork Harbour	30-Sep-04	Tony Tait (UK)	Lugworm

GREATER SPOTTED DOGFISH**Record, 23 lbs 13 ozs; Specimen Weight, 16 lbs (7.257 kg)**

20.1	Kenmare Bay	7-Aug	Hans Dumay (NL)	Mackerel
19.1	Kenmare Bay	23-Jul	Valerie Pratt	Mackerel
18.7	Kenmare Bay	17-Aug	Hans Arnhard (NL)	Mackerel
18.7	Kenmare Bay	31-Jul	Nico v/d Plank (NL)	Mackerel
17.4	Kenmare Bay	22-May	Michael Steenhagen (NL)	Mackerel
17	Kenmare Bay	17-Aug	Rob Koldewijn (NL)	Mackerel
16.7	Kenmare Bay	14-Sep-04	Marko Roos (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
7.45 kg	Ballycastle	17-Nov	Sam Oliver	Mackerel/Trout
16.2	Kenmare Bay	17-May	Remco Kers (NL)	Mackerel

LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH**Record, 4 lbs 4ozs; Specimen Weight, 3.25 lbs (1.4737 kg)**

1.64 kg	Ballycastle	16-Jul	Shane McNicholl	Mackerel Strip
1.6 kg	Ballycastle	5-Sep	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Strip
1.6 kg	Ballycastle	2-Sep	David Craig	Mackerel
1.555 kg	Courtmacsherry	17-Aug	Rini Anemaet (NL)	Mackerel Strip
3	5 East Ferry	1-Oct	Paul Frankham (UK)	Mackerel
3.25	Kilmore Quay	11-Sep	Neil Spencer (UK)	Mackerel

SPUR DOGFISH

Record, 21.25 lbs; Specimen Weight, 12 lbs (5.443 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
19 1	Red Bay	9-Oct	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
18.9	Kenmare Bay	18-Jun	Martin Cassidy	Mackerel
17.4	Kenmare Bay	28-Jun	Patrick de Greve (B)	Mackerel
7.2 kg	Red Bay	20-Nov	Terry Jackson	Mackerel Strip
7.2 kg	Kenmare Bay	24-Jun-04	Gijs Janse (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
15 1	Red Bay	19-Jun	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
15	Red Bay	3-Sep	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
14.2	Kenmare Bay	28-Jun	Georges De Cooman (B)	Mackerel Fillet
14.2	Kenmare Bay	28-Jun	Patrick de Greve (B)	Mackerel
6.3 kg	Kenmare Bay	24-Jun-04	Nico v.d. Plank (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
6.25 kg	Ballycastle	17-Nov	William F. McLaughlin	Mackerel/Trout
13 12	Red Bay	1-Aug-04	Martin Reid	Mackerel Fillet
13 7	Red Bay	23-Oct	Michael Selfridge	Mackerel
13.25	Kenmare Bay	28-Jun	Rudi Schepens (B)	Mackerel
13 4	Red Bay	23-Oct	Mark Smylie	Mackerel
13 4	Red Bay	4-Sep	Ken Crawford	Mackerel
13 4	Red Bay	23-Oct	Nigel Jennings	Mackerel
13	Red Bay	11-Jul	Connor McNeill	Mackerel
13	Red Bay	6-Aug	Ken Crawford	Mackerel
13	Red Bay	14-Sep	Niall Farrell	Mackerel
12 10	Red Bay	23-Oct	Mark Smylie	Mackerel
12 9	Red Bay	23-Oct	Mark Smylie	Mackerel
12 7	Red Bay	6-Aug	Nigel Jennings	Mackerel

FLOUNDER

Record, 4.91 lbs; Specimen Weight, 3 lbs (1.361 kg)

1.545 kg	Youghal	13-Nov	Frank Cronin	Crab
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GARFISH (*B. belone*)

Record, 3 lbs 10.5 ozs; Specimen Weight, 2.25 lbs (1.021 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
1.45 kg	Baltimore	17-Jul	Joe Wildman (UK)	Baited Feathers
1.2 kg	Crosshaven	8-Oct	Ken Murphy	Mackerel Strip
1.18 kg	Ballycotton	3-Aug	Norman Dunlop	Mackerel Strip
1.12 kg	Ballycotton	3-Aug	Michael Thrussell (UK)	Mackerel Strip
2.42	Cobh	13-Oct	Willem Brouwer (NL)	Mackerel Strip
1.08 kg	Crosshaven	8-Oct	Ken Murphy	Mackerel Strip

GREY GURNARD

Record, 3 lbs 1 ozs; Specimen Weight, 1.5 lbs (0.68 kg)

0.9 kg	Ballycastle	16-Jul	Shane McNicholl	Mackerel Strip
1.55	Downings	1-Aug	Arend Broeders (NL)	Mackerel
1.52	Downings	4-Sep	Paul Garvock (UK)	Mackerel Strip



Norman Dunlop had this 1.18 kg Garfish off Ballycotton in August

RED GURNARD

Record, 3 lbs 9.5 ozs; Specimen Weight, 2 lbs (0.907 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
1.25 kg	Clifden	26-Jul	Roy Low (UK)	Baited Feathers
2.5	Crosshaven	27-Aug	Donal O'Mahony	Mackerel
1.09 kg	Downings Bay	12-Sep	Henk Bommels (NL)	Mackerel Strip
2.4	Cork Harbour	20-Aug	Donal O'Mahony	Mackerel
2.33	Crosshaven	17-Sep	Piet Groot (NL)	Mackerel/Feathers
2	4.5 Port na Blagh	4-Sep	Peter McGroarty	Mackerel Strip
2.2	Downings Bay	5-Sep	John Balai (UK)	Mackerel Strip
2	3 Cork Harbour	31-Jul	Ken Hegarty	Mackerel
2.15	Castlegregory	15-Jul	Patrick Cunningham (UK)	Devil Rigs
2.15	Cork Harbour	29-May	Donal Domenev	Crab
2.12	Cork Harbour	31-Aug	Tony Tait	Mackerel
2.12	Achill	5-Aug	James Managan	Mackerel
0.934 kg	Lough Swilly	4-Sep	Stephen Ferguson	Mackerel
0.926 kg	Westport	10-Aug	Norman Dunlop	Mackerel Strip
2	East Ferry	2-Oct	Paul Sanders (UK)	Mackerel



Kenneth Hollywood with a 3.54 kg Tub Gurnard out of Carrigaholt

TUB GURNARD

Record, 12 lbs 3.5 ozs; Specimen Weight, 5 lbs (2.268 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
8.76	Brandon Bay	11-Jul	Steve Mills (UK)	Jig
3.54 kg	Carrigaholt	17-Sep	Kenneth Hollywood	Baited Eel
6.21	Downings	5-Sep	John Stevens (UK)	Mackerel Strip
6	Brandon Bay	5-Jun	Desmond Frazer	Ragworm/Mackerel
5.91	Brandon Bay	12-Jul	John Meaning (UK)	Mackerel
5.75	Downings	6-Sep	Dave Bagnall (UK)	Mackerel Strip
5.65	Downings	6-Sep	John Wray Parker (UK)	Mackerel



The only specimen Haddock of 2005 fell to Michael Dennehy off Kinsale in September

HADDOCK

Record, 10 lbs 13.5 ozs; Specimen Weight, 7 lbs (3.175 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>	
lbs	ozs				
7	3	Kinsale	15-Sep	Michael Dennehy	Mackerel

JOHN DORY

Record, 7 lbs 8 ozs; Specimen Weight, 4 lbs (1.814 kg)

2.55 kg	Loop Head, Carrigaholt	30-Jul	Diet Schipper (NL)	Pirk
5	Brandon Head	6-Jun	Martin Ager (UK)	Muppet
4	4 Brandon Head	6-Jun	Martin Ager (UK)	Muppet



The best John Dory of 2005 fell to Diet Schipper from the Netherlands, off Carrigaholt

LING

Record, 55 lbs; Specimen Weight, 25 lbs (11.34 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>	
lbs	ozs				
40		Courtmacsherry	12-Jun	Rinus Hage (NL)	Mackerel Fillet
37		Courtmacsherry	12-Jun	Alan O'Dowling	Mackerel
36	8	Kinsale	23-Jun	John O'Sullivan	Artificial Shad
35.75		Castletownbere	11-Sep	Patrick Buck	Hokkai
35.5		Courtmacsherry	17-Jul	Henry van Stiphout (NL)	Mackerel
34.3		Baltimore	9-Aug	Michael Pattinson (UK)	Mackerel
32.5		Courtmacsherry	22-Jul	Henry van Stiphout (NL)	Mackerel
30		Courtmacsherry	17-Jul	Henry van Stiphout (NL)	Mackerel
28	8	Reen Pier	8-Oct	Denis McCarthy	Mackerel/Muppet
28		Courtmacsherry	17-Jul	Gerard v. d. Veegt (NL)	Pirk
28		Cork Harbour	13-Jun-04	Finbarr O'Sullivan	Mackerel
27	6	Guileen	10-Aug	Jim Clohessy	Mackerel Fillet
27		East Ferry	21-Jul	Anthony Bell (UK)	Mackerel
25.2		Castletownbere	11-Jul	Leslie Payne	Shad



Jim Clohessy looks pleased with his 27 lb 6 oz Ling taken in August

MEGRIM**Record, 1.85 kg; Specimen Weight, 1.75 lbs (0.794 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
1.9	Crosshaven	20-Aug	Donal Domoney	Mackerel

GREY MULLET**Record, 9.1 lbs; Specimen Weight, 5 lbs (2.268 kg)**

3.25 kg	Lough Furnace	14-Jun	Joe Cooney	Sweetcorn
6.259	Lough Furnace	18-Aug	Joe Cooney	Sweetcorn
5.78	Lough Furnace	21-Jun	Joe Cooney	Sweetcorn
2.354 kg	Lough Furnace	20-Aug-04	Jack Cafferkey (UK) (J)	Bread
5 4	Dodder River	24-Jul	Damian Blackwell	Bread
5 2	Rosscarbery	14-Aug	Colin O'Dowling	Bread
2.32 kg	Courtmacsherry	11-Jul	Stephen Blake	Mackerel Strip
5 1	River Dodder	5-Jun	Brian Cooke	Bread Flake
5	Argideen Estuary	2-May	Noel Lane	Bread Crust

