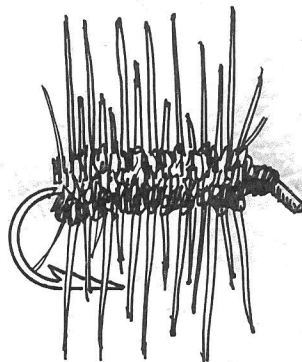
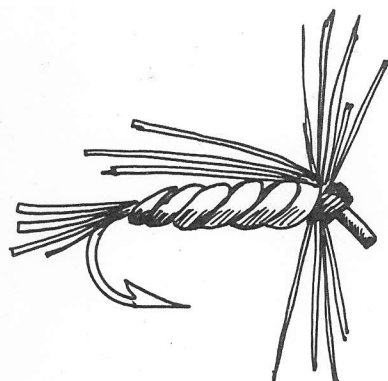




MISSOURI TROUT FLYS HOW TO TYE AND FISH THEM

**MORE THAN 40 POPULAR MISSOURI TROUT FLY PATTERNS
WITH TYING INSTRUCTIONS AND PHOTOS**

PLUS

**HOW TO CATCH YOUR LIMIT EVERY TIME
WHERE TO CATCH YOUR LIMIT EVERY TIME**

HOW TO

**PINCH-DUB • SPIN-DUB • DUBBING LOOP TOOL • FUR BLENDING
• BLEACH • DYE • select the Necessary Fly Tying Tools and more**

HOW TO SET UP

**RODS • REELS • FLY LINES • LEADERS • TIPPETS • SHOCK-GUM SECTIONS
• FLY LINE LOOPS • LEAD-CORE SECTIONS • STRIKE INDICATORS and much more**

**YOU CAN EXPECT TO BECOME A VERY GOOD FLY TYER AND FLY FISHER
IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME**

By Ed Story, fly tyer, fly fisher
National FEATHER-CRAFT Corp.

AND

Selected fly patterns by great
Missouri trout fly tyers

MISSOURI TROUT FLYS
HOW TO TYE AND FISH THEM

FIRST EXPANDED EDITION, VOL 1.
1986

By
Ed Story

The names of friends of the "manual"
can be found throughout its pages.
Thank you all.

CONTRIBUTING FLY TYERS

Bob Story(son)
Charlie Reading
Dave Barron
Dick Ryan
Doug Christain
Jerry Jarosic
Thank you again.

This manual was designed for the use of our fly tying students, customers and friends.
"Scant" editing was done regarding word punctuation and grammar. The manual is printed
directly from the computer print-out sheets to reduce publication costs. We welcome
editing-help, and reserve the right to revise and edit words or passages to provide a
better "understanding or meaning" for the reader.

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FORWARD

A fly rodder should be able to tie and fish a series of trout flies that offers him a reasonable guarantee of success in most all conditions of weather and water. For more than thirty years Missouri trout fishermen and fly tyers have been sharing their favorite trout fly patterns and methods to tie them with me. These old favorites, plus a few new ones will provide you with that reasonable guarantee of success on the trout waters of Missouri.



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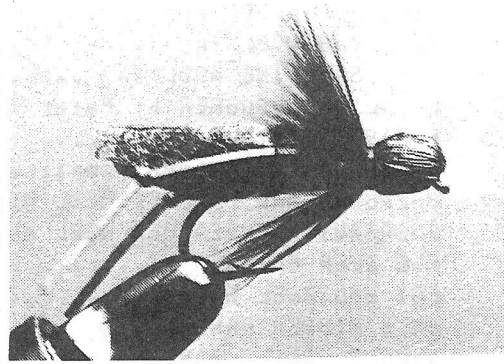
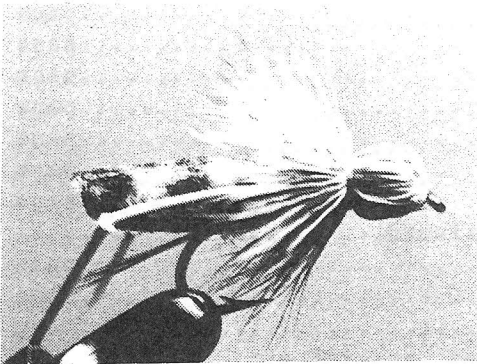
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PREFACE

We never set out to write this manual. It just became an out-growth of the many years that we have been teaching fly tying and fly rodding for trout. If you have been a student of fly tying at our retail store in St. Louis, you were furnished a program sheet of patterns we would be tying to include a list of hooks and materials. The only thing we ask you to bring to your lesson was and is a notebook. I have always felt that the teaching of fly tying is too precious to charge for. Methods and techniques to tie trout flies are developed and continuously improved on by many. Methods and techniques should simply be passed on for the benefit of all. Everything I know about fly tying was shared with me by you and so many of the fine fly tyers and pro tyers we know nationwide. Rarely is anything invented in fly tying. It's simply improved on with new techniques and materials. So we elected to never charge for fly tying lessons at our retail store. And we never hold classes..we teach one on one. And those that begin their trout fly tying with us become very good fly tyers in a short period of time. Many have become good friends, and that has been enough reward for me.

From these program sheets and hand drawn pattern sheets in your note books came this manual. I could never bring myself to call it a book. For many, there will be nothing new here. And a manual is less formal, more comfortable. This manual was easy to do. We had re-written it hundreds of times in your notebooks. You may already have a hand written copy if you have been tying with us over the years, or receiving our FEATHER-CRAFT Fly Tying Bulletins. Some of the same sketches and drawings are used here.

I was fly tying and fly rodding before I was a teenager. As many of you know, the same applies to my son Bob, and frankly all of the boys that have worked in our store or processing warehouse here at FEATHER-CRAFT. These boys were and are of high school and college age and learn fast. Several have become great fly tyers and fly rodders including my son Bob. I began as a supplier of materials for fly tyers in the early 1950's. And while living in San Francisco in the mid 1950's began using the trademark and company name FEATHER-CRAFT, later to become National FEATHER-CRAFT Co.,Inc. A supplier of fly tying material nationwide to fly tyers and dealers. We moved it all back "home" to Missouri and the banks of the Mississippi River in 1959. Even today, much of the material we process into fly tying material is gathered from the states that border the Mississippi for much of its length.

Over the years I read and listened to anyone that had anything to say about fly tying and fly rodding. I still do. And over these years it has been my privilege to tie with and supply some of the worlds finest fly tyers. I still tie a Light Cahill as learned at the elbow of the late Elsie Darby at her home on old Rt. 17 at Livingston Manor New York. She and well known husband Harry fashioned a part of their home into a small fly shop. And many of the materials used to tie the flies for many publications were and are still carefully selected in our warehouse. Author Joe Bates has a new book on salmon flies available and I can spot a number of selected materials in its pages. What we have learned from others over the years, it's been our pleasure to pass on to you. Fly tying methods and materials are constantly changing.

As you can see by now, I'm not a professional writer. I have no intention of editing the grammar in this publication, and I may invent words as needed to describe a fly tying technique as we go. If you have been reading our FEATHER-CRAFT Fly tying Bulletins over the years, then you know I do not edit for the sake of editing or sounding like someone im not. Editing must benefit the reader. And we are advised to use "caps" when spelling FEATHER-CRAFT in the manual as it's a registered trademark in that form, not in caps to catch your eye. We will mention F-C products where we feel they are the best product or tool for the job at hand. We plan only a limited distribution of the manual with little hype. Most reading this, already know FEATHER-CRAFT.

