

Steve Ormrod writing in *Pikelines* Winter 2014

This book is one of the most depressing I've ever read. Now just hold on a minute before *Pikelines* readers think I'm going to carry out a total destruction of this new book. That is the last thing I'm going to do.

The book depresses me because it tells me that I need to review my application of lures to my pike fishing. Why should that depress anyone might be hard to understand, but the reality is that up to reading this book I thought I was doing okay when I used lures, I clearly managed to get that wrong.

In this book Dave takes every aspect of lure fishing, dissects it and reassembles everything into a whole which, if you've digested everything he has written, has to make you a better lure fisherman.

That to my mind is one of the two main purposes of a fishing book. One is to inspire the other is to inform. Lots of aspects of lure fishing are considered. To name one, lure colour.

Dave is confident enough to suggest that lure colour is not that important. That will no doubt cheer people like me who look in desperation at the four different coloured Ship Raps wondering whether or not I need 4 more colours!

I think Dave's strategy is that he can probably catch on any colour of lure if it has the right action and it is used in a swim where there is a pike (or zander or perch).

One reason some coloured lures do not catch is simple. They had one bad day and never got used seriously again. As Dave says, "*It won't catch hung up in the garage!*" The advantage of concentrating on a handful of waters for around 25 years is that Dave knows what to do and where and when to do it, most of the time.

You and I cannot hope to amass all this knowledge in a handful of seasons. However, reading this book should accelerate your own learning process.

The book covers pike, zander, perch and chub, with the odd salmon thrown in for variety. Some of the zander pictured are very impressive beasts though the pike are not as big as might be seen on other waters – a classic case of it being a rare water that can produce monster fish of every species.