GOLDEN GREY MULLET**Record, 2 lbs 8 ozs; Specimen Weight, 1.5 lbs (0.68 kg)**

1 14	Cork Harbour	5-Jul	Noel Lane	Ragworm
1 12	Cork Harbour	31-Aug	Noel Lane	Ragworm



Noel Lane, who caught the Irish Record Golden Grey Mullet in 2003, with a 1 lb 12 oz Golden Grey from Cork Harbour taken in August

RED MULLET (*M. surmuletus*)**Record, 1.26 lbs; Specimen Weight, 1 lb (0.454 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
1.15	Kilmore Quay	12-Sep	Steve Montgomery (UK)	Ragworm



Robert McClean with a fine 25.6 lb Kinsale Coalfish

POLLACK**Record, 19 lbs 3 ozs; Specimen Weight, 12 lbs (5.443 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
17 13	Kinsale	10-Mar	Mattie Foley	Shad
17 8	Red Bay	4-Dec-04	William A. Turtle	Shad
16.03	Castletownbere	3-Oct	John Angles	Shad
15 12	Castletownbere	6-Sep	Martin Franklin (UK)	Redgill
14 14	Castletownbere	6-Sep	Martin Franklin (UK)	Redgill
13 6	Kinsale	30-Mar	Christy Lane	Shad
13.2	Castletownbere	3-Oct	John Angles	Shad
13 3	Kinsale	13-Mar	Mattie Foley	Shad
13 2	Castletownbere	6-Sep	Charles Pyne (UK)	Redgill
13 1	Castletownbere	22-Aug	Frank Barbe (F)	Rubber Eel
13	Red Bay	20-Aug	Hamish Currie	Leadhead/Mackerel
13	East Ferry	18-Jul	Anthony Trowbridge (UK)	Mackerel
13	East Ferry	5-Sep	Karl Bowring (UK)	Jellyworm
12.96	Castletownbere	27-Feb	Colin Orford	Shad
12 13	Red Bay	5-Dec-04	Hamish Currie	Mackerel
12.75	Castletownbere	11-Sep	Michael Hennessy	Shad
12.61	Castletownbere	7-Mar	John Angles	Shad
12 8.5	Portnablagh	10-Sep	Francis Doyle	Mackerel Strip
12.51	Killybegs	29-Jul	Gary Bunney	Lure
12.5	Castletownbere	3-Oct	Bob Dyer (UK)	Eddystone Eel
12 8	Crosshaven	2-Aug	Stefan Kleisinger (D)	Mackerel
12 8	Kinsale	12-Jun	John O'Sullivan	Shad
12 6	Red Bay	22-Aug	Hamish Currie	Leadhead/Mackerel
12 6	Kinsale	7-Mar	James Walsh	Shad
12 5	Castletownbere	6-Sep	Martin Franklin (UK)	Shad
12.3	Castletownbere	3-Oct	Carl Dixon	Shad
12.1	Castletownbere	11-Jul	Daniel Moore	Shad
12.1	Castletownbere	3-Oct	Andy Swift	Shad
12 1	Cork Harbour	3-Aug-04	Dennis Martin	Shad
12.06	Crosshaven	2-Sep	Dirk Bugter (NL)	Mr. Twister
12	Kinsale	13-Mar	Brian Foley	Shad

POUTING**Record, 4 lbs 13.5 ozs; Specimen Weight, 3 lbs (1.361 kg)**

3 14	Crosshaven	16-Sep	Ad Groot (NL)	Mackerel Strip
3.22	Kilmore Quay	23-Jun	Norman Dunlop	Mackerel Strip

BLONDE RAY**Record, 37 lbs; Specimen Weight, 25 lbs (11.34 kg)**

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
31	Cork Harbour	30-Oct-04	Ken Murphy	Mackerel/Squid
30	Cork Harbour	31-Oct-04	Ken Murphy	Mackerel/Squid
27.65	Cork Harbour	14-Aug	John Dennehy	Mackerel
27.5	Cork Harbour	27-Aug	Donal Domeney	Squid
27	Cork Harbour	30-Oct-04	Ian Murphy	Mackerel/Squid
27	East Ferry	7-Sep	Peter Lewis (UK)	Squid/Mackerel
27	East Ferry	26-Jun	Keith Wild (UK)	Mackerel
26.6	Cork Harbour	22-Sep	Pat Condon	Mackerel/Squid
26 8	Cork Harbour	30-Oct-04	Ian Murphy	Mackerel/Squid
26 8	Cork Harbour	28-Dec-04	Ken Murphy	Mackerel Strip
26.2	Crosshaven	21-Sep	Rolf Poche (D)	Mackerel Strip
26	East Ferry	15-Jul	Graham Smith (UK)	Mackerel/Squid
25 8	East Ferry	30-Jun	Robert Acors (UK)	Mackerel
25.1	Crosshaven	4-Jun	Richard Kemkens (NL)	Mackerel

HOMELYN RAY**Record, 8.28 lbs; Specimen Weight, 5 lbs (2.268 kg)**

5.5	Castletownbere	19-Aug	Ian Cuft (UK)	Mackerel
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PAINTED RAY**Record, 17.21 lbs; Specimen Weight, 10 lbs (4.536 kg)**

10 12	Garryvoe	12-Oct	Jamie Hayes	Peeler Crab
10 12	Tramore	12-Sep	Joe Hennessy	Mackerel
10 10	Tralee Bay	19-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Sandeel
10 4	Tralee Bay	20-Jul	Ian Mulligan	Sandeel

UNDULATE RAY**Record, 18 lbs; Specimen Weight, 14 lbs (6.35 kg)**

14 9	Tralee Bay	16-May	Richard Kelter	Mackerel
14 6	Tralee Bay	16-May	Richard Kelter	Mackerel

THREE BEARDED ROCKLING

Record, 3 lbs 1 oz; Specimen Weight, 1.75 lbs (0.794 kg)

WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lbs	ozs			
1.95	Moneypoint	4-Aug	Marp Droogor (NL)	Mackerel
0.882 kg	Cork Harbour	20-Oct	Frank Wallace	Mackerel Strip
1	13 Bangor	18-Oct	David Murdoch	Mackerel Strip
0.8 kg	Bangor	2-Oct	Ronald Surgenor	Mackerel

*A Three Bearded Rockling for David Murdoch off Bangor Pier***SCAD**

Record, 1.97 lbs; Specimen Weight, 1.5 lbs (0.680 kg)

1.65	Kilrush	31-Oct-04	Gerard Doyle	Shrimp jig
1.65	Kilrush	14-Aug	Nico v.d. Broek (NL)	Baited feathers
1.55	Kilrush	31-Oct-04	Gerard Doyle	Shrimp jig

TWAITE SHAD

Record, 1.54 kg; Specimen Weight, 2.4255 lbs (1.1 kg)

WEIGHT	PLACE	DATE	CAPTOR	METHOD
lbs	ozs			
1.45 kg	River Barrow,			
	St. Mullins	19-May	Pat Foster	Tasmanian Devil
3	3 St. Mullins	15-May	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil
1.35 kg	St. Mullins	9-May	Martin Ffrench	Tasmanian Devil
1.35 kg	St. Mullins	19-May	Pat Foster	Tasmanian Devil
2	13 St. Mullins	22-May	Gary Doyle	Tasmanian Devil
1.24 kg	St. Mullins	11-May	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
1.22 kg	St. Mullins	14-May	Jim Sloan	Tasmanian Devil
2.68	St. Mullins	9-May	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
2	10 St. Mullins	18-May	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil
2	10 St. Mullins	8-May	Colin O'Dowling	Spinner
2.62	St. Mullins	11-May	Bill Ryan	Tasmanian Devil
2	9 St. Mullins	21-May	John Millerick	Tasmanian Devil
2	8 St. Mullins	12-May-04	Gerry Connolly	Tasmanian Devil
2	7 St. Mullins	18-May	Ian Mulligan	Tasmanian Devil

SMOOTH HOUND

Record, 16.58 lbs; Specimen Weight, 7 lbs (3.175 kg)

8	12 Cahore	19-Jun	John Millerick	Crab
8.44	Greystones	17-Jun	Pat Kirwan	Ragworm
3.78 kg	Rush	23-Oct	Johnny Woodlock	Baited Feathers
3.4 kg	Cahore	3-Jun	Terry Jackson	Peeler Crab

STONE BASSE

New Irish Record, 11.72 lbs; Specimen Weight, 8 lbs (6.35 kg)

11.72	Baltimore	14-Jul	Tony Rainer (UK)	Mackerel Fillet
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TOPE

Record, 66 lbs 8 ozs; Specimen Weight, 40 lbs (18.144 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u> lbs ozs	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
55	Red Bay	2-Aug	David Cherry	Mackerel
50.55	Shannon Estuary, Kilrush	14-Oct-04	Gerard Doyle	Mackerel
20.4 kg	Culdaff	2-Oct	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
20 kg	Lough Swilly	22-May	Terry Jackson	Mackerel
19.75 kg	Shannon Estuary, Beal Bar	29-Jul	Chris De Swerdt (B)	Mackerel
42.9	Kilrush	14-Aug	Gerard Doyle	Mackerel
42	Killoughter	10-Aug	Brian Cooke	Whiting
41	Tralee Bay	16-May	Liam Griffin	Mackerel



Chris De Swerdt from Belgium took this Tope of 19.75 kg in the Shannon Estuary

TURBOT

Record, 34 lbs; Specimen Weight, 18 lbs (8.165 kg)

28	East Ferry	2-Jul	Tony Smyth	Mackerel
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BALLAN WRASSE

Record, 4.3 kg; Specimen Weight, 4.75 lbs (2.154 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u> lbs ozs	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
2.558 kg	Kilmore Quay	5-Aug	Thomas Crossan	Ragworm
2.434 kg	Kilmore Quay	16-Apr	Bert McGregor	Ragworm
2.36 kg	Hook Head	15-Jul	Liam Ryan	Ragworm
2.25 kg	Poulsallagh, Co. Clare	21-Aug	Michael Flannery	Crab
4 15	St. John's Point	6-Aug	Peter McGroary	Crab
4.87	Slea Head	10-Jul	Bob Moss	Crab
4.86	Slea Head	8-Aug	Bob Moss	Crab
2.2 kg	St. John's Point	11-Jun	Stephen Hewitt	Ragworm
4.8	Kilmore Quay	15-Sep	Ken Evason (UK)	Ragworm
4.8	Rosslare	13-Sep	Stephen Bateson (UK)	Crab
4.8	Killala Bay	15-May	Nigel O'Neill	Power bait

