



Hardy 3 ¾" Silex Major Fishing Reel

Hardy Bros.

£170



REF: 30229

Depth: 4 cm (1.6")

Diameter: 9.5 cm (3.7")

Description

A fine Hardy 'SILEX' Major Fishing Reel.

A good Hardy 3 ¾ inch alloy fishing reel, ' THE 'SILEX MAJOR'. This reel has twin horn type handles made from plastic, a brass foot, ivory rim mounted brake handle, a tension screw (Ex-Light - Light - Medium - Heavy), ventilated spool and a sprung lever drum release catch. On the back plate it is engraved, 'Made by HARDY BROS Ltd, ALNWICK, ENGLAND.' with 'THE "SILEX" Major, PAT. Nos 2206, 21131 & 4163' (Patent Nos. February 1922). The inside is stamped with the reel makers initials 'R.M.S.' (Robert Marshall-Scott).

The last few images are copies showing the entry for the "Silex" Major & Minor from a Hardy's Anglers' Guide & Catalogue.

The 4 cm depth shown is without handle, handle is an extra 1½ cm.

The Silex was patented at the end of 1896. It was with this reel, and the perfect, that helped Hardy's become one of the top manufacturers. Anglers readily went for the Silex over normal wooden starback reels because of the supreme casting performances it gave. The Silex was made from 1896 to 1911. The Silex No. 2 was a natural progression and was made from 1911 until 1921.

Adapted from John Drewett's book 'Hardy Brothers, The Masters The Men & Their Reels.

R.M.S (Robert Marshall-Scott 1904 - 1979). Apprenticed with Hardy's in about 1916, serving his six year apprenticeship in the reel shop, possibly being taught by Arthur Wall himself. He appears to have specialised on the Silex reels, many of the Majors and Supers bear his initials. he was certainly one of Hardy's better reelmakers, having the ability to turn out good quality work quickly and efficiently. He continued with Hardy's throughout his working life. With his retirement he had increased leisure time to devote more time to his two hobbies, gardening and bee keeping. Ironically whilst he spent his working life making reels, he was not inclined towards using them.