

## Predator angler targets alien species – and proves that...

# Zander are now in the Tove!

**Z**ANDER – love 'em or hate 'em the supremely invasive alien predator can spread faster than office gossip.

And now they have reached the River Tove – just above where the tiny river empties into the Ouse at Cosgrove!

Getting in before the floods started, Castlethorpe's Trevor Ray set out to confirm his belief that Zs were in the river – washed through from the canal at Stoke – by targeting them with pieces of roach, two miles from the cut.

"I caught one at the first attempt (around 10 ounces) it was obvious they would end up in the river eventually," said the man who, a week earlier, had had Zs to 4-12 from the canal at Stoke and lost one of around 10lb.

For many it had seemed inevitable the species' southward spread along the cut – following failure of a 'bubble curtain' at Braunston four or so years ago – would lead them into the Ouse...with potential to seriously damage that river's re-emerging silverfish stocks.

And, according to reports reaching Carpin Capers, Zs have also reached the Nene in town, too...

● UP for the world cup, again! Brothers Phil and Steve Ringer have been called up to represent England in the world feeder-fishing championships – for the fifth year in a row.

They will be fishing in Serbia, in June, and will have MK's Michael Buchwalder for company as he's just been picked for Ireland.

● THE carp keep coming at Stanwick despite the weather, with the 22-1 best-of-week falling to Mark Butcher.

● SQUEAKING in before the floods really came, Danny Harding topped an open on the Nene at Islip with three bream, four chub and a tench for 33-10. Trevor Smith, beating bro Ian, had 28-8 – including a 3lb perch – and Malcolm Samson 20-12.

● RINGER Pairs, Boddington: Karl Conley 113lb, Neil Russell 112lb, Glen Maxwell 110lb. Russell and Chris Hill were top pair.

● CASTLE Ashby open, Grendon Lake, Sunday: Chris Garrett 112-4, Steve Shakespeare 93lb, Phil Wintle 61-12.

● WHITE Hart Flore, Barby Banks: (a 'Griffiths family benefit') Trevor 91lb, Mark 58lb, Dave 51lb.

● FLORE & Brockhall, Silver Lake: Rob 'three-wins-in-a-row' Rawlins 9-8 of roach, Bert Isle 8-12, Steve Smith 3-8.

● NENE, long pound, Stoke: Bob Eales 9-6, Brian Beard 8-10, Andy Kimpton and George Mynard both 4-9.

● TOWCESTER Vets, Stow Hill cut: Bob Eales 3lb, Tosh Saunders 1-15, George Mynard 1-7.

● FINEDON, Thedingworth canal: John Sumpter 2-1, Tony Kirk 1-11, Mark Clemett 1-10.

● FIXTURES: Feb 14, Olney Ouse open 01234 240061; Feb 21, MKAA individual league, Ouse, 07970 047506.

● TROUT-water openings: Feb 26 Ravensthorpe, Feb 27 Pitsford, Mar 1 Ringstead, Mar 4 Grafham, Mar 11 Rutland ■



■ **A WINNER on the Nene: Danny Harding had 33-10 in an open at Islip.**  
Photo Chris Morehen



■ **MONSTER stripey: Jake Stratton with 4-9 perch from the Ouse near Wolverton**