For certain, you are going to find a collection of easy to tie Missouri trout fly patterns and the methods to tie and fish them by great Missouri fly tyers. And if we missed you and your favorite pattern in this addition, it will be our pleasure to include it in the next addition.

There is a feeling about fly tying and fly rodding for trout. Even as a youth it was natural and right for me. With many of our fly tying students I have tried to explain it. To a certain few, I never had to explain it. You'll know...

TYING YOUR OWN TROUT FLYS

Fly tying is so easy. Anyone that seeks help from a fly tying friend or attends a well instructed class as held by the Federation Of Fly Fishers member clubs and Trout Unlimited member clubs across the country can expect to learn the basics of fly tying in a short time. If available to you, select the "one on one" learning method. As often is the case in a class, the student may not fully understand a procedure. Rather than hold up the class..he allows it to go uncorrected. If your a student in a class, dont allow this to happen to you. Each procedure leads to the next in completing the fly. Its important that you learn each step in its order. If you cannot find one on one help, locate the Federation Of Fly Fishers club or Trout Unlimited club in your area. At some time during the year these clubs will hold fly tying lessons, or someone in the club will help you get started. The Ozark Fly Fishers, a member FFF club in the St. Louis area has for the past several years held excellant fly tying classes for the general public and fly tying lessons on specific patterns at their club meetings. I know these guys well, each and every one of the members will share his knowledge of both fly tying and fly rodding with you. Frankly, both FFF and TU clubs nationwide would welcome you as a member. If you are not aware of the club in your area, contact me. You can learn fly tying from this manual and other books on fly tying. However, after teaching fly tying on almost a daily basis for so many years, its my opinion that you should learn basic fly tying methods from a good fly tyer or attend a fly tying class. Buying a book first may confuse you and simple fly tying procedures and terminology may discourage you as they look or sound complicated in pictures and print. The truth is that these procedures and methods are so easy, that anyone can learn fly tying in a short period of time. Its not a question of talent as in learning a musical instrument or voice. Its a matter of a little knowledge and some practice on your part. There is no myth involved, its easy to learn fly tying methods and techniques and its fun. Nothing should stop you now that you know. You can be a good fly tyer with ease, with practice and dedication, you can become a great trout fly tyer.

A PLACE TO TYE

If at all possible, stake out a permanent spot somewhere in your home to do your fly tying. You need less space than you think. A large desk is the last thing you want. Drawers become stuffed with things you will never find again. For years now I have been tying on a secretaries typing table in the corner of an extra bedroom that I made into an office in my home. The table is 42 by 18 inches, and if it were a little shorter in length, it would still be room enough. On the wall behind the tying bench is bookcase type shelving that holds cigar boxes with large white labels regarding their contents. A few labeled coffee cans and jars with lids hold more feather and fur inventory. And a couple of the multi-drawered mini tool chests hold even more of the threads, tools and materials you will find necessary. You'll really like the cigar boxes. They make an additional working-area while sitting on your lap as you prepare a feather or manually blend a special dubbing material. Make an arrangement with a local store to save cigar boxes of the same size. They stack in a straight-line when the boxes are of the same brand and size. And if it were up to me I would peg-board the living and dinning room. I have not been able to pull that one off...yet. The collecting of selected feathers and furs is also a part of the total enjoyment of fly tying, and you will need to plan for the above storage of materials. Your going to to be making new friends nationwide as you attend meetings, read what others have to say, and collect material catalogs. I just received a Gambels quail skin from salmon fly tyer Albert Cohen of Dallas Texas after sending him a matched pair of peacock wing quills. TOOL ARRANGEMENT on your tying bench. To keep your fly tying tools in some kind of order, try this. Cut a two by four piece of wood into several pieces in lengths from four to six inches or more. Drill holes into these short pieces "spaced" so that you can stick your bobbins, scissors and certain other tools upright in the holes. You can lay a dust-cover over the unit holding the bobbins, for that matter, you can cut a dust cover to lay over the entire fly tying bench. This sometimes insures a certain privacy, regarding kids and pets.

FLY TYING TOOLS...

The question most asked us by the person considering fly tying is how much does it cost to get started. Its mid 1986 and the cost of the tools necessary to get a good start into the world of fly tying has not changed a lot in the past five years and probably wont change much in the next five years. Its something less than a hundred dollars. And its a sound investment considering the long winter evenings of enjoyment and an art form that will keep you learning, enjoying and improving for a lifetime. Never buy a fly tying kit. Carefully select each tool of the best quality to perform its assigned task and normally that tool will serve you well for many years or a lifetime. Select feathers and furs for the exact fly pattern you intend to tie and you will save money and produce beautiful trout flies. Todays fly tying tools make fly tying easier than ever before. If you tried fly tying a number of years ago and tired of half hitches and waxing threads and other old time procedures, you can forget all of that. The only knot I can think of to tie the fly patterns in this manual is to whip finish the fly head and we will be using a Whip-Finisher for that. The following is a list of tools necessary and fun to use in tying the trout fly patterns described in this manual. You can add additional fly tying tools if you feel you need them, or simply because you enjoy working with different tools designed to perform special tasks. From our fly tying and fly tying tool marketing experience we are going to list by name those tools we feel are the best available at this writing and will include the manufacturers suggested list price of the tool at this writing. We reserve the right to add or change our position as even as I type this we have new fly tying tools to test from Italy, France and India. Head cements, dry fly floatants, fly line conditioners and more marketed under our own FEATHER-CRAFT trade mark have been tested for us by Bud Hockley and well known fly fisher Lefty Kreh for many years. We will make mention of anything necessary or even interesting before the end of this manual. Im working with a new "swivel hackle plier" from Italy now that is different and may well become very popular based on a few simple tests. All of the tools to be mentioned here have been steady performers for many years and you cannot go wrong with the following in your fly tying tool collection. And the finest tools at this writing are made in America.

FROM THE EXPERIENCE GAINED tying daily with you at our retail store and from our mail order retail and wholesale customers nationwide, we feel the following tools are necessary....

FLY TYING VISE...buy the best quality and features that your budget allows. The prices quoted are as of this date and could vary. The following are todays popular vises...Thompson Model-A...pro black finish at \$35.00...a cam-operated vise, adjusts for height of jaws from bench top. The Dorin INEX, black finish, lever-operated and famous for how well it holds a hook, \$65.00 and adjusts for table top jaw height only. The Dorin REGAL vise. \$89.00, head and jaws have up-down tilt feature. HMM SPARTAN \$89.00, cam-operated, tilt jaws, full jaw rotation does it all. HMM standard vise, a favorite of the pro's at \$188.00, it does it all also, full rotation. More really good vises are the Xuron, Renzetti, Price and more. Check most any fly tying material catalog...or tying material shop for these vises and more. You cannot expect to tie trout flies without a quality vise. My favorite feature on a vise is "pivot-head", meaning the vise-head can be moved up or down over about an 185 degree range, including straight-up without adjustment. Simply move it to the angle desired as you tie and it stays there. THE BOBBIN...you must tie with a bobbin. And we like the MATARELLI BOBBINS. Frank Matarelli, long time friend, makes bobbins that are the standard of the industry. Several tube lengths are available but once you get used to the added leverage of the long tube bobbin, you will use no other. They sell for less than \$7.00, last forever. A BOBBIN LOADER is needed to pull the thread through the bobbin tube on most bobbins. A bobbin threader sells for \$3.00 more or less. A WHIP FINISHER is a must, and again we like the Matarelli Whip-Finisher. It comes with illustrated instructions. Its the best and used by every pro tyer we supply...\$6.50 ea. NOTE: Prices on these tools can vary. We tend to list them a bit on the high side. And as you can see, the vise you select has a great deal to do with the total cost of tools.