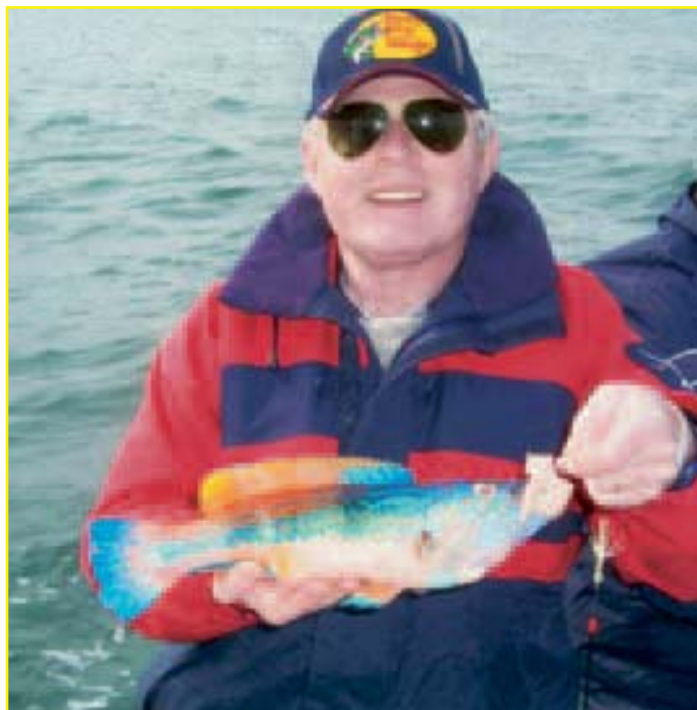


In April Bert McGregor took this fine Ballan Wrasse fishing out of Kilmore Quay

CUCKOO WRASSE

Record, 2 lbs 7 ozs; Specimen Weight, 1.25 lbs (0.567 kg)

<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CAPTOR</u>	<u>METHOD</u>
lbs ozs				
1.73	Tramore	20-Aug	Kieran Connery	Baited Feathers
0.765 kg	Ballycastle	10-Jul	Brian Foster	Ragworm
0.7 kg	Westport	7-Jul	Philip Holdsworth (UK)	Ragworm
0.68 kg	Ballycastle	11-Sep	Brian Foster	Ragworm
0.64 kg	Ballycastle	11-Sep	Shane McNicholl	Ragworm
1 5.5	Killybegs	31-Jul	Pierce Moran	Ragworm
0.6 kg	Rathlin Island	31-Jul	Gerard Bell	Mackerel
0.6 kg	Ballycastle	11-Sep	Brian Foster	Ragworm
1.31	Kilmore Quay	17-Jul	John Smyth	Ragworm
1.3	Duncannon	25-Jun	Jason Perry	Mackerel
1.27	Kilmore Quay	11-Sep	Michael Spence (UK)	Ragworm
1.26	Caherciveen	5-Nov	Des O'Connell	Mackerel
0.57 kg	Dunmore East	10-Sep	Eoin Kelly	Baited Feathers
1 4	Brandon Bay	16-Apr	John Boyle	Mackerel Strip



This colourful Cuckoo Wrasse was taken by John Boyle in Brandon Bay in April

Special Notices

AMENDMENTS TO ISFC RULES:

From 2006 onwards the following revision will apply:

Addition to **Rule (4)** Identification: Claims may be ratified where a photograph is of sufficient quality to provide conclusive evidence (i.e. key identification features clearly visible) to identify a fish, to the satisfaction of the Committee. However, the onus to provide suitable evidence rests solely with the angler.

ESTABLISHING A NEW SPECIMEN FISH CATEGORY

An important function of the ISFC is to act as a focal point for data collection on the occurrence of notable, rare or unusual species taken on rod and line in Irish waters. In some instances this has led to species previously regarded as "unusual" being added to the list of eligible species. Examples from recent years include smooth hound (*Mustelas asterias*) and three bearded rockling (*Gaidropsarus vulgaris*), (from 1983), garfish (*Bellone svetovidovi*) (from 1986), torsk (*Brosme brosme*) (from 1988), trigger fish (*Balistes carolinensis*) (from 1992), Bluemouth (*Helicolenus dactylopterus*) (from 2002), Albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) (from 2002) and golden grey mullet (*Liza aurata* (Risso)) (from 2005).

The decision to establish a new specimen fish category is taken with due consideration of the information available to the Committee. One of the principle criteria is that the species should be captured in the ordinary course of angling. Other important factors include the numbers of the species taken over a given period, the distribution of the species and the weight of individual fish in comparison to their likely maximum achievable weight.

To begin the process of attempting to establish a new specimen fish category anglers **are requested to submit a completed claim form** for each fish captured. This is particularly important as it will establish a database for the species and enable further investigation and comparison of future claims. With most species the body will have to be forwarded for positive identification. Other arrangements would apply for large fish. The availability of the body is essential to allow the Committee to verify positive identification of the species. The claim form will allow monitoring of numbers and weights of the species. This facilitates assessment of the likelihood of capture, the likely specimen weight and the availability and seasonality of the species. It is difficult to legislate for every situation that may arise but the final decision will rest with the Committee and will be based on a balanced review of the information available. While this process is progressing some details of interesting fish captured will be reported in the annual report.

Gilthead Bream (*Sparus aurata L.*) has been added to the list of eligible species. The qualifying specimen weight is 1.4 kg. Any claim for this species submitted in 2005 will be considered in 2006.

Some anglers have requested that the blackmouthed dogfish (*Galeus melastomus*) is included on the list of eligible species. One claim was received in 2003 and although several captures were reported in 2004 and 2005 no claims were submitted. Information from anglers indicates that the species is a deep-water fish and captures to date have been confined to the Red Bay area off the Antrim coast. The ISFC is considering the inclusion of this species on the listings but requests that formal claims are submitted to allow for informed assessment. The British record for this species is 2 lbs 13 ozs.



Black Mouthed Dogfish from Red Bay in 2005

The following species, which are not on the ISFC listings, were submitted to ISFC in 2005:

Species	Location	Date of capture	Angler
Chub mackerel (<i>Scomber japonicus</i>)	Waterford coast	June 2005	Neville Murphy
Tadpole Fish (<i>Raniceps raninus</i>)	Bangor Pier	15 Feb 2005 & 8 Nov 2005	David Murdoch

SPECIMEN LISTINGS AND WEIGHT REVISIONS

The Committee has decided to make the following alteration to the Specimen Fish Listings effective from 1 January 2006.

Gilthead Bream are being added to the listing. Specimen weight set at 1.4 kg.

Monkfish and Undulate Ray are being suspended from the listings. Review in December 2008.

IMPORTANT POINTS REGARDING CLAIMS

Photographic evidence for new records: except in cases where a body or presentation of the fish is required for species identification, a clear photograph must accompany all **record** fish claims.

Place of capture: all claims must include the name of the water in which the fish was caught (e.g., Monalty Lake) and in the case of the larger systems, the area (e.g., River Shannon - Rooskey).

Closed seasons: Closed seasons apply to several species (e.g. bass, brown trout, salmon etc). Any fish taken in the closed season for that species will not be ratified.

Maximum number of claims per species: A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. However, provision will be made that when the angler achieves this target and subsequently captures larger fish, these will be taken into account but the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three awards. By including this latter provision, it will ensure that the anglers' competitive spirit is kept up and higher achievements could still be sought.

Exclusion from specimen status (stocked fish):

Where species of fish are introduced to a fishery at or above existing specimen weights, those species from that particular fishery shall not be considered for specimen or record status. Escapees from fish farms either freshwater or marine are also excluded.

Exclusion from specimen status – Common Skate, Undulate Ray and Monkfish

Sharks and rays (elasmobranchs) are a group of fishes requiring special consideration.

In 1976 the Committee, in the interests of conservation, decided to remove the Common Skate (*Raja batis*) from the list of eligible fishes and not to consider any claims whatsoever, except for a possible new record (i.e., a fish weighing in excess of 100 kg (221 lbs)).

The plight of two further elasmobranch species has since become very serious: both the Undulate Ray (*Raja undulata*) and the Monkfish (*Squatina squatina*) are under serious threat due to commercial fishing pressure and the Committee is anxious that their situation should not be exacerbated by angling. For this reason **Undulate Ray and Monkfish are being removed from the list of eligible species**. Claims for a new record in either species will be considered provided that the fish is weighed on shore, photographed and returned alive. This moratorium will continue for three years until December 2008 when the situation will be reviewed.

Handling fish

Rays and monkfish sharks are elasmobranchs with a flattened shape. Sharks have a more cylindrical form and many species are vulnerable because they mature slowly and produce small numbers of young. Female sharks are often larger than males, and the heaviest are likely to be pregnant when they achieve specimen size. Handle them gently and return them to the water as quickly as possible. The ISFC urges anglers to apply the same handling principles to all species particularly around spawning time.

Captors Addresses: Because of difficulties in establishing eligibility for the 20 Species, 10 Species, 50 Specimen and 10 Specimen Awards, captors are advised to inform the Committee of any changes in their addresses.

BIG GAME FISH

Since 2000 the ISFC has adopted a watching brief with regard to the rules governing the capture of big game fish. Based on the deliberations of an ISFC sub-committee appointed in 2002, revised rules derived from relevant sections from the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) rules have been incorporated into the existing ISFC rules (see Rule 2).

IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT WEIGHING OF FISH

Weighing instruments and certification: The Committee insists that all fish be weighed on scales which are verified for accuracy. Shop scales normally used in trade are checked regularly by officers of the Legal Metrology Service (National Standards Authority of Ireland) and are acceptable for weighing specimen and record fish. Club or personalised (i.e. scales not normally certified by the Weights and Measures Authority for trade purposes) can be certified for accuracy by this agency. *A full listing of Legal Metrology Centres throughout the country where scales can be independently certified are presented on Page 45.* Such scales if certified in advance are acceptable to the Committee for weighing purposes. Certification will be valid for one year from the date of issue of the certificate of accuracy. The manufacturers certificate of accuracy will not suffice. Weights from scales which are not certified at the time of weighing or certified in retrospect will not be accepted.

