

# IS THIS THE **PERFECT BAIT?**

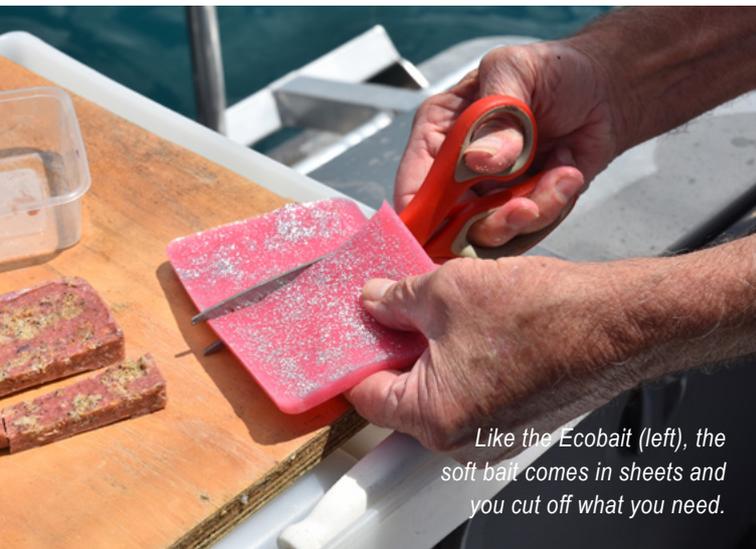
**JOHN BAANDERS THE INVENTOR OF ECOBAITS WENT FISHING WITH EDITOR BARRY THOMPSON TO TRY AND CONVINCHE HIM THAT HIS REVOLUTIONARY ECO-FRIENDLY ECOBAIT WOULD MEAN BARRY WOULD NEVER HAVE TO BUY ANOTHER PILLIE, SQUID OR MULLET. WAS HE SUCCESSFUL?**

I had rung Barry about using my Ecobaits during lockdown so it took some time before we actually got together. It so happened he had a new Aqualine home for the weekend and was looking for a fishing mate. Perfect and so was the weather. But could I convince this hard nosed bait user to change? We launched the boat at Manly and about 5min out from the beach Barry stops and say that this is often a good spot. I set up the bait and Barry drops a berley I'd made over the side. I show him the bait and help him attach it to his hook. "Shit," he says, "that's a tiny bait. I usually use at least a half or full pilly". I reply, "wait and see you might be surprised. You don't always need a big bait to catch a good fish". I begin to sort out my bait and Barry drops his bait over the side. "Shit, I'm on, can't believe it." I wait to see what he gets and up comes a lovely pannie. We forgot the net and measuring tape, being a new boat, but the snapper was well over 30cm. Dealt to and in the bin I cut him another bait. We both drop our lines down together this time and Barry goes "I'm on again. This Ecobait really does work. I thought the first might have been a fluke". He hauls and I get a strike. Barry gets his keeper, two in the bin, mine is not legal. Fifteen minutes later no more bites so Barry suggests we head out a bit into deeper water. Water is like a mill pond and we blast out. Chelsea, a beautiful old English Springer Spaniel was very settled in the boat. Next stop 25m mark. Drift with lines over the side with berley. Straight onto the fish again. Barry also tested the Ecobait >

*John Baanders waiting for his bait to work.... and it did.*

*You only need a very small piece on each hook.*





*Like the Ecobait (left), the soft bait comes in sheets and you cut off what you need.*



*We also had some fish attractant to wipe on the Ecobait, but was it really required as the bait worked perfectly well without it.*

Softbait for a short while and got plenty of hits but no fish. He was fishing with two rods and blamed it on that. An hour later our tally is 15 snapper, 8 keepers (Barry let a good sized one slip off the bait board). We had fished maybe a total of an hour and a half but the fishing had slowed down and we put that down to the berley bomb having been depleted. Also the wind had got up quite strongly so we headed to sheltered water so Barry could take some photos. The entire time we fished we used less than half a kilo of bait. Not bad for two fishermen and a dog. It was a perfect afternoon and yes I think I did convince Barry that he didn't need to buy any more pillies, squid or mullet again. We shall see!

### What Are Ecobaits?

Ecobaits is an entirely new concept in fishing. Yes, it's man made and others have tried but none have succeeded with any degree of success. Ecobaits are different, but very successful. A new way of thinking is required to get the best from it. Forget the old bait concepts you have about bait. For a start from a kilo of say pilchard bait, at best, you might get 40 baits. From a kilo of Ecobait you are likely to get up to 200 baits or more. To get 40 baits from Ecobaits you only require a quarter of a kilo. The old saying of big baits get big fish is not necessarily correct, it's only the smaller fish can't get it in their gob and will hack it to bits.

Big fish eat small baits as well. In fact we recommend you use a bait the size of a \$2 coin if not smaller. We also recommend using a long line hook with not too much drag on the reel, about half drag is good, so the fish will get mouth hooked before running any distance and not gut hooked. Ecobaits are made from a purpose made gelatin type ingredient specifically for Ecobaits, developed in Europe and containing many disguise elements to stop imitation, but it does have one drawback, it's heat sensitive. Any temperature over 40 deg is likely to cause the gel to soften and eventually melt. So it's best left out of direct sunlight for long periods of time and preferably kept in a chilli bin or in the shade to retain its integrity.

The bait is totally eco friendly, contains no toxic chemicals and entirely made from natural materials, 100%

biodegradable, and is more durable on a hook and not a one bite wonder. It contains strong attractants that fish love, is very easy to use, not messy and does not require freezing unless kept for long periods of time, then we recommend well sealed freezing to stop moisture loss. Ecobait can be returned to the fridge or freezer after use and does not lose it's integrity, unlike most baits, to be used again, so no waste. Ecobait is a sustainable bait that does not contain any bait fish or fish ingredients and therefore has no impact on fish populations nor bait imported from overseas. Bait fish are under constant stress from over fishing as are most fisheries. The preservation of all fisheries and fish stock is imperative and sustainability is paramount world wide if we want to feed and enjoy fishing for generations to come.

Two kilos of pilchard which provides approximately 80 baits retail for about \$20. Ecobaits will be about \$20-\$22 for the same quantity, 80 baits, but will only weigh about half a kilo. Eighty baits is the important factor not volume size. Ecobait Softbait are made from basically the same gelatin as the bait and are totally eco-friendly containing no pesticides or any toxic material. Ecobait Softbait is fully digestible by fish and contain a lovely crab flavour. Ecobait Softbait will be about \$10 for about 10 soft baits.

Ecobaits and Ecobaits Softbait will go on the market before Christmas.

If you'd like to see Ecobaits in action and how to use effectively go to YouTube: 'Hooked on Hauraki – Ecobaits'. When out fishing the perfect scenario is, as Barry and I did, used a muscle and mackerel berley and no other bait. Currently the website is under construction and will be operational approximately mid January 2021. In the mean time orders for bait and soft bait can be made prior to Christmas via email. Orders will be taken again after 17th January 2021.

Finally Ecobaits Ltd and all it's IP is on the market for sale to an investor who can foresee it's massive potential for the sustainability of bait fish world wide. Ecobaits motto is Leaving bait fish for big fish.

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