

NEW REELS:

A NEW FISHING ROD IS GREAT, BUT PAIRING IT WITH AN OLD, SCRATCHED-UP REEL IS A DEFINITE BUMMER. FORTUNATELY, THERE ARE AS MANY SMOOTH NEW REELS ON THE MARKET AS THERE ARE RODS. EACH SEASON, WE SEE THE TREND GOING TO SMALLER AND LIGHTER WITHOUT SACRIFICING POWER – THIS YEAR IS NO EXCEPTION.



ABU GARCIA REVO PREMIER

The trio of Revos that hit the market last year was a hit. This year, Abu Garcia introduced the Revo Premier – a skinnier version of the reel that weighs a mere 6.3 ounces. The Revo Premier's attributes include a tough Carbon Matrix Drag system, aircraft-grade aluminum spool, six ball bearings, and a magnetic braking system. It has a gear ratio of 6.4:1 and retails for \$259.99.

(ABU-GARCIA.COM)



ARDENT XS1000 BAITCASTING REEL

If you're looking for a smooth-casting, backlash-free baitcaster that is as good-looking as it is fun to throw, look no further than the Ardent XS1000. With a one-piece, magnesium-alloy frame and machined aluminum spool, the XS1000 is both lightweight and durable. A gloss-black paint job with gold flecks and gold spool make it a gem to admire. Silky retrieves are the product of 10 stainless-steel ball bearings in the reel with a 6.3:1 gear ratio. Ardent backs the reel with a three-year warranty. It retails for \$249.99.

(ARDENTOUTDOORS.COM)



DAIWA MEGAFORCE

The popularity of the Viento, which debuted two years ago, encouraged Daiwa to create a new member of the Twitchin' Bar family. The Megaforce reel allows anglers to work lures from the subtlest of movements to an aggressive jerk simply by pushing the Twitchin' Bar. A high-speed 7.1:1 gear ratio separates the Megaforce from the Viento. Weighing in at 9.4 ounces, the Megaforce has five ball bearings and two roller bearings, a magnetic cast-control system, and a lightweight ported spool. The reel will retail for around \$60.

(DAIWA.COM)



ABU GARCIA CARDINAL 700LX

The Cardinal 700LX series includes a body and rotor crafted from lightweight aluminum, seven High Performance Corrosion Resistant bearings, and stainless-steel components. It features a waterproof Carbon Matrix Drag system and is available in gear ratios 5.1:1 and 4.8:1. There are five sizes in this series, ranging from a 701 to a 707. Suggested retail is \$109.99 to \$119.99.

(ABU-GARCIA.COM)



SHIMANO STRADIC FI

The Stradic FI marks an evolution in reels for Shimano. Incorporated into their classic line of reels are several new technologies, including Paladin Gear Durability Enhancement, Propulsion Line Management System and Aero Wrap II Oscillation System. Basically, these technologies drastically improve the components of an already great reel series to produce a brand new series. The reels comes in seven sizes, and each one casts incredibly long and reels incredibly smooth. If you're looking for a smooth-casting, long-lasting spinning reel for a reasonable price (\$160 to \$200), then this one is worth a look.

(FISH.SHIMANO.COM)



PFLUEGER PATRIARCH LP

The Pflueger Patriarch wasn't created to be a great reel. It was created to be the best low-profile baitcasting reel, and it has come very close. New for 2008, the Patriarch is Pflueger's top-of-the-line low-profile reel for freshwater and inshore fishing. Smooth, easy casting is almost guaranteed with 10 double-shielded stainless-steel ball bearings and both centrifugal and magnetic brakes. Titanium-plated side plates and line guide provide durability and reduce weight. At just 8.4 ounces, the Patriarch is available in 6.4:1 or 7.1:1 gear ratios and comes with a neoprene reel bag. Look for it to retail around \$200.

(PFLUEGERFISHING.COM)