Metrification: Since 1978, the schedule of specimen weights on the Specimen Fish Claim Form has been presented in the Imperial (lbs and ozs) and Metric (kilograms and grams) systems. **From 2006 onwards fish weights will be presented in kilograms in the Annual Report, reflecting modern requirements for information reporting.** Claims will, however, be accepted under either system until EU legislation dictates otherwise. Weights are also acceptable as decimal of lbs (e.g. 2.25 lbs = 2 lbs 4 ozs).

Weighing Scale Certification

LIST OF REGIONAL VERIFICATION CENTRES

Legal Metrology Service, National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI), Glasnevin, Dublin 9.

Region & Area	Contact	Telephone No.
Cork Regional Verification Centre NSAI, Legal Metrology Service, Rossa Ave., Bishopstown, Cork 4. Ph: 021 - 434 6256 Fax: 021 - 434 6679	James Stapleton	Mobile 087 - 224 5533
Dublin Regional Verification Centre NSAI, Legal Metrology Service, Poppintree Ind. Estate, Poppintree, Dublin 11. Ph: 01 - 864 3848 Fax: 01 - 864 3880	Ronán O'Doherty	01 - 864 3848
Limerick Regional Verification Centre NSAI, Legal Metrology Service, Plassey Technological Park, Castletroy, Limerick. Ph: 061 - 330 708 Fax: 061 - 330 698	Denis Corkery	Mobile 087 - 223 1053
Sligo Regional Verification Centre NSAI, Legal Metrology Service, Finiskillen Industrial Est., Sligo. Ph: 071 - 507 38 Fax: 071 - 507 39	Tony Marren	Mobile 087 - 223 1058
Waterford Regional Verification Centre NSAI, Legal Metrology Service, Northern Industrial Est., Waterford. Ph: 051 - 358 020 Fax: 051 - 358 021	Paul Moore	Mobile 087 - 917 7333
Dundalk Regional Verification Centre NSAI, Legal Metrology Service, IDA Small Business Park, Coes Rd., Dundalk, Co. Louth. Ph: 042 - 933 2758 Fax: 042 - 933 2791	Kieran Finlay	Mobile 087 - 223 1079
Galway Regional Verification Centre NSAI, Legal Metrology Service, Ballybrit Ind. Est., Ballybane, Galway. Ph: 091 - 771 943 Fax: 091 - 758 932	Dave Conneely	Mobile 087 - 223 1051
Dublin HQ Legal Metrology Service, NSAI, Glasnevin, Dublin 9 Ph: 01 - 807 3807 Fax: 01 - 807 3808	Pat Farragher	01 - 807 3807

PRESENTATION OF 2004 AWARDS

The ISFC is very grateful to Clive Gammon, angler, broadcaster, author and 'raconteur extraordinaire', who made the Annual Presentation of Awards to anglers whose claims were ratified during 2004 at the Doyle Burlington Hotel, Dublin on 5th March, 2005.

At the VISMA angling exhibition held in Rotterdam, Holland in March 2005, Dutch and Belgian anglers were presented with their awards by the Central Fisheries Board Angling Section, in association with Tourism Ireland and Peter Dohmen, the well known Dutch angling journalist. Tourism Ireland, in conjunction with the CFB Angling Section, also hosted Awards Presentations for UK anglers at the NEC angling exhibition in Birmingham in April 2005 and for French anglers at a major angling tradeshow in Paris in February 2005.

Acknowledgements

Photographs: The majority of photographs in this report are taken by anglers. Good quality photographs have enhanced the report considerably over the past decade and anglers are encouraged to send photographs of specimen fish catches to the Committee. All will be considered for publication. The Committee is extremely grateful to anglers, staff, charter skippers and other supporters who submitted photographs this year particularly Hamish Currie, John Angles, Terry Jackson, Nick Parry, Mike Thrussell, Jim Clohessy, John Twomey, Denis Goulding, Arthur White and Brian Cooke.

Special acknowledgements: Charter skippers, club members, guesthouse owners, tackle dealers and staffs from the Central and Regional Fisheries Boards who follow up claims and ensure that the necessary paperwork is attended to are gratefully acknowledged. Sincere thanks to Myles Kelly ISFC webmaster for his input throughout 2005.

Special thanks to: Dr. Michael Kennedy and Michael Hennessy for the articles that appear in this report and also to Mike Dingle Tudor for his inputs during the year.

Two sections of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Northern Ireland (DARDNI) continue to provide an excellent fish identification service for anglers in Northern Ireland and the ISFC is indebted to staff in both. Special thanks are due to the extremely cooperative staff of the Legal Metrology Service, NSAI for certification of scales.

The Central Fisheries Board provides administrative support and other services to the ISFC and is sincerely acknowledged.

DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIMEN AWARDS

The numbers of specimen fish taken by anglers of different nationalities are listed below:

Year	Ireland	Britain (UK)	Holland (NL)	Germany (D)	Belgium (B)	France (F)	Other -	TOTAL
1985	443	90	25	15	3	2	n/d	578
1986	349	93	21	16	3	7	n/d	489
1987	300	59	36	8	1	4	n/d	408
1988	259	60	14	5	4	4	n/d	346
1989	261	48	18	10	0	0	n/d	337
1990	286	45	21	23	4	1	n/d	380
1991	332	46	30	19	1	3	n/d	431
1992	336	56	32	9	1	3	n/d	437
1993	352	45	30	16	3	4	n/d	450
1994	282	39	33	13	1	2	n/d	370
1995	295	55	35	18	7	1	n/d	411
1996	307	69	27	6	4	2	n/d	415
1997	449	57	28	9	5	4	n/d	552
1998	344	53	46	6	5	4	n/d	458
1999	310	35	33	3	1	1	1	384
2000	403	48	41	13	1	0	2	508
2001	427	37	28	5	4	3	4	508
2002	471	43	23	7	6	2	7	559
2003	384	41	63	11	13	4	5	521
2004	412	38	48	3	9	4	4	518
2005	432	52	62	10	7	4	1	568

n/d = not determined

Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Expenditure and Revenue Account - 1st January to 31st December 2003

2002 €	Expenditure	2003 €	2002 €	Revenue	2003 €
				Balance b/f Grants	2465.28
7647.26	Printing	6680.24	6324.23	CFB	5750.00
2381.62	Award Medals	748.84	2539.48	MI	3000.00
128.50	Dr. Went's Prize	65.00	0.00	Fáilte Ireland	2500.00
530.00	Miscellaneous	325.55			
57.14	Equipment/ consumables	0.00			
2036.20	Award Day costs	941.86		Donations	
16.92	Bank charges	11.36	1274.18	Clubs, Feds & individuals	1293.29
			0.00	David Went	1100.00
	Total	8772.85			
	Balance c/d	7335.72			16108.57
		16108.57			16108.57
				Balance b/d	7335.72

We have examined all documents, record books, lodgements and cheque books and certify that the accounts are correct

Signed: *N. O'Farrell & H. O'Rorke*

N. O'Farrell & H. O'Rorke (Auditors)

Irish Specimen Fish Committee

Expenditure and Revenue Account - 1st January to 31st December 2004

2003	Expenditure	2004		2003	Revenue	2004
€		€		€		€
					Balance b/f Grants	7335.72
6680.24	Printing	7006.92		5750.00	CFB	5500.00
748.84	Award Medals	0.00		3000.00	MI	3000.00
65.00	Dr. Went's Prize	65.00		2500.00	Fáilte Ireland	2500.00
325.55	Miscellaneous	332.10		0.00	ESB	500.00
941.86	Award Day costs	1710.41		0.00	Eddie Rowe (Mikes Bikes)	200.00
11.36	Bank charges	15.65				
				1293.29	Donations	
					Clubs, Feds & individuals	1197.43
				1100.00	David Went	1100.00
	Total Balance c/d	9130.08				
		12203.07				21333.15
		21333.15				21333.15
					Balance b/d	12203.07

We have examined all documents, record books, lodgements and cheque books and certify that the accounts are correct

Signed:

N. O'Farrell & H. O'Rorke

N. O'Farrell & H. O'Rorke (Auditors)

DONATIONS

Donations: The ISFC is a voluntary body and all activities are funded by donations from diverse sources. Our principal donors are the Central Fisheries Board, the Marine Institute, the Loughs Agency and Fáilte Ireland. The ISFC is extremely grateful to all.

Benefactors in 2005 were:

