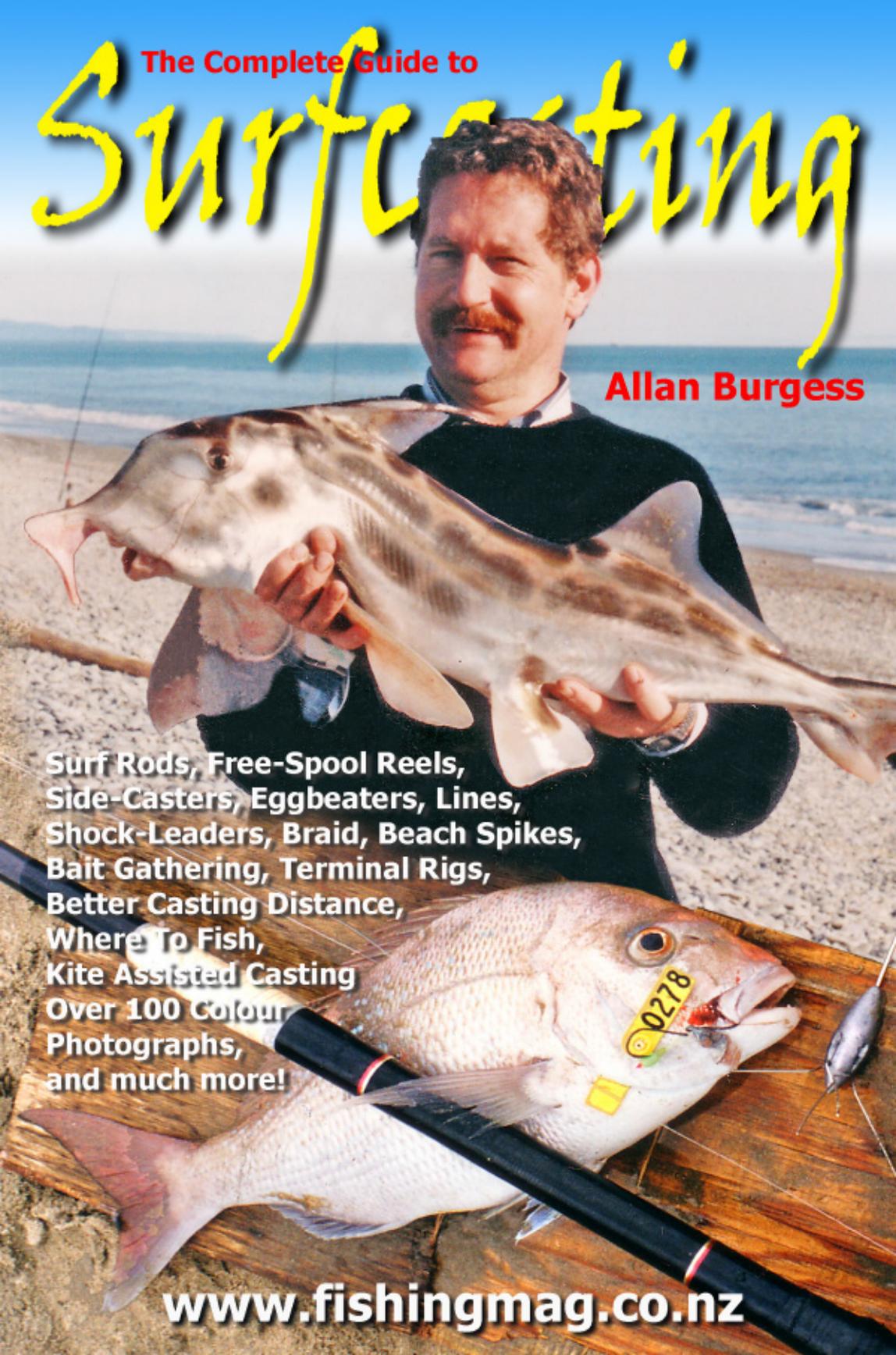


The Complete Guide to

Surfcasting

Allan Burgess

A man with a mustache, wearing a dark sweater, is smiling and holding a large, spotted fish (likely a snapper) in front of him. He is standing on a sandy beach with the ocean in the background. In the foreground, another fish is lying on a wooden plank, with a fishing rod and a lure nearby. The fish has a yellow tag with the number '0278' on its side.

