



AWGUL FISHING

by Alex Zidock Jr.

Isaac Newton said, “Nature is pleased with simplicity. And nature is no dummy.”

Lure maker and fishing guide Captain Anthony Awgul, Bucks County, said, “I am all about matching the hatch. And, that means I want to throw a presentation that looks very similar to what the bass are eating. So, if I see a shad in a lake, I’m throwing what looks like a shad. If I’m fishing in a pond or a grassy lake and see Bluegills all around, I’m throwing something that looks like a Bluegill. I keep it that simple and don’t worry about 50 different color options. My lure production mimics that philosophy.”

In the 1660s, Newton also formulated gravitational theory after watching an apple fall and asked why the apple fell straight down from the tree.

Like in Awgul’s revelation, the apple didn’t fall far from his family tree. “When I was just 2 years old, my great-grandfather, who was a fishing guide in upstate New York

on Lake George, inspired me to get into fishing,” said Awgul. “I caught the bug at a young age, and it’s all I’ve ever done. Some kids play football and basketball, and all I’ve ever done is build lures and fish.”

“When I was 13 years old, my first bait was craft wire with pipe cleaners, a treble hook and some yarn. I made my own little handmade spinners. Looking back, I can’t believe we caught fish on them. But, from there, I graduated and evolved and made spinnerbaits and buzzbaits that I sold online. We sell jigs, and now, we offer large hard baits, too,” said Awgul.

Keeping things simple works for Awgul, and the proof is in the popularity of his guide service. Awgul professionally guides on Lake Nockamixon, Bucks County, his home lake, where he makes about 250 trips a year. “We also offer trips to Lake Wallenpaupack, Pike and Wayne counties; Blue Marsh Lake, Berks County; Beltzville Lake, Carbon County; and Marsh Creek Lake, Chester County. Captain Awgul has found a niche that began with his lure-making business, which led to



photo-Alex Zidock Jr.



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Captain Anthony Awgul's philosophy of keeping baits simple proves effective with his thriving full-time guiding business.

his guide service and the proving ground for his lure-making business. "I only make and sell lures that work for me and my clients," said Awgul.

For example, his big Grumpy Glide Bait, which has holographic sides and just a couple of coats of gray paint, sells as a Natural Shad and Albino. "We were catching 4- or 5-pound bass, and in their throats were 7- to 9-inch Gizzard Shad. Lake Nockamixon is full of giant Gizzard Shad. That's why I make the big hard bait in just two shades of shad," said Awgul.

Awgul Fishing sells 3/8-ounce Alive Spinnerbaits and Alive Pulse Jigs also in only two options: Natural Shad and Bluegill. However, there are seven varieties of standard jig heads.

"I'm not saying color doesn't matter. I just learned to really simplify my color selection process. I'd rather focus on what style of bait I'm throwing and where I'm throwing the bait. You can throw the wrong color or lure in the right area and still be successful. That's better than throwing the right lure in the wrong area, if that makes sense," said Awgul.

"I'm a bass angler. It's what I'm into, and it's what I specialize in. I've given my life to studying these fish and learning their behaviors, movements, patterns and what lures work," said Awgul.

"It's my passion. It's why I do what I do. I used to be into the competitive side of fishing, but I realized quickly that nothing is more gratifying than making lures that work and getting young people to fish. I really like teaching a father and son how to catch fish.

Then, they can make the most of their time together on the water and make memories," said Awgul. ☐

Awgul Fishing
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photo-courtesy of Anthony Awgul

Awgul Fishing makes spinnerbaits in two colors—shad and Bluegill.



photo-Alex Zidock Jr.

This football head jig with a free swinging offset hook was Awgul's first big lure seller. These jigs come in seven color combinations.