Central Fisheries Board; Marine Institute; Eastern Regional Fisheries Board; Delphi Fishery Ltd., Dolphin Richview S.A.C; John Angles, Eyeries, Castletownbere, Co. Cork; **Peter Atkins**, 6 Sli an Clairin, Caharoy, Athenry, Co. Galway; **Val Atkins**, 4 Abbey Park, Ferrybank, Waterford; **John & Finbarr Barry**, Cork Harbour Boats Ltd., 3 Glenbrook Terrace, Glenbrook, Co. Cork; **Gerard Bell**, 84A Upper Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT10 OBA; **Bernie Boyle**, 56 Balloonagh Estate, Tralee, Co. Kerry; **Martin Brennan**, Fort House, Cappa, Kilrush, Co. Clare; **John Brittain**, Blue Water Fishing, Sharamore House, Streamstown, Clifden, Co. Galway; **FHE Buller**, Holly Tree, Woodlands, South Heath, Gr. Middledon, Bucks, England; **Brian Byrne**, East Cork Angling, Loughcarrig House, Ballinacurra, Midleton, Co. Cork; **Jim Clohessy**, 8 Glyntown Heights, Glanmire, Co. Cork; **Sean Clohessy**, Castlehyde, Richmond, Glanmire, Co. Cork; **William E. Crompton**, "The Beeches", Tomloskan, Ballinamore, Co Leitrim; **John Deady**, 12 Castle View, Fenit, Tralee, Co. Kerry; **Nick Dent**, 2 Castle Gardens, Castletownshend, Co. Cork; **Donal Domeney**, 20 Courtown Drive, Cork; **James Farrell**, 137 Leinster Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6; **Oliver Finnegan**, 25 Chestnut Grove, Newry, Co. Down, BT34 1JT; **Mattie Foley**, 18 Upper Lotabeg Road, Mayfield, Cork; **Jimmy Gallagher**, Angling Charters, 3 Seaview, Killala, Co. Mayo; **Mark Gannon**, Courtmacsherry Angling Centre, Woodpoint, Courtmacsherry, Co. Cork; **John Gibbons**, Glengowla, Oughterard, Co. Galway; **Siegy Grabher**, Angling Charters, Ballyhearney West, The Mill, Valentia Island, Co. Kerry; **Burkhard Hobler**, Inish Macatreer, c/o Cross Post Office, Cross, Co. Mayo; **Philip Hodgins**, 194 Meadow Grove, Dundrum, Dublin 16; **Pat Kirwan**, 207 Bunting Road, Walkinstown, Dublin 12; **Christy Lane**, 10 Harringtons Square, Dillons Cross, Cork City; Noel Lane, 65 Silverheights Avenue, Mayfield, Cork; **Ken McAuley**, 55 Hunters Buoy, Larne, Co. Antrim BT40 2HH; **Niall McCarthy**, c/o Mark Gannon, Courtmacsherry, Co. Cork; **Nicholas McEvoy**, 6 Francis Crescent, Grange Heights, Waterford; **Brian McGilloway**, Roshine Road, Killybegs, Co. Donegal; **Bert McGregor**, 34 Rivermead Park, St. Margarets, Co. Dublin; **Alastair McIlwaine**, Tirlaughan, Carrigart, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal; **Vincent McKernan**, 19 Drummaul Park, Randalstown, Co. Antrim; **W.F. McLaughlin**, 27 Castle Gardens, Limavaddy, Co. Londonderry BT490SD; **John McLoughlin**, Inishowen Boating Co., Carrowmore, Malin, Co. Donegal; **Peter Manning**, Angling Charters, Church Road, Ballycotton, Co. Cork; **Brendan Merrifield**, Lothlorian, Drumacrin Road, Bundoran, Co. Donegal; **Derek J. Miller**, 35 Greenmeadows Road, Madeley Crewe, Cheshire CW3 9EY, England; **Des Mills**, Bunagee Pier, Culdaff, Co. Donegal; **Michael Moriarty**, Talaught, Fenit, Tralee, Co. Kerry; **Joe Mulholland**, Feede Cross, Dundalk, Co. Louth; **Chris Neill**, 7 Glencairg Road, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim, BT36 5WJ; **Jim Nowotynski**, Cashloura, Drinagh, Co. Cork; **Paul O'Brien**, 17 Hughes Road North, Walkinstown, Dublin 12; **Ciaran O'Carroll**, Derryconnell House, Derryconnell, Schull, Co. Cork; **Noel O'Connor**, 13 St. Brendan's Terrace, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway; **Karl O'Leary**, 33 Meadow Lawn, Raheen, Limerick; **Thomas O'Mahony** Sporthouse, Butlerstown, Co. Waterford; **John O'Shea**, 6 Raphoe Road, Crumlin,

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Continuing the Went tradition

The late Dr. Arthur Went was associated with the Irish Specimen Fish Committee since it was founded in 1955. He, with Dr. Michael Kennedy of the Inland Fisheries Trust, was one of the founder members of the Committee and was a driving force with an immense interest in recording specimen fish in Ireland. Being aware that documentation of rod caught large or specimen fish in Irish waters was, at best, 'haphazard' he, in his role as Scientific Adviser and Chief Inspector with the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Agriculture, together with representatives of other bodies including the Inland Fisheries Trust and Bord Failte Eireann established the ISFC to help promote the development of angling in this country.

The ISFC recognised that proper documentation and recording of specimen fish data would provide an invaluable record for many different users but most particularly anglers. Over the past fifty years their foresight has contributed handsomely to many facets of Irish fisheries and the tourism industry. In those early pioneering days the ISFC began a process which has gone from strength to strength and continues to provide a valuable service today.

Dr. Went served as a distinguished and hardworking ISFC Chairman from 1955 up to his death in 1980. His work on fish ecology in Ireland, particularly on salmon fisheries, is very well regarded and his scientific papers on specimen and unusual fish, which had been presented to the Committee, contributed significantly to the compilation of the Irish fish fauna listing, which he co-authored with Dr. Kennedy. Documenting traditional commercial fishing methods was another important task he undertook to ensure that the social, cultural and heritage aspects of these techniques were understood and appreciated.

Dr. Went established the 'ISFC Young Specimen Angler of the Year Award' in 1973. This innovative award has been a milestone which has stimulated many of the current crop of well-known 'adult' anglers.

The Went family association with the ISFC was strengthened from 2003 onwards. Mr David Went, son of Dr. Went, on being advised of the financial plight of the ISFC, has personally agreed to sponsor the awards medals and badges for a number of years. This exceptional generosity is very much appreciated by the Committee.

IRISH RECORD FISH FRESHWATER SPECIES

Species	Weight lbs	ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
Bream	12	3	22.5.1997	Bolganard Lake	Paul Mathers
Carp	29	13	5.7.1998	The Lough, Cork	Sidney Kennedy
Dace	1	2	8.8.1966	River Blackwater, Cappoquin	John T. Henry
Eel	6	15	12.6.1979	Lough Droumenisa, Bantry	J. Murnane
Perch	5	8	1946	Lough Erne	S. Drum
Pike (Lake)	42	12	25.9.2005	White Lake	Larry Kelly
Pike (River)	42		22.3.1964	River Barrow	M. Watkins
Roach	1.425 kg		6.10.2002	Drumacritten Lake	Terry Jackson
Roach/Bream Hybrid	7		24.4.2002	River Bann, Toome	Roy Gretton
Rudd	4	8	5.9.1996	Coney Lake	Hugh Gough
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	19.10.1996	Monalty Lake	Brendan Doran
Tench	8.15		20.6.1995	Ballyeighter Lake	Nick Parry
Salmon	57		1874	River Suir	M. Maher
Brown Trout (Lake)	26	2	15.7.1894	Lough Ennell	Wm. Mears
Brown Trout (River)	20		22.2.1957	River Shannon, Corbally	Major Hugh Place
Sea Trout	16	6	29.10.1983	Shimna River, Co. Down	Thomas McManus

MARINE SPECIES

Species	Weight lbs	ozs	Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
Angler Fish	42.985 kg		3.11.1985	Belfast Lough	Sean Neill
Bass	17	13	21.10.2000	Doughmore Strand	Emmet Naughton
Black Sole	6.32		28.12.1986	Ballycotton	Eddie Cull
Bluemouth	2.4		26.06.2002	Caherciveen	Hugh Maguire
Brill	9	8	8.9.1984	Causeway Coast	Deborah Gregg
Coalfish	15.1 kg		30.08.2003	Castletownshend	Roger Barham
Cod	42		1921	Ballycotton	I.L. Stewart
Conger Eel	72		June, 1914	Valentia	J. Green
Dab	2	5.5	2.10.2002	Cork Harbour	Mick Duff
Spur Dogfish	21.25		10.8.2001	Dun Laoghaire	Charlie Robinson
Greater Spotted Dogfish	23	13	17.09.2003	Kenmare Bay	Perry Dumay
Lesser Spotted Dogfish	4	4	26.7.1982	Valentia	Cor Heinis
Flounder	4.91		2.10.1993	Ballyteigue, Co. Wexford	Brian Russell
Garfish (<i>B. bellone</i>)	3	10.25	16.9.1967	Kinsale	Evan Bazzard
Garfish (<i>B. svetovidovi</i>)	1.11		5.8.1994	Courtmacsherry	Eric Leijten
Tub Gurnard	12	3.5	8.8.1973	Bullsmouth, Achill	Robert Seaman

MARINE SPECIES (Contd.)

Species	Weight		Date of Capture	Place of Capture	Captor
	lbs	ozs			
Grey Gurnard	3	1	21.9.1967	Rosslare Bay	Brendan Walsh
Red Gurnard	3	9.5	17.7.1968	Belmullet	James Prescott
Haddock	10	13.5	15.7.1964	Kinsale	F.A.E. Bull
Hake	25	5.5	28.4.1962	Belfast Lough	H. W. Steele
Halibut	156		23.7.1972	Belmullet	Frank Brogan
Herring	0.425 kg		11.7.1986	Rathlin Island	Wm. McMath
John Dory	7	8	12.8.1984	Killala Bay	Cleona Walkin
Ling	55		3.1.2005	Cork Harbour	Ailbhe O'Sullivan
Mackerel	4	2	18.9.1979	Ballycotton	Ulrich Plassmann
Megrim	1.85 kg		26.7.1987	Killala	Paul Hennigan
Monkfish	73		1.6.1980	Fenit, Co. Kerry	James Boyd
Grey Mullet	9.10		26.9.1993	Cork Harbour	Cay Heerwagen
Golden Grey Mullet	2	8	11.7.2003	Cork Harbour	Noel Lane
Red Mullet	1.26		30.9.2005	Kilmore Quay	Eamon Hayes
Plaice	8.23		23.1.1982	Ballycotton Pier	Edmund Cull
Pollack	19	3	1904	Ballycotton	J.N. Hearne
Pouting	4	13.5	2.4.1983	Kilmore Quay	John Devereaux
Thornback Ray	37		28.5.1961	Ling Rocks, Kinsale	M. J. Fitzgerald
Blonde Ray	37		10.10.2005	Cobh	Paul Tennant
Sting Ray	33.2 kg		19.5.1999	Tralee Bay	Michael Wall
Cuckoo Ray	5	11	3. 8.1975	Causeway Coast	V. Morrison
Undulate Ray	18		11.6.1977	Fenit	Ann-Mari Liedecke
Homelyn Ray	8.28		28.9.1983	Cork Harbour	Edmund Cull
Painted Ray	17.21		29.8.1994	Garryvoe, Co. Cork	Edmund Cull
Electric Ray	40 kg		24.8.2002	Achill	Shay Boylan
Ray's Bream	6	4.25	26.8.1979	Valentia	Martin Sarney
Red Sea Bream	9	6	24.8.1963	Valentia	P. Maguire
Twaite Shad	1.54 kg		7.5.1999	St. Mullins	Michael O'Leary
Porbeagle Shark	365		1932	Keem Bay, Achill	Dr. O'Donel Brown
Blue Shark	206		7.10.1959	Achill Head	J. McMonagle
Six Gilled Shark	154		28.8.1968	Kinsale	Andrew Bull
Common Skate	221		1913	Ballycotton	T. Tucker
White Skate	165		7.8.1966	Clew Bay	Jack Stack
Scad	1.97		6.9.1986	Clonakilty	Master R. McCarthy
Smooth Hound	16.58		25.9.2000	Carne	Keith Gray
Stone Basse	11.72		14.7.2005	Baltimore	Tony Rainer
Three Bearded Rockling	3	1	1.5.1990	Arklow	Maurice Laurent
Tope	66	8	15.7.1979	Carlingford Lough	Cyril Young
Torsk	10	11	17.9.1995	Port-na-Blagh	Liam Brennan
Trigger Fish	4.83		30.9.1995	Ballydavid	Nicholas Ward
Turbot	34		9.6.1982	Cork Harbour	Frank Fleming
Tuna - Albacore	16.66 kg		28.9.2003	SW of Blasket Islands	Alan Glanville
- Bluefin	440 kg		5.10.2001	Donegal Bay	Adrian Molloy
Whiting	4	14.5	19.3.1981	Kenmare Bay	Comdt. M. J. O'Connor
Ballan Wrasse	4.3 kg		20.8.1983	Clogher Head	Bertrand Kron
Cuckoo Wrasse	2	7	15.9.1998	Causeway Coast	Brian McLoughlin

