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THERE are no less than 20 models in the new range of GRXi+ rods (which replace the old GRXis) and these include a lightweight six-foot 3wt up to a 10wt double-hander, plus saltwater models.

All the new rods are four-sectioned so are ideal travel companions, and we decided to test two popular stillwater models – the 9ft 6in 7wt which retails at £124.99 and the 10ft 8wt at £139.99.

All the rods now have a single line rating, unlike the older GRXi models that had a dual line rating. We found that the rods performed best at the line weights specified although they could handle a line above without any difficulty. Weight forward lines with both standard and long head lengths were used for the test, in floating and sinking profiles. The 9ft 6in for a 7wt was a joy to cast with, no effort was needed to lift, load and cast. It had fast tip recovery, generated good tight loops and delivered line crisply onto the water. The 10ft 8wt had a similar sort of feel but definitely felt more steely and heavier. When it came to medium to fast sinkers it certainly had the power and backbone to cast and retrieve them up from depth, and had all the makings of a good boat rod.

There is a weight increase with these new four-piece models. The GRXi+ 9ft 6in 7wt is 126g (the old GRXi equivalent was 117g) and the GRXi+ 10ft 8wt weighs 141g (17g heavier than the old GRXi).

Fittings include lined stripping guides, snake intermediate rings and hayfork tip, gloss grey blank with brown whippings, alignment markers on each section, multi composite cork full wells handle and fighting butt and an alloy uplocking saltwater-safe reel seat. All rods are supplied in a sectioned Cordura rod tube with zip top and carry handle.

These two new GRXi+ rods are cracking casting tools with stylish looks and fittings, all rolled up into a compact four-piece travel design.

Contact: www.greysfishing.com

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