

## 211 salmon & seatrouts at halftime on the river Oste

This year the electric fishing at the river Oste began not until 31st of october, because as in many other places too the waterlevels indicated no good catches... Instead of salmon being watched while spawning as early as the 20th of october a broad fishing campaign seemed not to be worth the effort.. The first fishing therefore brought "just" 17 fishes. Five salmon und twelve seatrouts.

A little bit better it looked in the following week , after an intermediate rise of waterlevels. While the electrofishing in the first week of November 11 salmon and thirtytwo seatrouts could be caught for artificial reproduction.

The results of the fishings of this years halftime are absolute satisfying and comparable with other years with 61 salmon and 150 seatrouts caught.

Distressing is the fact the the relation of sex is very unbalanced this year..

Out of 61 salmon 47 (!) fishes were milters and only 14 were spawners.

Out of these 14 spawners six were unwanted farm-escapees!

All farm-salmon annoyingly had already spawned in the river Oste...fretful but not to avoid.

We where only able to stripe off 4 real wild salmon out of which one had already spawned the most of its eggs in the river..

The other four spawners were already through with their „spawning business“.

We do not expect big salmon catches in the coming fishings – the salmon in the river Oster are already finished with spawning..

Striking was the fact that the most milters were grilse.

Better it looks for the seatrouts. The relation between milters and spawners is balanced. We were already able to stripe off a lot of seatrouts and will probably reach the good results of the previous years.

The seasons peak of the seatrout spawning we expect around the 5th of december.

The fishings are continued until the end of december. A final report will follow in the beginning of next year.



Salmon milterr of 102 cm, caught at 14.11.09



salmon spaw ner of 97 cm, caught at 21.11.09

Here some detail photos of wild and farm salmon that had about the same size  
Very could to identify that the tail fin of the farm salmon (right) is considerably mor  
„round“ and smaller than the tail fin of the wild salmon (left). Also good to identify is  
that the tail shaft is bigger than the one of the wild salmon.



Greetings from the Oste, **Peter Wessendorf / SFV – Sittensen e.V.**