

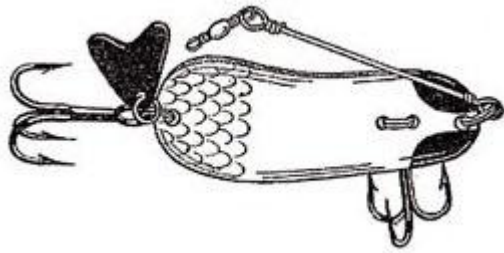
UTÖ

The spoon known today as the Utö, belongs to the oldest Swedish types of spoons. The famous old firm of Leidesdorff in Stockholm marketed its version as the Skeddrag (spoon) Nr. L.151 and according to its catalog the design dated from as early as 1882. But a similar pattern may have existed long before that.



Leidesdorff Skeddrag Nr. L.151, ca. 1930's.

As there was no patent resting on the Utö model or name, a considerable amount of larger and smaller Scandinavian companies took advantage of that and produced this popular type of spoon, with or without the name Utö. Into the 1960's these companies included Wigarts, Paul Bergström (PB or PeBeCo), Lundberg en Broderna Sandströms Skidfabrik (BSS). Possibly Paul Bergström was the first to market the spoon under the name Utö.



Nr 95. Utödraget. Utförande: silver/guld
och helt silver.

Längd 75 mm. Vikt 25 gram. Kr. 1:85
» 95 » » 35 » » 1:95

Nygrens catalog, Göteborg 1956 : Utödraget (Utö spoon).



An Utö type spoon by BSS (Broderna Sandströms Skidfabrik), Stockholm, ca. 1950.



Older Utö spoons without a firm's name on front or back. The right one is stamped 'Utö' with a logo also used by Bete and ABU.

The best known producer of Utö spoons in the 1960's and 1970's was the Bete company, founded in the 1940's by Tage Tysklind and onto 1978 based in Sweden.



Bete Utö, Sweden, ca. 1960's

In 1978 Bete became part of the Finlandia Uistin company, based in Finland of course, and well known for producing the famous Nilsmaster wobblers.



Utö-skedarna är kända havsfiskebeten. Deras breda och jämntjocka form ger rovfiskar ett intryck av ett större byte. Utös form gör att den simmar lugnt och därför är särskilt bra i svala vatten. Den minsta modellen på 10 g kan även användas till abborre. Materialet består av nysilver, mässing och koppar. Ett Bete-drag som blivit mörkt kan lätt putsas upp.



Längd / Vikt
6,2 cm, 16 g
7,5 cm, 23 g
9,5 cm, 34 g

[Bete Utö, Finland 2014](#)

As Utö spoons were popular and sold very well by the early 1970's, the Swedish firm of ABU began producing its own line of Utö spoons in 1974. Initially there were four sizes: from 42 to 78 mm weighing 7 to 25 grams. The lightest two sizes were dropped over time and a heavier size was added: 92 mm at 35 grams, one of the truly great pike spoons. Until 1981 the ABU Utö was produced in Sweden, after that production went to the Far East (Japan, Taiwan, China).



ABU Utö from the 1970's.



ABU Utö, recent model.

NB. Living in the Netherlands my access to Swedish and Finnish historical sources on Scandinavian lures (old catalogs and magazines in particular) is but very small, regrettably. Therefore I lack the material to produce a well documented and solid history on the Utö spoon. Consequently this article should be regarded only as a modest attempt to produce a rough outline from the limited information I possess. I'm sure there must remain much room for improvement. So if anyone has more information on the subject I would be very glad if he or she would be kind enough to share it with us.

Hans van der Pauw, 2015