FLY TYING TOOLS CONTINUED....

HACKLE PLIERS...so many available. You can argue on this one all day. Our sales prove the DORIN SMALL TEARDROP hackle plier to be the favorite, mine also..about \$3.25 ea..
E-Z MINI HACKLE PLIER. A must as its also used to dub SPECTRUM and other fly body materials with. About \$2.00 each and never buy the "imports". They are of no value.
DUBBING NEEDLE....I like the curved dubbing needle. Its the dentist type tool..\$3.00
DUBBING LOOP TOOL....a must. You can dub anything in any method with this tool. You can dub the hair off your dog or the fuzz off the rug he sleeps on. We supply a custom made loop tool with instructions. Others are available but you must look thru several fly tying material catalogs to find them. Most are imports..\$2.00 to \$4.00 each.
SCISSORS..the curved FISKAR is a must for general work with deer, elk and other course hair. A fine point eye surgeons scissor for midge work is needed..both under \$10.00
HAIR STACKER...a number of different "hairs" are stacked to even their tip ends when to be used as downwing material on caddis patterns or for the collar on a muddler, etc. A .38 cartridge-case makes a good hair stacker as do other "short" cartridge cases. You can cut a Chapstick tube in half and make a fine hair stacker..or you can buy a two-piece hair stacker for \$5.00 to 10.00, depending on the material & quality its made of.
HAIR-PACKER...used to pack the hair tight on clipped deer, elk etc when these materials are used to tie a muddler type fly head. They sell for \$3.00 to \$6.00 ea.
MATERIAL SPRING, it slips over the jaw assembly of your vise. It holds material like tinsel out of the way while doing other tying procedures. Its important that you get the spring that has a hook on one end at least. You hang the left side of your dubbing loop on this hook when using a dubbing loop tool. In doing this, the loop stays open while you prepare the dubbing material.

IMPORTANT VISUAL AID....common envelope or piece of art-paper in a pale pastel color such as pale green or blue. Lay it behind the fly while tying.

If you have been "adding-up" as you read, you have the approximate cost of the tools..

Another tool I cannot be happy without on my bench is the "CROSS-LOCK TWEEZER" and we may mention it later in this manual. Its 4-1/2 inches long, it opens when you squeeze, and closes when you release the squeeze. It will pick out one size 28 hook out of a box of a hundred or a feather-fiber off the bench. Its great to own when tying a surgeons-loop, or any leader knot for that matter. And hanging from your vest it will pick out one size 28 midge, and hold it while you put the box away and find your leader tippet. It must be the one with the SOFT-PINCH, if you cannot find it, contact me.

AND...watch the GINGHER-NIPPER grow in popularity. Expert fly tyer Jerry Jarosik put us onto this "nipper". It will "reach-in" and nip-out one little feather-fiber.

FLY HEAD CEMENT...you must use a penetrating-type head cement. The formula we use was left to us by the late Johnny Maynard. Its a nitro-cellulose base cement that bonds everything from a fly head to a loop in a fly line. Most head cements are acrylic lacquer, and soon crack or will not hold up under water. And of course never use finger-nail polish. Its made to coat, not penetrate.

THREADS...used in this manual are Danville 3/0 and 6/0 prewaxed. Fly tying threads are Multi-strand Nylon, and wrap-flat...allowing for more thread-wraps on the same-spot without a thread build-up. The 3/0 size thread is about twice the diameter of 6/0 thread. Most "seasoned" tyers use 6/0 thread for most of their work and its necessary on midge-patterns. For spinning Deer-hair, you can use 3/0 or the new FLYMASTER-PLUS thread by Danville. For very bulky "hair" or for tying GLO-BUGS...SUPERTHREAD can be used. Its made from Kevlar tire cord material, and is considered the strongest of the threads used in fly tying today.

As your knowledge of fly tying and fly fishing continues to grow, you will develop a like for certain tools, methods, rods, lines...everything. Until then, your a sitting duck. Always be ready to look and listen. Like any art-form, fly tying and fishing has its experts..and its pompous pains in the buns. Be prepared, never refuse to look or listen...and for the pompous few, say.."I used to do it that way" and move away. Move further away.

TERMINOLOGY, Fly Tying Terminology used in this manual

You can learn fly tying from this manual, however we assume that you have had some basic fly tying instruction. If not, carefully read these pages on terminology. And continue to seek one on one help, or find a fly tying class. In the meantime, carefully read and follow the steps of applying material outlined on each pattern page. You can expect your finished fly to represent the photo on the pattern page. Remember, beginning fly tyers tend to tie "bulky", using too much material. Think "sparse" when applying material. And we think in terms of "firm", not pressure, when using the tools, thread and hackle. And think "proportions" when tying-in the tail, beard etc. The pattern pages and photo's will give you the correct proportions. Study the pattern page and refer to the photo to see how the finished fly should look. Notice the length of the tail or beard, relative to the hook length. Use common sense and be thinking as you tie. There is no hurry, study the pattern page, review the photo and you will be tying quality trout flies in a short time. And think sparse(less) when applying material..

REFERENCE..to methods and terminology used on the pattern pages.

WE TIE "RIGHT-HANDED"...lefty's must convert or adjust. Many left-handers that I have worked with tie right-handed.

Most "WRAPS" in fly tying are CLOCKWISE...all infact, unless otherwise stated.

The pattern pages assume you have correctly placed the hook in the vise..



TYE THE THREAD IN...pattern sheets often assume the thread is tied-in. To do so is simply to hold the end of the thread in your left hand, and under the hook-shank behind the hook eye, if instructed. If not instructed, try the center of the hook shank. Without moving your left hand..over-wrap the thread with the thread in the bobbin being held in your right hand. We always use a bobbin. No knots, just a few thread-wraps to lock the tying thread to the hook-shank. Now your ready to wrap to the starting position on the hook-shank. Most of the time it will be "at the end of the hook-shank". If you weight the hook shank with lead-wire or other wire, or if bead-chain or bar-bell type eyes are on the hook shank..we add them as the "first-step" in tying the pattern.

TYE-IN...tying everything else in but the thread...means to "wrap"....the material with thread-wraps, but no more thread-wraps than necessary to secure the material to the hook shank. TYE-IN..is an often used term. Again, it really means to "thread-wrap" in.

RUN THE THREAD TO a point on the HOOK SHANK..or anywhere else on the hook. This means without special-care. Simply wrap it to the point instructed. If special-care is intended, the pattern sheet will tell you. As If to carefully wrap one thread-wrap in front of the other..touching as you go.

RUN THE THREAD TO THE END OF THE HOOK SHANK..this is important. It means not to run the thread down onto the "bend" of the hook. The hook-shank is that "straight" portion of the hook between the hook eye and where the hook starts into the "bend".

RUN THE THREAD TO JUST BEHIND THE HOOK EYE...means to leave a fraction of space for the fly head. Use thread-wraps to tie-in the material, cut away any waste material, use thread-wraps to cover any material showing, and whip-finish.

TYE-OFF...means the fly or technique is finished at the hook eye or whatever point on the hook shank. Cut away any waste material. And to apply a whip-finish and cut the thread out is to "tye-off".

