

Being a former tournament angler I became very adaptable on the water to changing conditions and changing baits. I have had a little success fishing tournaments, but my one bait I have the most confidence in is; The **JIG**. I don't know if I'm an expert with it, but when all else fails it is what I will win or lose with. In the beginning any ole jig would do, but the more I honed my skills with a jig the more important finding the perfect jig became, so I searched. I searched the internet for weeks looking for a jig made by some obscure company or just by some guy in his garage. I looked through all the little mom & pop tackle shops for that special something that was just collecting dust in a corner. Than I found it and it was right under my nose the entire time. At a place here in Indiana called Big River Tackle. It seems some old man from around them parts had talked the owner into stocking it. It is called? A Hairy-Bug. No it's not a hair-jig. It is a silicone jig but the way it is made suits my presentation to a **T** I will enclose a picture of it rigged for you to see it.

I use the Hairy-Bug in open water, grass, wood and rocks. It is designed to not hang up very easy, and it works. Depending on what I'm fishing will dictate how I work it. If I am throwing into grass I will look for little opening's in the grass, toss it in and let it set. I don't hop it, I shake it with it sitting in the same place, if nothing I move on to the next hole and repeat. When I'm fishing wood I will toss it into the heart of the nasty stuff, give it a few shakes, let it set, than begin working it out of the wood. If I feel it come over a tree branch where it has lost contact with the bottom and cover, I will let it just **swim**, i.e. hang there. I have had some bone jarring hits with it just swinging over a tree branch. In river current I toss it up river, let it hit bottom, wait a second than I start reeling just fast enough to keep it standing up and in contact with the bottom with a slight pause around boulders or rock patches. I also find that the bigger fish I catch with this method are farther out in front of the rocks than behind it. I catch smaller fish behind the rocks. When I am fishing open water (Deep) I drag very slowly and never hop a jig. I have personally never seen a crawdad jump and jive like his ass is on fire. I have seen them scurry along the bottom or swim just off the bottom. I will try a couple different speeds to see which presentation works for me.

The thing about the jig in the picture is, it has wire weed-guards a 60 degree flat eye hook and a flat spot on the back of the head. This makes it stand straight up and works perfectly into how I use a jig. It is also hand tied and no rubber band to slide down or become brittle with sun exposure. I know none of my information is earth shattering or probably not any different than some of you fish a jig, but it works for me.