



YSI DO200 Assists Roland Martin in Determining Fishing Locations

Knowing the critical levels for largemouth bass gives Roland Martin, professional fisherman with 19 tournament championships and nine-time B.A.S.S. Angler of the Year, a competitive edge over fishermen unaware of dissolved oxygen levels. A perfect example is when Martin finds the critical “no bite” zone in shallow, weed infested coves during hot summers where the biological oxygen demand is extremely high from decaying plant matter. Even though he may see the big fish, it doesn’t mean they are ready to bite.

YSI instrument provides competitive edge

YSI Environmental released a new line of affordable, rugged handheld instruments for accurate field work. Roland Martin knows that deep northern lakes often stratify for both temperature and dissolved oxygen. He takes advantage of the DO200 to determine the zone between the epilimnion and hypolimnion where fish typically will not feed.



YSI DO200 instrument for dissolved oxygen and temperature measurements.

It is important to note that several environmental water quality indicators affect fish behavior dramatically. Dissolved oxygen and temperature, along with other parameters such as pH, can make the difference between whether a fish feeds in one area, finds a new area, or remains inactive. While the conditions may not be detrimental enough

to cause adverse effects or even die-off, fish will not feed as well if certain conditions are not met. Aquaculturists have known this for years and take careful measures to insure proper conditions for their stock to feed and gain weight. Martin understands this and maintains his water quality equipment along with his fishing boat, tackle, and depth finders.

In the current B.A.S.S. tour bass tournament, the competitors are assessed up to 40 ounces of penalty if all 5 fish are dead when brought in. These tournaments pay up to \$100,000 for first place and \$38,000 for second place. Usually one or two pounds separate these two places so it is imperative the bass remain alive. Martin constantly monitors dissolved oxygen levels in the live well and takes cues from the YSI instrument to add ice, fresh water, or chemicals such as Methylene Blue, which enhances the fish’s hemoglobin to carry more dissolved oxygen and remain alive.

“My YSI dissolved oxygen meter is an integral part of my fishing. For the cost and benefits, it should be in all serious fishermen’s tackle boxes.”

-Roland Martin

EXAMPLE

Actual depths, measurements, and results will vary according to your specific fishing conditions.

Depth	D.O. in H ₂ O	Bass Activity
1'	6.5 ppm*	Most Active Depths for Bass
2'	6.0 ppm	
3'	5.8 ppm	
4'	5.3 ppm	
5'	5.0 ppm	
6'	3.8 ppm	Void of Bass
7'	3.0 ppm	Stress
8'	2.0 ppm	Suffocation

* ppm = parts per million
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DO levels vs. depth to determine the most appropriate fishing depths.

For additional information regarding **Roland Martin**, please visit www.fishingwithrolandmartin.com

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