Surf Rods, Free-Spool Reels,
Side-Casters, Eggbeaters, Lines,
Shock-Leaders, Braid, Beach Spikes,
Bait Gathering, Terminal Rigs,
Better Casting Distance,
Where To Fish,
Kite Assisted Casting
Over 100 Colour
Photographs,
and much more!

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The net is cast out. Make sure the end of the line is tied to your wrist first.



If you have mastered the correct throwing technique the net will open out fully into a perfect circle. The lead weights around the edge of the net sink down trapping the fish. Then all you have to do is haul it in. It looks easy but takes practice to get the net to open right out.

juices, is irresistible to almost any fish in the sea. Snapper anglers often fish their yellow-eyed mullet baits whole, in order to ward-off the attentions of pickers, such as spotties, which have the annoying habit of eating all the bait from your hooks before a bigger and more desirable species can get a look in.

Whole mullet baits are also excellent for catching skate, stingray and shark. These species find the humble mullet just the right size for a good mouthful. When fishing for these, and other species with whole mullet, a two hook rig is the best option, otherwise you'll

often find that only half of the bait is taken and that is the half without the hook!

Red cod also find yellow-eyed mullet very tasty. I have spent many an evening at Birdlings Flat near Christchurch surfcasting for red cod. As the sun starts to sink below the horizon the cod come on the bite. A fresh yellow-eyed mullet fished as cut bait always out fishes other less desirable baits such a squid. On many such evenings - and late into the night - I have out fished mates who where using other baits. There is just something about fresh mullet that red cod can't resist.

Catching Yellow-eyed Mullet

Yellow-eyed mullet make good bait but how do you go about catching them? The quickest and most productive method is

Yoke Rig (Clipped Down)

The Yoke, or Pulley Rig, is a firm favourite with North Island surfcasters in search of snapper. It is a true long-distance casting rig which can be tied with numerous variations.

Advantages:

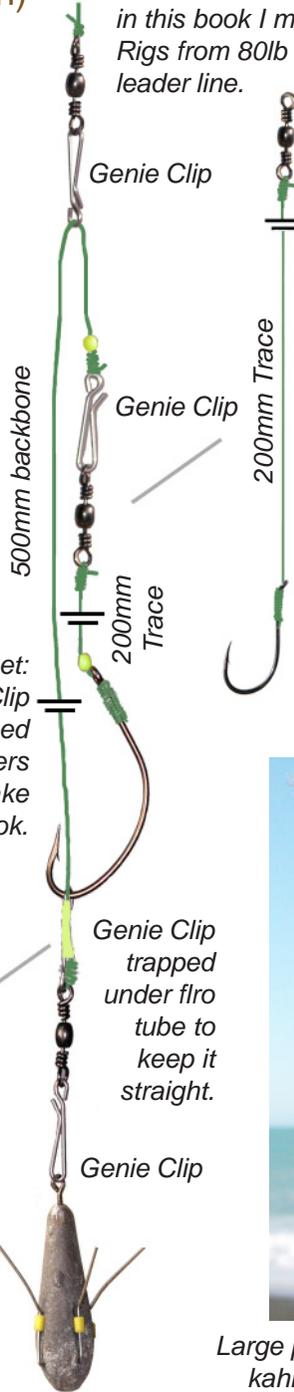
An interesting advantage with the Yoke Rig is that it lends itself to being made up in two parts: the backbone; and the leader or trace. These being connected with a Genie Clip. This means you can prepare various traces for different purposes and change them at will. For example some can be made with floats, some with Kahle hooks, some with Suicide hooks, or floats to keep the hook away from crabs and so on. Also inexpensive to make up.

All Size 4 barrel swivels

Disadvantages:

Bit more complicated to make.
Uses more parts: 3 swivels, 4 clips.

As with the other rigs shown in this book I make my Yoke Rigs from 80lb monofilament leader line.



Kahle wide gap hooks make it possible to use quite large baits without the need to add a second hook. Alternate leader shown with Suicide hook. Can also be made up with tandem hooks.



Large pilchard tail on kahle hook held in place with bait elastic.