

Marryat  
Supreme  
Tools

## Marryat Supreme Tying Tools

This full range of tying tools have been available in the USA for a couple of years but are only just being introduced in Canada. Manufactured from high quality stainless steel and brass, most incorporate useful innovations which simplify the tying process. We were particularly impressed with the CDC Feather Tool, which is ingeniously designed to make tying CDC wings, false hackles, or legs easy, and eliminate unnecessary waste. The hackle guard (which looks something like those mirrors which dentists stick in your mouth) is angled

from the shaft to enable tying a perfect head much easier. The hackle pliers have jaws parallel to the finger hoop, so that it's possible to wind hackle. Even the bodkin hasn't been overlooked—it has a magnetic tip, which is perfect for picking up tiny hooks.

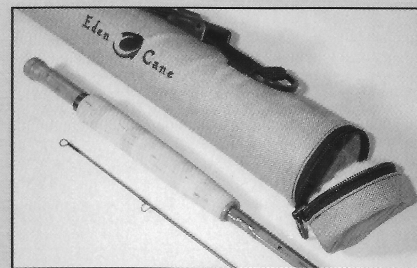
Jacques Heroux, a well-known New Brunswick fly tyer, was especially impressed with the ceramic bobbin and uses it for tying his salmon flies. This is an excellent series of tools for both novice and experienced tyers.

Prices range from about \$10 CD for the simpler tools to around \$30 for the scissors. Look for them in your local fly shop. For more information contact: Finecast Agencies in Okotoks, AB at [www.finecast.net](http://www.finecast.net) Dealer enquiries are welcome.

Chris Marshall

## Eden Cane Rods

BY TED KNOTT



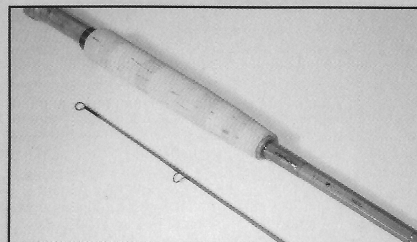
Bernard Ramanauskas, owner of Eden Cane Rods, is a full-time, professional rodmaker, and his work reflects attention to even the smallest detail.

The rod I received for review was a 7'0", two-piece, for a weight 4 line—although I found that it would cast a weight 3 equally well. Bernard describes its action as "progressive dry fly".

One of ten standard models of various lengths and actions, the Eden rod impressed me right away with its classic honey coloured cane, fine craftsmanship, and light feel in the hand. The reel seat bands and ferrules are blackened nickel silver complemented with black Snake Brand guides and a Mildrum agate stripper guide. The reel seat is exotic burl. Typical of Bernard's attention to detail is a burl and black nickel silver winding check at the grip. Thread wraps are transparent Pearsal silk, accented with a few turns of burgundy thread. The rod has a glass-like varnish finish. The overall effect is subtle, and it's aesthetically pleasing.

Eden Cane uses the nodeless process to make its rods. In its natural state, bamboo has dams and leaf nodes every 12" to 18". A traditional rodmaker flattens and straightens the nodes before machining each strip. In the nodeless process, each node is sawed out, the pieces scarfed and glued together to make a single nodeless strip, then machined. The method is time consuming, and I know of no other North American production rodmaker using it.

Most of Eden Rods are sold in the United States, and prices range from \$1500 to \$1800 US dollars. For Canadian prices, telephone or fax Eden Cane Ltd. at 780-755-2423.



## Loomis Nautikos Series: Saltwater Fly Rods

In 2000, G.L. Loomis introduced the Nautikos series of saltwater fly rods. I know that choosing a fly rod can be an extremely intimidating experience, but the Nautikos series was exactly what I was looking for. In fact, I was so impressed with the power and "forgivability" in my first purchase (the weight 10), that I added the 8 and 9 to my collection.

The series comes in 9' lengths and ranges 7 through 13 to 15 weights. I found the weight 8 to be powerful and excellent for long casts, where accuracy was a must. This is a perfect model for bonefish and permit cruising the flats. The weight 9, with its added power and ability to handle large and weighted flies and wind, performed well beyond my expectations—a great rod for baby tarpon and snook. The weight 10 is an all-around, big fish rod.

The high-modulus graphites and the multi-taper tip design load and fire line with exceptional power. The anodized, salt-resistant reel seats and the titanium carbide-nitride coated guides are a must for fighting off the ravages of salt water. One feature I particularly like is the pear-shaped fighting butt. Like all top quality rods, the series is in the high price range, but the quality speaks for itself. The Nautikos will last you a lifetime if you take care of it. A bonus? This summer I used the weight 8 and 9 for bass, rainbow, and big pike, and was equally pleased with the performance.

If you cringe each time you see your fly rod disappear behind the airline counter, the Nautikos is for you, as all models come in three sections, making for easy handling as carry-on baggage.

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