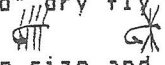
CUT AWAY WASTE MATERIAL, means to cut away the material not to be used after a technique or method of applying material has been applied. Tie in the tail, and cut away the waste material as close to the hook shank as possible, using the points only of your scissor or nipper. Critical for a neatly tied fly.

TERMINOLOGY...continued

PALMER-WRAP..is to tie-in a hackle OR feather by its butt-end with the dull-side of the feather facing you, or facing forward on the hook-shank. The feather will then be wrapped forward, full length of the hook-shank keeping the "dull-side" facing forward. Or it can be wrapped "in the same-spot" on the hook shank, keeping the dull-side of the feather facing forward. You continue adjusting the feather, using your hackle plier.

REVERSE PALMER-WRAP...To tie in a hackle by its tip-top end with the color-side of the feather facing forward. Its wrapped up the hook shank with the color-side facing forward. The feather-fibers will face to the rear of the fly when a hackle is reverse palmer-wrapped. And body feathers are tied in using this technique when used on soft hackle patterns. For a sparse wrap, I always remove the feather-fibers from the left side of the "stem" while the color-side of the feather is facing me.

SIZED-HACKLE or SIZED AND PREPARED HACKLE & FEATHERS..."sized" is to select a feather for its length & width, relative to the size hook to be tied-on. "Prepared" is to remove the fluff and webby-fibers etc, relative to the task the feather is needed for.

"SIZED" DRY-FLY HACKLE..in general, a "sized" dry fly hackle when tied-in, is one and a half times the hook-gap-width, like this.. , also a common guide for wet and dry wooly patterns. If we were going to size and prepare a grizzly neck hackle for our Peacock & Grizzly, we would select a dry fly neck hackle that, when folded over the hook shank, the feather-fibers would extend a time and a half in length as the hook-gap is wide. The hackle would be long enough AFTER removing the fuzz & webby-fibers from its butt-end, to be wrapped full-length of the hook shank over the fly body. When we say SIZE & PREPARE a long saddle hackle, we mean to again remove the fuzz & webby fibers from the butt-end. In some cases, we assume you know what we mean. If you dont, read, ask others, ask me, join a class. Again, this is a manual of fly patterns, not a fly tying instruction manual. However, using common sense, and carefully reading the pattern pages, you can learn fly tying from this manual.

FEATHERS..."dull-side" means that side of the feather that lays against the bird. We see the "color-side" of the feather when the bird is wearing the feather.

"TIP-END" or "tip" of the feather is the "top" end of the feather. Butt-end is where??

DEAD-DRIFT is to let a wet or dry fly "drift" with the current of the stream.

LEISENRING-LIFT, famous method by the late Jim Leisenring to allow a wet-fly to drift at or below the level of the trouts "lie", holding your rod tip low. As the fly nears the trout, raise your rod tip high, allowing the fly to rise to the surface at a steady rate of speed. So deadly is this method, that it should be used in fishing most "wets".

SIGHT-FISHING.."most important method"..used at the state parks. Fish a short line, fine tippet, midge-nymph. Sometimes nothing more than a SPARSE body of Spectrum or floss wrapped on the hook-shank. Fish to "sighted-fish". Lift the rod tip when you see the fish take the fly. Most "lunker patches" are earned using this method of fishing.

BOBBIN AND THREAD LOCATION SYMBOL...this SYMBOL  on the pattern pages indicates the location of the thread and bobbin while tying.

TO FINISH THE FLY HEAD MEANS to wrap a small neat fly head with the thread on the bobbin, with no material showing thru. Then whip-finish using the whip-finish tool.

"HANK"..SPECTRUM and FLY-RITE synthetic fly body materials are packaged in a small bulk-hank. We "tease" from the HANK a "sparse" line of material for a fly body.

WIDE EVEN WRAPS..simply means DO NOT make "wraps" so close-together when "hackling" or "ribbing" that the body material cannot show through, or the fly looks all hackle, etc.

DUBBING LOOP-TOOL symbol, is the symbol used to show the position of the loop.

SPIN-DUBBING with "continuous" Synthetic-Fibers & the E-Z Mini Hackle Plier

SPIN-DUBBING...with CONTINUOUS synthetic-fiber materials like SPECTRUM and FLY-RITE brand materials. Our long time pal Dr. Fred Horvath owns the ANDRA-SPECTRUM company. He has been very patient in working with us over the years as we have altered and converted the SPECTRUM color "numbers" to trout Pattern-Names. For example Hendrickson #52 and the Blue-Winged Olive #53 are exclusive colors with us and in the store now. We are making these new colors available to shops everywhere. The colors were taken from our Missouri "species". The Baetis Female (Blue-Winged Olive) pattern is in this manual, and the Hendrickson is tied "Dry-Wooly". SPECTRUM is my favorite. Its as close to fur as you can get with a synthetic material..regarding feel and texture. It makes a beautiful dry fly body when dubbed as follows, thanks again Fred Horvath. Lets assume the tail of the dry fly is in place, or your tying a Dry-Wooly, in either case, the thread is HANGING AT THE END OF THE HOOK-SHANK, on the bobbin....

1. From the main "hank" of SPECTRUM, "tease" a sparse-continuous strand of material and inch or so in length. Again, it should be sparse and webby, not bulky.
2. Holding each end of the one-inch piece between the first-finger and thumb of each hand...gently pull in opposite directions..."elongating" the piece to a little over twice the length you started with.
3. Lay the elongated-strand across the finger-tips of your left hand and under the tying thread, so that one end of the SPECTRUM-strand is close to the hook shank while the balance of the STRAND is laying along the thread.
4. With moistened thumb and first-finger on your right hand..Pinch-Dub the "END" of the SPECTRUM close to the hook-shank...onto the thread. Simply pinch hard, and roll it onto the thread in one direction only..COUNTER-CLOCKWISE. About 1/3rd inch of SPECTRUM is now attached to the thread.
5. Push the SPECTRUM (now attached to the thread) up to the hook-shank. Using your bobbin, make two-thread wraps around the hook-shank.."Locking" the SPECTRUM to the hook shank.
6. The balance of the SPECTRUM is laying under and along the thread. Gently lay the THREAD and SPECTRUM in the fingers of your left-hand as you GRAB..BOTH THE THREAD AND THE END OF THE SPECTRUM with the hook on your E-Z MINI HACKLE PLIER.
7. Hold the bobbin out to your chest with your left hand, so the thread from the bobbin-tube..to the hook-shank is "firm" (taught) making a "SHAFT" of the thread.
8. With the fingers on your right-hand...SPIN the E-Z MINI HACKLE PLIER "COUNTER-CLOCKWISE" around the hook shank AS IF IT WERE A PROPELLER...and INSTANTLY...you have a fly body. A beautiful-firm fly body spun on the tying thread.
9. Now..PINCH THE THREAD, HACKLE-PLIER AND THE END OF THE FLY BODY with your fingers all at the same time...using the THUMB AND FIRST FINGER ON YOUR LEFT HAND.
10. REMOVE the E-Z MINI HACKLE-PLIER with your RIGHT-HAND. Now transfer the end of the now dubbed fly body on the thread to your RIGHT HAND, your tying hand. And wrap the fly body up the hook-shank CLOCKWISE..one firm wrap in front of the other to the "fly-body's" next destination point on the hook shank. Most often to just behind the hook eye. Tie it in with a few thread wraps. If you have a little fly-body material left on the thread...wrap it down and back over the thorax area of the fly body, tapering the fly body to the "mayfly" body shape...and back to just behind the hook-eye. If you have a lot of material left on the thread at the hook-eye...tease or carefully cut it away after tying in the fly body. For very small size hooks...18, 20 and smaller, you may want to simply Pinch-dub the SPECTRUM directly onto the thread..and wrap the thread forward on the hook-shank, forming the fly body as you go.