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS

	IRISH RECORD		SPECIMEN WEIGHT	
	lbs	ozs	lbs	kg
FRESHWATER FISH				
Bream (<i>Abramis brama</i>)	12	3	7.5	3.402
Carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>)	29	13	12	5.443
Dace (<i>Leuciscus leuciscus</i>)	1	2	0.772	0.35
Eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	6	15	3	1.361
Perch (<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>)	5	8	2.646	1.2
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (Lake)	42	12	30	13.608
Pike (<i>Esox lucius</i>) (River)	42		20	9.072
Roach (<i>Rutilus rutilus</i>)	1.425 kg		2	0.907
Roach/Bream Hybrid	7		3.528	1.6
Rudd (<i>Scardinius erythrophthalmus</i>)	4	8	2.25	1.021
Rudd/Bream Hybrid	7	10	3	1.361
Tench (<i>Tinca tinca</i>)	8.15		6	2.722
Salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)	57		20	9.072
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (Lake)	26	2	10	4.536
Brown Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) (River)	20		5	2.268
Sea Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	16	6	6	2.722
Slob Trout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>)	-		10	4.536
SEA FISH				
Angler Fish (<i>Lophius piscatorius</i>)	42.985 kg		40	18.144
Bass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>)	17	13	10	4.536
Black Sole (<i>Solea solea</i>)	6.32		2	0.907
Bluemouth (<i>Helicolenus dactylopterus</i>)	2.4		1.9845	0.9
Brill (<i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i>)	9	8	5	2.268
Coalfish (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	15.1 kg		15	6.804
Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i>)	42		20	9.072
Conger (<i>Conger conger</i>)	72		40	18.144
Dab (<i>Limanda limanda</i>)	2	5.5	1.5	0.68
Dogfish - Spur (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)	21.25		12	5.443
- Lesser Spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus caniculus</i>)	4	4	3.25	1.474
- Greater Spotted (<i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i>)	23	13	16	7.257
Flounder (<i>Platichthys flesus</i>)	4.91		3	1.361
Garfish (<i>Belone bellone</i>)	3	10.5	2.25	1.021
-(<i>Belone svetovidovi</i>)	1.11		14 ozs	0.355
Gilthead Bream (<i>Sparus aurata</i>)	-		3.08	1.4
Gurnard - Tub (<i>Trigla lucerna</i>)	12	3.5	5	2.268
- Grey (<i>Eutrigla gurnardus</i>)	3	1	1.5	0.68
- Red (<i>Aspitigla cuculus</i>)	3	9.5	2	0.907
Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>)	10	13.5	7	3.175
Hake (<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>)	25	5.5	10	4.536
Halibut (<i>Hippoglossus hippoglossus</i>)	156		50	22.68
Herring (<i>Clupea harengus</i>)	0.425 kg		0.75	0.34
John Dory (<i>Zeus faber</i>)	7	8	4	1.814
Ling (<i>Molva molva</i>)	55		25	11.34
Mackerel (<i>Scomber scombrus</i>)	4	2	2.5	1.134

SCHEDULE OF SPECIMEN WEIGHTS Contd.

SEA FISH (Contd.)	IRISH RECORD		SPECIMEN WEIGHT	
	lbs	ozs	lbs	kg
Megrim (<i>Lepidorhombus whiffiagonis</i>)	1.85		1.75	0.794
Monkfish (<i>Squatina squatina</i>)	73		Suspended	
Mullet - Grey, thick lipped (<i>Crenimugil labrosus</i>)	9.1		5	2.268
Mullet-Golden Grey (<i>Liza aurata</i>)	2	8	1.5	0.68
Mullet-Red (<i>Mullus surmuletus</i>)	1.26		1	0.454
Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)	8.23		4	1.814
Pollack (<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>)	19	3	12	5.443
Pouting (<i>Trisopterus luscus</i>)	4	13.5	3	1.361
Ray - Thornback (<i>Raja clavata</i>)	37		20	9.072
- Blonde (<i>Raja brachyura</i>)	37		25	11.34
- Cuckoo (<i>Raja naevus</i>)	5	11	4.5	2.041
- Electric (<i>Torpedo nobiliana</i>)	40	kg	20	9.072
- Homelyn (<i>Raja montagui</i>)	8.28		5	2.268
- Undulate (<i>Raja undulata</i>)	18		Suspended	
- Painted (<i>Raja microcellata</i>)	17.21		10	4.536
- Sting (<i>Dasyatis pastinaca</i>)	33.2	kg	30	13.608
Ray's Bream (<i>Brama brama</i>)	6	4.25	5	2.268
Red Sea Bream (<i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i>)	9	6	4.5	2.041
Rockling, Three Bearded (<i>Gaidropsarus vulgaris</i>)	3	1	1.75	0.794
Scad (<i>Trachurus trachurus</i>)	1.97		1.5	0.680
Shad - Allis (<i>Alosa alosa</i>)	-		4	1.814
- Twaite (<i>Alosa fallax</i>)	1.54	kg	2.4255	1.1
Shark - Porbeagle (<i>Lamna nasus</i>)	365		150	68.038
- Blue (<i>Prionace glauca</i>)	206		100	45.359
- Thresher (<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>)	-		120	54.431
- Mako (<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>)	-		200	90.718
- Six- Gilled (<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>)	154		100	45.359
Skate - Common (<i>Raja batis</i>)	221		Suspended	
- White (<i>Raja alba</i>)	165		120	54.431
- Long Nose (<i>Raja oxyrinchus</i>)	-		80	36.287
Smooth Hound (<i>Mustelus asterias</i>)	16.58		7	3.175
Stone Basse (<i>Polyprion americanus</i>)	11.72		8	3.628
Tope (<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>)	66	8	40	18.144
Torsk (<i>Brosme brosme</i>)	10	11	6	2.721
Trigger Fish (<i>Balistes carolinensis</i>)	4.83		3.25	1.474
Tuna - Albacore (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	16.66	kg	26.46	12
- Bluefin (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>)	440	kg	551.88	250
Turbot (<i>Scophthalmus maximus</i>)	34		18	8.165
Whiting (<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>)	4	14.5	3	1.361
Wrasse Ballan (<i>Labrus bergylta</i>)	4.3	kg	4.75	2.154
Wrasse Cuckoo (<i>Labrus mixtus</i>)	2	7	1.25	0.567

IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE RULES**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

- (1) IRISH SPECIMEN FISH COMMITTEE:** This Committee consists of representatives of the Irish Angling Federations, State Agencies and the Government Departments and official organisations interested in angling. Its objective is to verify, record and publicise the capture of large fish on rod and line in Irish waters. A list of Specimen Fish is published annually by the Committee. Only fish which can be fully vouched for as to weight and species can be accepted and listed by the Committee. Except in exceptional circumstances claims will remain valid for a period of one year following the year of capture.
- (2) FAIR ANGLING:** "Fair Angling" means any legitimate method of angling with rod and reel which is recognised as a fair and sporting method. A fish must be hooked in or in the immediate vicinity of the mouth when it has taken the bait or lure; fish which have been foul-hooked, even accidentally, are not eligible. A fish in respect of which a claim is made must be hooked, played and brought to gaff or net by the angler **UNAIDED**, though the fish may be gaffed or netted by another, and it is permissible for the person using the gaff to take hold of the trace or doubled line (in the case of big game fishing) to steady the fish when it has been played out and brought within reach. If a fixed rod holder is in use while boat fishing, and a fish strikes, the rod must be removed from the holder as quickly as possible. This is to ensure that the angler hooks and plays the fish with rod in hand. Where a fighting chair is employed, it must not have any mechanically driven device which aids the angler in playing a fish. Body harnesses (which attach the rod to the body) are permissible but must not be fixed to the chair. Gimbals must be free swinging including those which move in the vertical plane. Gimbals which permit the angler to rest or reduce strain while playing a fish are prohibited. Breakage of rod, reel or line, or alteration or substitution of tackle, while a fish is being played, disqualify it for claim or record purposes. A fish may not be shot, lanced, clubbed or harpooned before landing. Claims for fish caught during the statutory close season for the species (where this applies) cannot be accepted.
- (3) WEIGHING:** Fish must be weighed in the presence of independent, reliable witnesses on a properly certified scales, e.g., a shop scales or an official club scales which is covered by a certificate from the Weights and Measures Officer (see List of Weighing Scales Certification Centres in this report). Claims cannot be accepted in respect of fish weighed on scales inappropriate to the size of the fish, e.g., fish in the 1 to 3 kg range weighed on balances weighing up to 50 kg or over and graduated in large divisions. Where weights are in large divisions (e.g. 1 lb/1 kg divisions) the weight of a fish must be rounded **DOWN** to the nearest actual division.

CLAIMS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED IN THE CASE OF FISH WHICH HAVE BEEN WEIGHED ON BOARD A BOAT.

Please note: All club and personal scales **MUST** be certified annually by an independent agency. Weighing scales must be covered by a Certificate of Accuracy at the time of weighing. They cannot be certified in retrospect, i.e. after the fish has been weighed.

- (4) IDENTIFICATION:** The identification of a fish must be fully documented where there is a possibility of its confusion with any other (and particularly larger) species. For this reason, the Committee, in respect of some species, insists that scales from the fish, close up photographs or the actual body must be forwarded as actual proof of identification, before it will consider claims.

FISH SCALES must be submitted in respect of claims for SALMON, SEA TROUT, BROWN TROUT (including SLOB TROUT). Any brown trout taken in tidal waters, i.e., in the sea or in an estuary below the freshwater boundary as defined for that river will be regarded for claim purposes as a slob trout. About 50 scales scraped from each shoulder of the fish should be sent with the claim.

