



**Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

11th December 2017

Dear John,

Many thanks to you and the Rosslare boats festival competitors for collecting bass scale samples again this year.

You submitted scales from 14 bass, ranging in length from 46-66cm. Your bass varied in age from 6 to 15 years old. A description of the growth pattern of each bass is provided in Table 1 below. Overall, the bass encountered were of average or small size for their age. Below the table, Fig. 1 indicates that 2007 was the most commonly encountered year class in your sample.

The 2007 year class has dominated the adult bass population since at least 2013. In 2017 Irish bass scales aged to date (Fig. 2) suggest that 2007 continues to be an important year class but that more recent year classes are beginning to contribute substantially to the bass population

I hope this information is of interest to you,

Kind Regards,

Ciara Wogerbauer, PhD
National Bass Programme,
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Willie Roche, PhD
National Bass Programme
Inland Fisheries Ireland



Table 1 Rosslare Small Boats Festival Bass Ageing results

Bass ID code	capture date	Method	Angler name	Total length cm	Weight g	Assigned age	Year Class	Comments
NBP17_03366	06/09/2017	Lure	Dave Weatherby Joe90	46.0	1219	6+	2011	Average 6 year old. Steady growth throughout life
NBP17_03365	08/09/2017	Lure	Dave Weatherby Joe90	48.0	1361	10+	2007	Slow growing 10 year old
NBP17_03367	06/09/2017	Lure	Joe Meaning Joe90	48.0	1361	10+	2007	Slow growing 10 year old
NBP17_03368	12/09/2017	Lure	Yknot	51.0	1200	10+	2007	Slow-moderate growing 10 year old. Better growth between 1-2 than other bass in this group.
NBP17_03364	08/09/2017	Lure	Joe Meaning Joe90	52.0	1588	11+	2006	Small 11 year old. Slow growing throughout its life.
NBP17_03362	05/09/2017	Bait	Joe Meaning Joe90	53.0	1673	9+	2008	Average 9 year old. Good growth until age 7, then poor growth (2015-2017)
NBP17_03374	15/09/2017	N/A	Joe 90	53.0	1560	9+	2008	Average 9 year old. Good growth in first 3 years, slower, steady growth subsequently.
NBP17_03372	14/09/2017	N/A	Sandstorm	54.0	1400	9+	2008	Average 9 year old. Very slow growth in first three years, good growth between 6-9.
NBP17_03370	12/09/2017	N/A	Shy Torque	57.0	1760	11+	2006	Average 11 year old
NBP17_03363	05/09/2017	Lure	Dave Weatherby Joe90	57.5	1814	10+	2007	Moderately good growth for a 10 year old in 2017.
NBP17_03361	04/09/2017	Bait	Dave Weatherby Joe90	58.0	2126	14+	2003	Small 14 year old. Good growth in first 3 years. Substantial slow down from 6 on.
NBP17_03373	15/09/2017	N/A	Screaming Reels	60.0	2000	10+	2007	Good sized 10 year old in 2017. Steady growth.
NBP17_03369	12/09/2017	N/A	Evenness	63.0	2460	13+	2004	Average 13 year old, good growth in first 4 years, poor growth from 8 onwards (2012-17)
NBP17_03371	14/09/2017	N/A	Nirvana	66.0	2740	15+	2002	Average 15 year old in 2017. Good growth for first 3 years and also between 6-7. Very slow growth from 10 onwards.

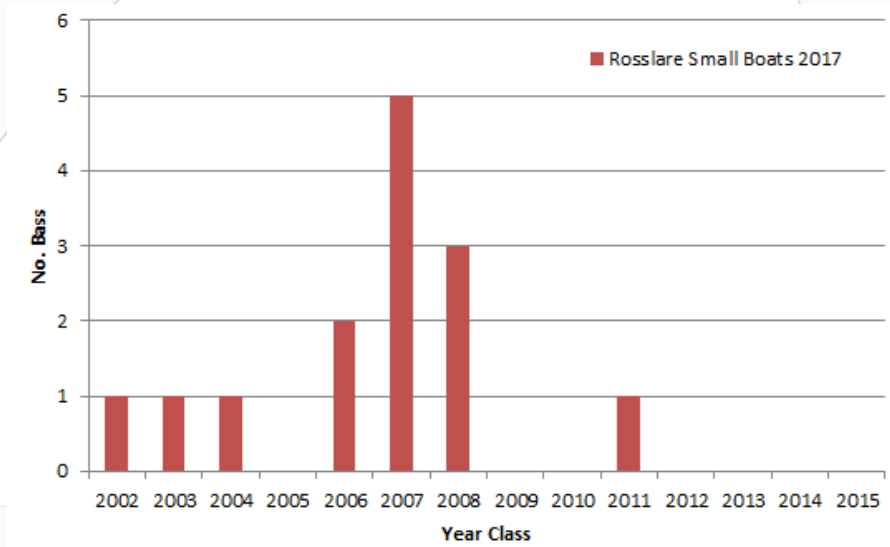


Fig. 1 Year class distribution of bass from Rosslare Small Boats festival

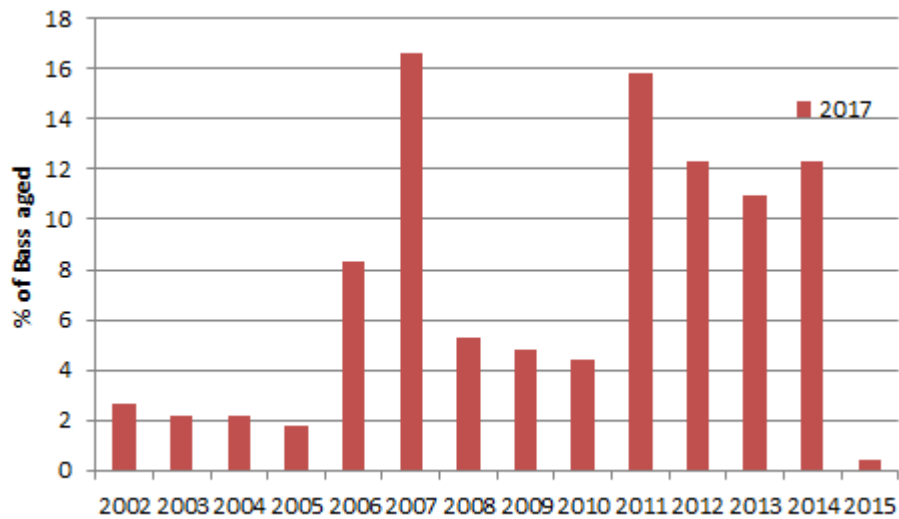


Fig. 2 Provisional Irish bass year class distribution 2017