

Super Finesse Baits

By MARK HICKS

When the going gets tough, many anglers reach for 4-inch finesse plastics. Here are some even smaller options when the going gets tougher

I **IS THERE SUCH** a thing as a soft plastic finesse bait that's too small to tempt a bass?

I couldn't help thinking that when Bassmaster Elite Series pro John Crews, of Virginia, showed me the skinny, 3-inch Drop Craw he designed for his lure company, Missile Baits. I had to hold the bait close, don my reading glasses and squint my eyes to bring the miniscule bait into focus.

"You serious?" I asked.

"Absolutely!" Crews said. "I've seen many instances where I needed something super finesse to coax a bite."

One of those instances happened at Virginia's Smith Mountain Lake. Crews could see a school of bass suspended off the side of a point 15 feet deep over 40 feet of water. They repeatedly ignored the 6-inch finesse worm that he put in front of them with a drop shot rig.