THE ACTUAL BODY must be forwarded for identification in the case of the following species:- DACE, RUDD, RUDD/BREAM HYBRID, ROACH, ROACH/BREAM HYBRID, MACKEREL, SCAD, HERRING, SHAD, FLOUNDER, DAB, BRILL, MEGRIM, GREY & RED GURNARDS, GREY MULLET, GOLDEN GREY AND RED MULLET, ANGLER FISH, LESSER SPOTTED DOGFISH, THREE BEARDED ROCKLING, SMOOTH HOUND, RAYS BREAM, CUCKOO WRASSE, TORSK, "RIVER" EELS taken in tidal waters and GARFISH (head and gills only). Claims may be ratified where a photograph is of sufficient quality to provide conclusive evidence (i.e. key identification features clearly visible) to identify a fish, to the satisfaction of the Committee. However, the onus to provide suitable evidence rests solely with the angler.

CLEAR, SHARP, CLOSE-UP PHOTOGRAPHS, showing the entire fish with its fins and other features easily seen, and not fore-shortened or obscured by shadows or bystanders must be provided in the case of TOPE, SHARKS, SKATE, RAYS, BLUEMOUTH, MONKFISH, POLLACK, COALFISH, BALLAN WRASSE, TRIGGER FISH, ALBACORE, TUB GURNARD (pectoral fins of gurnard must be fully expanded), GILTHEAD BREAM (whole body and head shot showing mouth and eyes).

If necessary, the fish should be hung up for photographs. In the case of skates and rays, photographs of both back and belly surfaces should be provided and particulars of the coloration given (with particular reference to the presence of dark or grey spots, or streaks or patches on the belly side). Samples of the teeth should be furnished in the case of Porbeagle and Mako Sharks. In addition, there should be a clear close-up photograph showing the jaws and teeth exposed.

- (5) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF CLAIMS:** A maximum of three (3) awards will be made to any particular claimant for a single species in any one year. However, provision will be made that when an angler achieves this target and subsequently captures larger fish, these will be taken into account but the final number of awards for any species in a single year will not be more than three awards. By including this latter provision, it will ensure that the anglers competitive spirit is kept up and higher achievements could still be sought.

(6) SENDING FISH TO THE COMMITTEE:

Please

- (1) Notify the Committee when a fish is being sent in for identification Telephone 01-884 2600; Fax: 01-836 0060. E-mail: info@cfb.ie
- (2) Do not forward fish to the Committee before Bank Holidays or weekends; (keep in a cold store or preferably frozen if fish cannot be delivered quickly on or before Friday afternoon).
- (3) Please attach a label to each fish forwarded for identification giving the captor's name and address, date and place of capture and the weight of the fish.
- (4) Fish should not be sent in polythene bags or wrapped in aluminium foil as this causes very rapid decomposition. They should be wrapped in greaseproof paper and then in newspaper and brown paper.

- (7) AWARDS:** Anglers whose claims have been accepted by the Committee will be awarded special "Merit Badges" in the case of Specimen Fish and Silver Medals in the case of Record Fish. Specimen Fish Certificates will also be issued in respect of all ratified claims. Only one merit badge will be awarded to any angler per annum even where multiple claims are received. Special badges are awarded to anglers who have caught specimens of ten or more species and a special badge is issued each year for fish of exceptional merit though not of record size.

IMPORTANT – Completed claim forms should be sent to: The Irish Specimen Fish Committee, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin, Rep. of Ireland (Tel. 00-353-1-884 2600) before 30th November each year. Where required for identification purposes (see Rule 4) fish should be sent to the same address.

In the case of marine fish taken in Northern Ireland send to Dr. Richard Briggs, Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, Agricultural & Environmental Sciences Division, Newforge Lane, Belfast BT9 5PX, Ph: 028 90 255503, e-mail: richard.briggs@dardni.gov.uk. In the case of freshwater species send to Dr. Walter Crozier, Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, River Bush Salmon Station, 21 Church Street, Bushmills, Co. Antrim, BT57 8QJ, Ph: 028 207 31435, e-mail: walter.crozier@dardni.gov.uk

GILTHEAD BREAM IN IRELAND

In recent years **Michael Hennessy**, angler, and fisheries officer with the South Western Regional Fisheries Board (SWRFB) has observed the appearance of gilthead bream along the south coast of Ireland. His hobby and his job keep him in contact with anglers and here he recounts his observations and presents some interesting angling information about the gilthead in Irish waters.

BACKGROUND: The most common sea bream caught in Irish waters during the past century has been red bream (*Pagellus bogaraveo*) and up to twenty years ago these were quite prolific around the coast but their occurrence in catches has declined dramatically in recent years. Is their niche in the sea angling about to be taken up by a related cousin - the gilthead bream?

Sparus aurata (Linnaeus, 1758) – the first positive indication that this species was beginning to inhabit Irish coastal waters, particularly the shores of the south west, came from a survey of juvenile bass undertaken by Dr. Edward Fahy of the Marine Institute and Peter Green of the Central Fisheries Board and Regional Board colleagues in 2003 (Fahy *et al*, 2005), when several juvenile giltheads were taken at Ballymacoda in County Cork.



John Twomey with a Gilthead of 1.45 kg

Web research showed the gilthead is oval in shape, being very deep-bodied and laterally compressed. Its name comes from the distinctive gold and black band found between the eyes. It is very common in the Mediterranean and is found in marine and in brackish waters such as coastal lagoons and estuarine areas, in particular during the early stages of its life cycle. Giltheads are very sensitive to low temperatures (lower lethal limit is 4°C) which usually means that they return to the open sea in late autumn, where adult fish breed. Juvenile fish move inshore to feed and to enjoy milder sea temperatures. Giltheads feed mainly on molluscs and other benthic creatures, which they break with their strong teeth. Giltheads, in common with other sea bream have excellent meat, and are a highly valued culinary species.

ANGLING RECORDS: In angling circles the first whisper of gilthead was in about 2001 when a small specimen of 0.5 lbs approx. was taken on rod and line in the Aghada power station area of Cork Harbour. These appearances became more regular and in the next two years recordings came from different sites along the south coast such as Kilmore Quay in Co. Wexford, Rosscarberry, Courtmacsherry, Union Hall and Cork Harbour in Co. Cork, and in Valentia, Co. Kerry (at the EFSA international angling competition). The first gilthead catch of 2005 came to my attention in March when I received information of a near 3 lb specimen coming from Woodpoint in Courtmacsherry. This was then followed with information of a second similar specimen in the same area. Discussions with some local anglers revealed that they had missed a lot of bites from unidentified fish in that location and it was suggested that they target these fish by going down in hook size. Well-known angler and SWRFB officer John Twomey of Bandon followed this advice and to date has landed five giltheads from different marks in the Woodpoint area. I have landed two (0.55 and 0.6 lbs). Since then I have heard of many similar sized fish also coming from the neighbouring estuaries of Ring, West Cork and Rosscarberry.

The gilthead bream is a difficult fish to hook, as they tend to rip at baits instead of taking it directly into the mouth. The fish usually travel in visible shoals very close to the shoreline and a number of different year classes have been encountered by us. Successful baits include crab, shrimp and worms and at this stage this species seems reasonably easy to target. I have not encountered any specimens when fishing after dark and we have noticed that the fish seem to prefer the estuarine habitat. The fish have been encountered on both neaps and spring tides but we favour neaps, as they seem to move up the estuary more slowly than they would in a spring tide and thus can be targeted for a longer period. They also respond to ground baiting and fish best in calm conditions.

I am aware of at least 20 individuals caught on the south coast to date this year and I believe the species is in the process of establishing itself in this environment. It first did this in England approximately 30 years ago in the area of the Salcombe estuary in Devon with the first specimens recorded being around the 2–3 lb range. The species is very common now throughout the estuaries of the South of England and much of Wales with the average size of fish caught being about 3 lb.



I feel that there are exciting times ahead for anglers in Ireland with this colourful and energetic species, particularly with global warming trends and I would like the Irish Specimen Fish Committee to consider putting this fish on the list of eligible species.

The English record giltheads are 9 lb 15 oz (Boat) and 10 lb 05 oz (Shore). Interestingly the Welsh and Scottish records are much lower –

3 lb 2 oz and 2 lb 6 oz respectively. Irish giltheads are more likely to be in this size range but who knows?

Micheal Hennessy SWRFB
Kerry, October 2005

Footnote: Claims for gilthead bream were received in 2004 and 2005 from different anglers and the Committee has decided that the species should be included on the list of eligible species from 2006 onwards.

The Early Years

The Irish Specimen Fish Committee is 50 years old. One of its founders, Dr. Michael Kennedy, the pioneering fisheries biologist, who continues to contribute to fisheries research, explains how and why it all started and identifies some of the issues that faced the Committee in the early years.

The Irish Specimen Fish Committee was the outcome of discussions between the late Dr. Arthur Went and myself fifty years ago.

Dr. Went was Chief Inspector in the Department of Fisheries and I was working in the Inland Fisheries Trust. We were both interested in how big fish grew, but were frustrated in our attempts to get a clear picture from books and press reports, past and current.

Big fish caught commercially are seldom mentioned in the press. Rod-caught fish are more likely to be reported. So it is on rod-caught fish reports one must depend for data as a rule.

But how reliable are such reports? Were the fish accurately weighed? Were they correctly identified? Were the date and place of capture and the captor's names correctly reported? And, where relevant, were the fish taken by fair angling on rod and line?

Reported weights can be misleading. A 21 lb trout caught in a Donegal lake proved to be 21 lbs of trout caught in an exceptional day's fishing. And reports of the weights of some notable fish have shown variations.

Identification of big fish can be wrong. A classic example is the 30½ lb "brown trout" caught in Lough Derg on 1st September, 1861 by J.W. Pepper. It was supposed to have been mounted, but its whereabouts were unknown, and it became known as "Pepper's Ghost", after a stage illusion of the time.

Surprisingly, the fish, in its glass case, came to light after the setting up of the Specimen Fish Committee, which had declined to consider it as a trout record. The fish, which had been in the possession of the Pepper family for a century, was presented to the Irish National Museum. Dr. Went and I examined it there and it was clearly a male salmon in spawning coloration. A sample of scales was taken and confirmed this. And thus, in the words of Dr. Went, giving the story in an angling magazine, Pepper's Ghost was, alas, a ghost no more!