THIS WHOLE DUBBING METHOD SHOULD TAKE ABOUT 10-SECONDS....

PINCH AND DUB....dubbing-method.

A quick and easy method for dubbing fur and fur-blends to include synthetics onto the fly tying thread. The thread is then wrapped up the hook-shank, forming the fly body as its being wrapped. The only problem most beginners have with this method, is trying to dub to much bulky material at the same time. Another mistake the beginner makes is trying to roll the dubbing-material onto the thread with a back and forth motion of the fingers. You MUST roll in ONE DIRECTION ONLY..COUNTER CLOCKWISE. And you must pinch the dubbing-material firm..hard! Following the numbered instructions, you can expect to be successful on your first attempt at PINCH-DUBBING.

1. TEASE a SPARSE-WEBBY LINE of the selected fur from its source. The source can be a piece of soft-fur such as muskrat or beaver, or a bulk source of pre-blended material to include synthetic materials. Again...tease a sparse-webby line of fur or dubbing material from its source with the fingers on your right hand.
2. Hold the sparse-webby line of dubbing material on the under-side of the tying thread with the fingers on your left hand. Hold one end of the "line" of dubbing material near the hook-shank.
3. Moisten the first finger and thumb on your right hand. Beginning at the line of dubbing-material near the hook-shank...pinch it hard..harder..and roll it onto the tying thread COUNTER CLOCKWISE ONLY...never never back and forth. Continue this method until all of the dubbing-material(an inch or more) is pinch-dubbed onto the thread.
4. Begin wrapping the the dubbed fur body on the fly tying thread up the hook-shank in CLOCKWISE wraps, using your bobbin. If you run out of dubbing material on the thread, add more as needed, until you reach the desired point on the hook-shank, or just behind the hook-eye depending on the pattern being tyed. Since we are using pre-waxed fly tying thread, rarely is any additional wax needed on the thread.

NOTE: When tying with a Matarelli type bobbin, hold the bobbin in your fingers at the BOTTOM-END of the thread-tube. There is a plastic-band around the tube at this point. Never allow your fingers to touch the tying thread. Your fingers will fray the thread.

V-NOTCH METHOD OF "HACKLING"....using most any feather.

This method is sometimes refered to or confused with "soft-hackling". They are two distinct and different methods. The "soft-hackling" method as described elsewhere in this manual is a technique allowing for a near perfect collar completely around the collar-area of the fly, and using a true soft-hackle type feather(Partridge, etc). The V-NOTCH method allows us to use most any type feather..be it of a soft or stiff texture. Often a "stiff" feather is used, as the fibers help "bouy" a fly up just under the surface as in an emerger-type. For this, we can use both rooster & hen neck hackles if we like. We can also use the same "soft-hackle" type feather as used on a true soft-hackle fly pattern if we like. And, we do not have to be concerned with "sizing" the feather as we do when tying a soft-hackle pattern. Using the V-NOTCH method..we size only the "feather-fibers", and we size them AS WE TYE. We do this by cutting-out the tip-end of the feather and working with the remaining feather-fibers. We tie them in with a soft wrap of thread...then adjust them to the desired-length...by gently pulling them thru the soft-wrap of thread. When we have the desired length, we wrap them in with a few FIRM thread-wraps. The V-NOTCHED feather can be held VERTICLE, or LAYED-FLAT as the feather-fibers are tyed in. A slightly different end-result can be had depending on how the V-NOTCHED feather is held while being tyed in. Some interesting effects can be using this method as the "collar" on nymphs and wet flies.



HOOKS FOR FLY TYING

Hook manufacturers world wide should be backed against a wall, dagger at their throat..until they all agree to mark on every box of fly tying hooks, the "hook-shank" length in millimeters. Partridge of Redditch is doing this and more. On the back of the little "25-hook pacs" is everything you want to know about the hook in the pac. Shank length, gap, wire diameter..even hook weight. Thank you. Others should follow this considerate thinking by Partridge. These hook makers are never going to agree to an international standard. If they would all put this information on the package, we fly tyers would not need a standard. We would simply make a little chart to use in comparing the different hooks available to tie our favorite patterns on. Fly tying hooks will change more in the next two years or less....than they have since the end of world war two! This week I received a carton of sample TMC hooks from Jim Black that will be available to all tyers shortly. These new hooks include sizes in 16 and smaller that have never been available in this brand before, even though you have seen them advertised. Dry fly hooks with wide-gap, tiny-barbs & short, super-sharpe points. Beautiful. TMC are Japanese made hooks under the labels TMC, Orvis Supreme, FEATHER-CRAFT Premium, KINGFISHER, Carpenter and more. Same hook, different label on the box..and probably the finest fly tying hooks made today. However, without a world standard of any kind, and nothing on the box but the name and size, you must be careful. You must measure the hook shank length, and compare it with the Mustad hooks your most familiar with. For instance, you will find a TMC 101 hook in size 20 is really a size 19 when eye-balled, or otherwise measured to a like hook and size in Mustad. Some have called it an 18-1/2!! Other sizes and types in these TMC and Partridge must be studied before simply placing an order for them, or there not going to be what you expected. Again, with the hook shank "length" only, we could get by. If you like your Blue-Winged Olive in size 18, you might be talking size 22 in a TMC. Im not going to bore you with a lot of technical terminology. The slick-publications schedule regular articles on the subject. Writers quote from one another and often from the Mustad distributor hook catalog. It contains a lot of X this and X that. You wont remember any of it and much of it is not a fact anyway. I tie a lot of Blue-Winged Olives on Partridge K1A size 24. Sounds tiny. In a Mustad 94840 or 59 series, that would be a size 19 or 20, with a hook gap of a size 22. And up till this year the K1A was a down-eye. In the future it will be ring-eye. No problem, as a hook distributor for so many years, I read the bulletins and study the samples. I try to help you solve problems while at the store and with the calls nationwide from our customers and pro tyers. It would be no problem for you if the shank-length of the hook was on the box in millimeters...or did I say that. And again the hooks your using today for your favorite fly patterns are history if your a serious fly tyer. One TMC hook is now so popular for tying the Pheasant Tail Nymph on that our mail order customers nationwide simply order it as the Pheasant Tail Nymph hook in the sizes they need. The number of the hook is TMC 3761. And what about costs. You can expect to pay about twice as much for these premium hooks with tiny barbs, wide-gaps and small sharpe points as you do for Mustad. In the Partridge line, expect to pay more than that. And you will. The extra cost for these advanced features are worth it to the serious fly tyer, fly fisher. After tying on these premium hooks, your hooks with those long points, big barbs and narrow gaps are going to look funny to you. Really. Extra cost for premium quality has never been a problem to us fly tyers, or we would still be using barnyard rooster necks. What about barbless. Your not serious yet. Your even undecided whats best for the trout. Many feel the deep penetration of the barbless hook is more damaging than a barbed hook. I do like a hook that allows quick release of the trout. I cannot remember the last trout I kept. If the park trout are full of dog food pellets and the trophy-waters trout are full of Chlordane..you think im going to eat one of those things?

What should the serious fly tyer do? I have included on each pattern sheet in this manual the correct hooks to tie that pattern on. You take it from there. Spend fifty cents on a ruler laid out in millimeters. Start your study, measure the hook shank length that your now tying your favorite-patterns on. Compare that with the hook-shank lengths of the new premium hooks coming on the market now. On the midge size hooks, compare the "gap". Now start your own "hook chart". Only then will you have the facts on hooks. And watch for Mustad to announce new fly tying hook types soon. Some of what im saying on this page will be obsolete shortly, as the hooks come onto the market. YOUR PERSONAL HOOK CHART WOULD NEVER BECOME OBSOLETE.

BLENDING...water-blending your own dubbing material, its so easy.

A DUBBING-BLEND is to mix and blend natural fur and or synthetic materials to arrive at a color and texture you need or want for a certain fly body. Much blending is done in juice blenders. If you use a juice blender for fur blending, it can never again be used for juice or other blending. Mom or one of the kids will forever find a muskrat guard hair in their orange juice. Expect to pay \$25.00 and more for a juice blender. Much more for a muliti-speed model of good quality. You dont have to do this. Simply clean up a salad dressing jar. Cut the fur and synthetics to be blended into 1/4 inch lengths and into the jar. For sparkle you can cut Antron-strands or even rug yarn into 1/4 inch lengths and into the jar with the fur. Clear Antron comes in a hank, and wont change the color of the fur blend. Into the jar with the cut fur and or synthetic material, add a coffee spoonful of house-hold amonia or dish washing detergent. If you use detergent, use 1/3 coffee spoonful to a 1/2 quart salad dressing jar. Fill the jar up to the ONE-HALF point with cold water, put the lid on tight...and shake it all up. Shake it again. We want a good even mix of the materials in the jar. Now pour the contents in the jar into a household strainer. Run cold tap water thru the strainer until the water runs clear of stained water and amonia or detergent. Empty the remaining fur-ball in the strainer into your hand, and squeeze the excess water out of the fur-ball. Allow the fur-ball to dry. When dry, you have a clean batch of custom dubbing material ready to use. This is sometimes called "felting" your blend.

BLEACHING feathers and fur. You cannot dye a dark fur to a lighter color, unless you bleach the fur to a lighter color before dying it. The following bleaching-method has been in many of our bulletins. You will need 20-volume hydrogen-peroxide available from retail hair and beauty stores. You will also need Clairol "extra strength basic white powder lightener". This one's tougher to find. Beauty supply houses market the stuff. Polly Rosebough calls it white-gravey, and once bleached a whole Australian Opposom hide ordered from us. Add a tablespoon of white-powder to each ounce of 20-volumn peroxide. Wash the fur to be bleached with amonia and rinse with cold water. Put the fur in the "solution" and watch it..it will bleach in 45-minutes or less. Any longer and the fur dissolves. Rinse the bleached-fur in cold water. Lots of it...

DYING MATERIAL IS NEXT...in case I forget, the RIT-DYE formula for dying mallard flank to woodduck is RIT #1, #16 & #23 in equal parts.

DYING YOUR MATERIALS

As fly tyers we are never happy with only the natural colors of feathers and fur. We know we need everything from firey brown to hot pink. We like orange hare's mask or think we need olive grizzly hackle. And its possible. We can buy it already dyed, or we can dye it ourselves. Often, the easy way to come up with a few special hackle colors for a limited number of flys is to use a felt-tip waterproof marking pen. Simply mark-over both sides of the feather with a color of your choice. I often do that with a grizzly saddle hackle to be used on a woolybugger. By using the olive marking pen, im able to give the hackle a look thats different than a dyed olive hackle. Its a dun-olive, that only a fly tyer would recognize. Only the edges of the feather take the marking pen color, and a hint of olive is sometimes better than a deep-dyed olive. Innovative its sometimes called, other times, its hit & miss experimenting. The other way to arrive at a needed color is to dye the material yourself. Before you invest in acid dyes, try RIT-DYE from your local store. Buy a deep sauce pan and a long spoon plus a plastic drop-cloth. Do not use anything belonging to mom. She will kill you...or worse. Get your own pan, spoon and that drop-cloth, because I know your going to try this on the kitchen sink area. So cut the drop-cloth to cover the working area. Wash the material to be dyed in moms amonia and rinse with cold water. Read the instructions on the RIT DYE container. Check a material sample from the dye batch each minute in for color. Toss in a little salt half way thru the process, mostly for luck. When you have the needed color, remove the material and rinse it in cold water till the water runs clear. Dry the material with a hair-dryer. Clean up the mess.

The PEACOCK AND GRIZZLY...sometimes called Griffiths Gnat.

The first time I saw this fly was on the gauge house stretch of water at Bennett Springs State Park Missouri. I was a teenager and the year was probably 1949 or 50. The fly was a size 10 and looked as large as a fallen sparrow on the water. Dry fly hackle as we know it today in the mid 1980's was not available of course. The best way to get a good grizzly rooster neck was to drive the country side looking for a farmer with a Plymouth Rock flock of chickens. Even then only one rooster would be with a small flock and it was hard to talk the farmer out of it. And finding a Banty flock of barred rock chickens was even tougher to find. Still is. George Lawson at Potosi Missouri raised them for the fun of it. I hunted quail on his place years later with my father in-law and remember standing on the porch of the old farm house asking George about buying a rooster on the hoof. He had just explained to us that he was down to his last rooster and could not at this time consider selling the bird...when my young bird dog Buck, a tough liver and white pointer came around the corner of the old house with that last rooster in his jaws. Oohh, Georged moaned, why didnt he grab a hen. I paid a price for that rooster, but it was worth it. I tyed dozens of Peacock And Grizzly dry flys from that neck. Some down to size 16 which was really a big deal at the time. Today you can buy a METZ rooster neck with hackle that will tie down to size 24 and smaller. The first neck that I ever saw tie down to size 20 was a half neck Harry Darby gave me in a pale dun, that he raised. I rationed those out for traditional dry fly patterns in Watery Dun and Pale Evening Dun patterns in the "Catskill" style of tying. Dry fly necks like this are common now. My favorite size Peacock And Grizzly's are tyed on Mustad 94840 in sizes 10 thru 18. And my secret weapon is this pattern tyed on the TMC 100 "wide-gap" hook in size 22. It will be one of your favorite "midges" patterns also.

HOOK: Mustad 94840 sizes 10 thru 18, TMC 100 sizes 10 thru 22

BODY: One strand of Peacock herl on size 18 and smaller. More strands on larger sizes

HACKLE: One grizzly rooster neck hackle, "sized" to hook

THREAD: Danville prewaxed, size 6/0, color #100 black

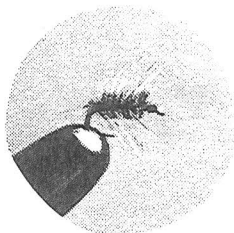
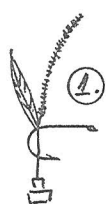
1. Put a Mustad 94840 size 18 in your vise. Tie the thread in and run it to the end of the hook-shank. Size and prepare a grizzly dry fly neck hackle and tie it in at the end of the hook-shank, with the dull-side of the feather facing you.

2. At the end of the hook-shank, tie in one strand of peacock-herl. Tie it in by its butt end, where the nice herl-fibers begin. NOTE: If you are tying on a larger size hook requiring more than one strand of peacock-herl, reverse the herl-strands to each other. That is to lay them in opposite directions to each other..and tie them all in at the same time, and wrap them all forward at the same time. For this little size 18, we need only one herl. Now run the thread up to just behind the hook eye.