If a salmon can be mistaken for a trout, the reverse can also happen, though it is less likely. On 22nd February, 1957, Major Hugh Place, fishing for salmon in the Shannon at Corbally in Limerick, caught a fish of 20 lb. He sold it as a salmon to a Limerick fish merchant, who, in turn, sold it as a salmon to a Dublin fish merchant. In the ordinary course of events that would have been the end of an unremarkable story. But it so happened that an Inspector of the Limerick Board of Conservators made a routine inspection of the Limerick merchant's books and of salmon on the premises. He saw the fish; thought it didn't look quite "right"; and took a sample of scales from it. It also so happened that an Inspector from the Dublin Board of Conservators visited the Dublin fish merchant and saw the fish. Its shape struck him as being a bit unusual, so he traced its outline on a big sheet of paper and also took a sample of scales.

Both sample of scales were forwarded to Dr. Went, who found that the fish was not a salmon but a slob trout. It thus became the Irish Record brown trout – slob trout are brown trout that feed in brackish water, in which they tend to grow big. This was a fish that could have been missed but fortunately wasn't.

Dr. Went and I felt that existing big fish reports should be analysed and those considered authentic listed officially. Also there should be some mechanism for investigating and authenticating potential future records.

However, captures of record fish are infrequent and any ad hoc arrangements to investigate potential records would be hit-and-miss and unlikely to prove satisfactory.

And then we thought – why consider only record fish? Why not authenticate and list fish which are big for their species but not of record size – in other words specimen fish? Perhaps award medals and certificates for such captures?

This would provide data on how big fish usually (as distinct from exceptionally) grow. It would also provide data on the growth of smaller species of fish, large examples of which are seldom reported.

What was needed was an organisation, authoritative but rather informal, of whose existence anglers would be aware, and which would process their claims of big fish captures.

The organisation that was set up was the Irish Specimen Fish Committee – involving official bodies and the angling federations and seeking the support of anglers generally. It received the enthusiastic support of anglers – which is the reason what was an idea in 1955 – became a reality, now celebrating its half-century.

The Committee's Reports over 50 years have yielded much more than data on fish growth. They have provided anglers with information about the baits and lures that catch big fish. They have provided information about the distribution of various species of fish around our coasts – some are widely distributed, others much more localised. Fluctuations on marine fish stocks are reflected in reports. We now know that Irish waters hold not one, but two species of angler fish, two garfish, two smooth hounds and two three-bearded rockling. Even global warming was apparent from noted captures of trigger fish!

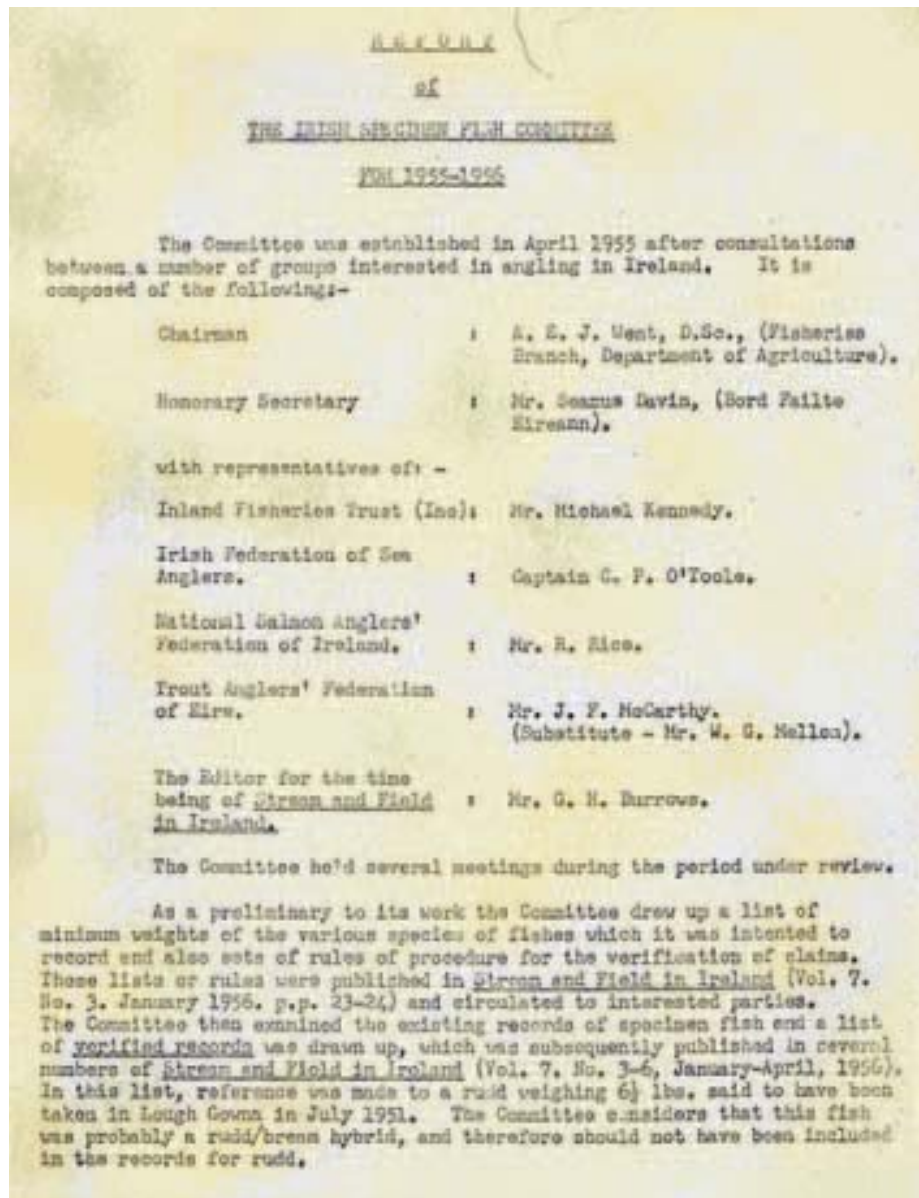
In freshwater, the reports showed which lakes and rivers produced the big fish of different species. And over the years, much was learned about the different hybrids resulting from the simultaneous spawning of bream, rudd and roach in the same weed-beds.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all who have helped to keep the show on the road all these years.

Michael Kennedy
Dublin, October 2005



The first ever Irish Specimen Fish Committee Report (1955-1956)



The main work of the Committee subsequently, was the recording of recent captures of specimen fishes taken by fair angling in Irish waters. The following records were accepted by the Committee:-

BROWN TROUT (LAKE)

Weight in lbs.	Lake	Date	Name of Angler	Method
18½	L. Mask	13/8/1950	Mr. W. A. T. Cobbe.	
17½	L. Mask	26/8/1956	Mrs. W. A. T. Cobbe.	Trolling on a minnow.
16 ⁷ / ₁₆	L. Corrib	22/8/1956	Mr. H. O'Donnell.	Fly.
13 ¹⁹ / ₃₂	L. Corrib (Creave Bay)	10/7/1956	Mr. D. O'Dea.	Spinning.
12½	L. Corrib	22/5/1952	Mr. H. F. Yardley.	Trolling.
11 ⁷ / ₈	L. Mask	17/3/1956	Mr. John Finlay.	Trolling.
11½	L. Mask	28/9/1955	Mr. B. Scarratt.	Trolling - bait.
11	L. Mask	August, '56	Miss Joan Clarke.	Trolling.
10½	L. Erne Lr.	7/3/1956	Mr. W. Roberts.	Spinning.
10 ⁹ / ₁₆	L. Corrib	24/5/1955	Mr. J. A. Dickinson.	Trolling.
10½	L. Erne Lr.	March, 1956	Mr. J. V. Courtney.	Bait.
10½	L. Corrib	March, 1954	Mr. Francis Leigh.	Trolling.
8½	L. Mask	August, 1956	Miss H. O'Connell.	Trolling.
8½	Caragh Lake	11/6/1938	Dr. Basil Brooke.	Trolling.

BROWN TROUT (RIVER)

Weight in lbs.	River	Date	Name of Angler	Method
13	R. Arney	August, 1956	Mr. W. J. Maxwell.	
5½	R. Suir	July, 1955	Mr. Michael Farrell.	

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FISH

Weight in lbs.	River or Lake	Date	Name of Angler	Method
32½	L. Ness	19/4/1955	Mr. Peter Egan.	

SEA FISHES

Weight in lbs.	Place of Capture.	Date	Name of Angler
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SHARK

205	Kinsale	26/8/1956	Mr. Alexander W. Bowie.
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HARK

15 lbs. 2½ oz.	Dangor, Co. Down.	13/7/1956	Mr. John McKay (Jnr.) *
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HAMMOCK

5	Kinsale	25/8/1956	Mr. Jack Lyons. (Bait Fishing).
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RED BLUEN

4 ³ / ₁₆	Kinsale	20/8/1955	Mr. H. Armitage.
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FRUITING

3 ⁵ / ₈	Kinsale	20/8/1955	Mr. H. Armitage.
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COB

26½	Graystones	23/10/1955	Captain G. F. O'Toole.
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TURBOT

23½	Kinsale	20/8/1955	Captain J. P. Saul.
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MACKEREL

2 11/16	Lough Eyne.	23/6/1956	Professor Fergus J. O'Sourke.
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* (Note: This is the record for its species caught in Irish waters).
Further records relating to various species await verification.

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As anglers are aware, there has been considerable discussion as to the identity of sharks which formerly were believed to be porbeagle sharks. Mr. Michael Kennedy has now produced evidence from which Dr. O'Donel Brown's 365 lb. shark taken off Achill in 1932 can definitely be identified as a porbeagle shark. A paper on the occurrence of the porbeagle shark in Irish waters by Mr. Kennedy has been accepted for publication by the Irish Naturalists' Journal and will appear early in 1957.

The Committee was instrumental in arranging for the setting up of the fine shark weighing 205 lbs. taken by Mr. Alexander W. Bowie at Kinsale on 26th August, 1956, and wishes to express its appreciation of the offer of the Director of the National Museum, Dublin, to display this specimen when its mounting is completed. The thanks of the Committee are due to Lord Willie Kirkcubbin which has kindly agreed to meet the expense of mounting this specimen.

FEBRUARY, 1957.