3. Wrap the strand of peacock herl clockwise in close wraps, up the hook shank, forming the fly body as you wrap. Tie the peacock herl in with a few thread-wraps just behind the hook-eye at the waiting thread. Remember to cut away waste material as you tie.

4. With your hackle plier, palmer-wrap the the hackle up the hook-shank in even but wide wraps to the waiting thread just behind the hook-eye. Tie the hackle in with a few thread wraps and finish with a small neat fly head and whip-finish. NOTE: Refer to the TERMINOLOGY PAGE when your not certain of a method like "Palmer-Wrap" etc, for help.

TO FISH: Dress the fly with a dry fly floatant. Cast to rising fish or search-cast. If you dont get a "hit", jerk the fly under the surface, and skip it using your rod tip.



FLATWINGS, Caddis, Leaf-Rollers etc..

These little dry flies are a favorite of mine and take trout everywhere..stream or lake. When you see how easy they are to tie and how the trout go for em, you will never be without a supply of them in your dry fly box. The best known Flatwing is Vince Marinaro's "Jassid", tied with a junglecock neck feather(nail). These feathers have become hard to find and expensive. This feather is not necessary. My favorite feather to make the wing from is wild duck body feathers, or quail, partridge and pheasant body feathers, and more. To prepare the feather we are going to pull the feather-fibers away from the feather-stem on both sides until we have the tip of the feather left in a length to fit the hook we are tying on. This is a deadly trout fly..maybe the best copy of a caddis resting on the water surface. Check the caddis-silhouette from the "under-side"!! And these FLATWINGS are so easy to tie. You can tie a good one the first time.

THREAD: Danville prewaxed 6/0 in a color to match the body material

WING: "TIP-END" of body feather from wild duck, hun partridge, starling etc...

HOOK: Mustad 94833 size 14 thru 18. TMC 100 & 101,16 thru 24. Partridge K1A size 24

HACKLE: Dry fly neck hackle "sized" to hook-size & palmer-wrapped full-length of hook shank. Then..cut "flat" on top-side of hook-shank.

BODY: SPECTRUM #53 yellow-olive, #34 dark-olive, #31 tan, #20 light-olive, #17 brown

1. Tie in and run the thread to the end of the hook shank. Select a dry fly hackle as mentioned above. Tie it in at the end of the hook shank, color-side facing you. Tease a sparse strand of SPECTRUM body material from the "hank" and dub it onto the thread. It should be so "sparse" that you simply moisten the first finger and thumb..and quickly "pinch-dub" it onto the thread. Wrap the thread up to just behind the hook eye, forming the fly body as you go. I prefer a level body.. or slightly tapered..

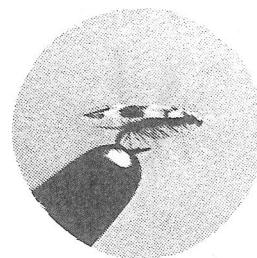
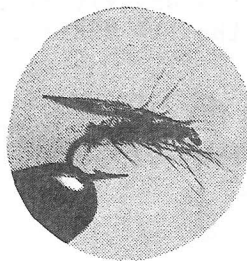
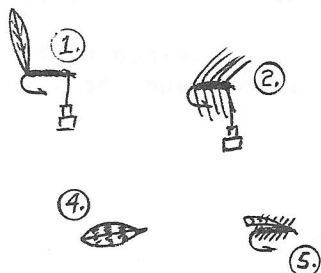
2. With your hackle plier, palmer-wrap the hackle in wide even-wraps up to the waiting thread and tie in with a few thread wraps. Cut away the waste material as you tie.

3. With your straight-scissors, trim the hackle back on both the top and bottom of the hook shank..so it looks like this.(side-view) (front-view)

4. Prepare the "flatwing" from a selected feather of your choice by pulling away the feather-fibers from both sides of the feather stem...leaving the "tip" portion of the feather to be used for our "flatwing". To further "size" the remaining "tip" of the feather and give it a bug-wing shape, put a drop of fly-head cement on the tip of your first finger on your left hand and touch it to the thumb on the same hand and quickly open your fingers. Quickly pull the little feather-tip through those two fingers, applying the cement to both sides of the feather-tip at the same time, tapering it to look like this... when looking down on the top of it, color-side up.

5. Lay the prepared feather-tip on top of the hook shank with the butt of the feather at the hook eye, color-side of the feather "up". Adjust it so the tip of the feather is a fraction longer than the hook shank, and tie it in with a few thread wraps. Cut away any waste material, finish with a small neat fly head, and whip-finish.

TO FISH this great little dry fly, dress with dry fly floatant and cast to rising trout and let it float along dead-drift. An occasional twitch of the rod tip can help..



BLUE-WINGED OLIVE DRY FLY...the Baetis Family..

Missouri's most important dry fly and emerger patterns with me. And a very important nymph pattern(Pheasant Tail Nymph) to carry. This was the only page in the manual that I had to rewrite. I went on for over five pages the first time. I'm always pressed for space, and we will try to justify the above statements in 3-pages, to include tying instructions. This Baetis(Blue-Winged Olive) family takes to most cold water streams nationwide, but prefers spring-branches. Perfect! Our state park fishing is spring-branch fishing and it's the spring branches that provide the cold water for the trophy-trout waters of the state. Again perfect for the Blue-Winged Olive family. This Baetis family provides us with a hatch most every afternoon from early spring to very late fall...and on any warm sunny afternoon during the winter. On windy days they skitter across the water trying to get airborne. You often think they are small caddis. In rippled water, I've watched them skitter and bounce, trying to get their wings dry and break free of the surface tension. You sometimes again call them little caddis flies. And when you hear me on the river complaining about the trout working the tiny "Grey-Wispy Nothings", it's really the Tiny-Olives. When we see the back and tail of feeding trout sticking out of the water, we think they are taking the floating duns we see on the water. Really those trout are in feeding lanes taking emerging "Olive" nymphs. And we prove it time and again by drifting and skipping the emerger patterns right through the rise-form, and the trout take it, sometimes grab at it. These fish know the Baetis family. The whole family is quick on their feet, when under water. Their shakers and movers. The nymphs dart from one hold to another. The emergers rise in good numbers, moving quickly to the surface. Sometimes in only a small area of the stream at a time. However, at Montauk state park I've watched as a blizzard of them came off the water for an hour or more. At Bennett Springs they are more sporadic. On Meramec River trophy-water, these Blue-Winged Olives are the most reliable hatch of all on any warm afternoon the year around. Let's tie the Baetis Female(Blue-Winged Olive) Midwestern Species, as found on Missouri trout streams...

HOOK: My favorites are TMC 100 sizes 18 thru 22 and Partridge K1a size 24. Or, Mustad 94840 or 33 size 18. Mustad 94859 sizes 20 & 22.

THREAD: Danville prewaxed size 6/0 in colors light-olive #60 or yellow-olive #61

TAIL: Dk. Blue-Dun Micro-Fibrets or Feather-Fibers from a dark-dun dry fly neck(Metz)

HACKLE: My favorite is a dark-dun Metz dry fly neck

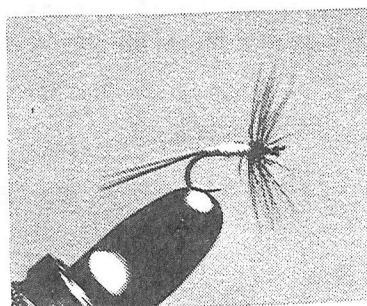
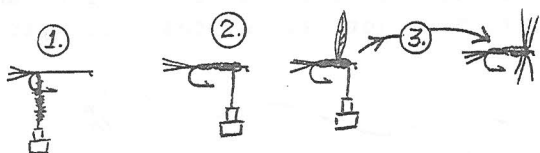
BODY: New SPECTRUM color #53 made to our color specs, thanks again to Fred Horvath

1. Tie in and run the thread to the end of the hook shank. Tie in a sparse tail of dark-dun Micro-fibrets. The tail should be as long as the hook shank. Now pinch-dub the SPECTRUM onto the thread. Note: On size 16 it can be Spin-Dubbed on also.

2. Wrap the thread up to just behind the hook eye, building a fly body as you wrap. Move the thread to a point on the hook shank just behind the fly-head area.

3. Tie in a "sized" dark blue-dun dry fly neck hackle at the waiting-thread with the dull-side of the feather "forward". Using your hackle-pliers, make three to five hackle-wraps and tie off with a few thread-wraps. Cut away waste material, finish the fly head and whip-finish.(Size 20 & smaller, tie as a Dry-Wooly)

TO FISH: Dress the fly with dry-fly floatant. Cast to rising fish, or above rising fish, allowing the fly to dead-drift down the the rise. If you don't get a "take", jerk the fly under and skip it right through the rise form, a dirty-deadly method.



TINY BLUE-WINGED OLIVE "DRY FLY"...continued from BLUE-WINGED OLIVE.

These tiny "grey-whispy nothings" used to drive me crazy trying to match them, and then, not "break-off" when I got the hit. Over the years I finally settled on a tiny dry-wooly pattern to match them. Bud Hockley of Baltimore, Md. started me using bleached and dyed center and side tails from a ringneck pheasant tail for the fly-body. And now, I use the new color #53 SPECTRUM. Both the browns and rainbows take this durable "Tiny-Olive" very well while the hatch is on. And I still tie them using both materials mentioned. If they wont take one, they'll take the other for sure. However it was only this past summer that I whipped the fine-tippet problem. Lets tie the Tiny-Olive...and we are really going to get tiny for this special situation fly. Then, I'll show you how to fish it without breaking the super-fine tippets needed to fish a dry fly in size 20 and smaller. Tied as follows, I have taken up to half a dozen fish without the need to change the fly. Lets tie the TINY BLUE-WINGED OLIVE DRY WOOLY...

HOOK: Mustad 94859 size 20 & 22, Partridge K1A sizes 24, 26 & 28. TMC 100 size 24

THREAD: Danville prewaxed size 6/0 #60 Lt. Olive or #2 Cream

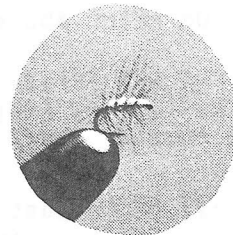
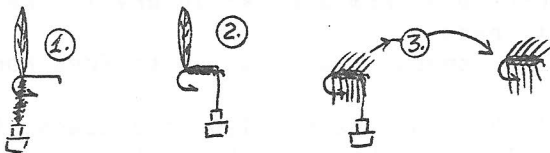
HACKLE: Light or Dark Blue-Dun and Sandy-Dun dry fly neck hackle. Metz, CQH etc

BODY: Two feather-fibers from ringneck pheasant tail feather or SPECTRUM #53

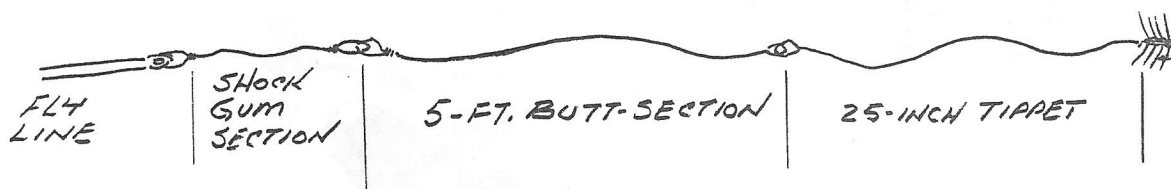
1. Tie the thread in and run it to the end of the hook shank. Tie in a sized and prepared dun dry fly neck hackle with the dull-side of the feather facing you. Tie in two feather-fibers from a cock ringneck pheasant tail feather. Tie them in at the same time by their tip-top ends. With close thread-wraps, wrap the thread up the hook shank to just behind the hook eye. NOTE: If SPECTRUM is used, dub it onto the thread before wrapping the thread up to the hook eye. Then wrap and build the fly body as you wrap. My favorite body material for this pattern is SPECTRUM #53.

2. OR..wrap the two pheasant tail feather-fibers in close-wraps(touching) up to the hook eye and tie in with a couple of thread-wraps. Cut away the waste material.

3. In wide-wraps to allow the body color to show through, palmer-wrap the dun hackle up the hook shank to the waiting thread and tie in with a several thread-wraps, and whip-finish the fly head. Remember to cut away waste material as you tie.



TO FISH: READ CAREFULLY>>>to fish a midge dry fly, dress it with dry fly floatant. And float the fly dead-drift. An occasional twitch of the rod-tip wont hurt. And you must use a very light "leader-tippet". To greatly reduce the risk of breaking-off on the "take", or while playing the fish...do this. Make a 6 to 10 inch "SHOCK-GUM" section with a "perfection-loop" in both ends. Loop-to-loop the SHOCK-GUM SECTION to your fly line. Then loop-to-loop your leader butt-section of 5-6 feet in length to the end of the SHOCK-GUM section. To the loop in the end of your leader-butt section..add a 22 to 30 inch tippet of 8X leader-tippet material or clear "nylon sewing-thread". Add this to the end of your leader butt-section..loop to loop. I have been taking trout on these tiny dry-fly "midges" up to 15-inches, without breaking a single fish off. With care, much larger fish can be handled on this "rig". I just have not had the chance....yet.



F-C BLUE-WINGED OLIVE EMERGER

You can use the Blue-Winged Olive and the Tiny Olive dry flies on the preceeding pages as emergers "in a pinch". If you have allowed them to FLOAT dead-drift over a rise-form or sighted trout without a response try this. Allow the fly to float up to a foot or so in front of the fish or rise-form...then jerk the fly under with your rod-tip and skip the fly right past his nose or thru the rise-form. Its a double-barreled method of fishing a Dry and EMERGER at the same time..it works!! However, to be specific about the patterns we use to fool a sighted-fish or or known location of a fish provides us with the most enjoyment as fly tyers and fly fishers. And the following pattern is my Blue-Winged Olive EMERGER, pre-tested over the years for you. The V-Notch method of hackling allows us to use feathers of the correct color and texture, regardless of their size(over-size feathers are not a problem, see V-NOTCH HACKLING in front of this manual).

HOOK: Mustad 3906 sizes 16 & 18. TMC 3769 size 16 & 18

THREAD: Danville 6/0 Cream #2 & color fly-head brown with felt-pen as last tying step

BODY: SPECTRUM #53 pale yellow-olive

WING: Dark Blue-dun feather tyed in length of body or less using V-Notch method

HACKLE: Brown Hungarian Partridge feather-fibers tyed on under-side of fly-body

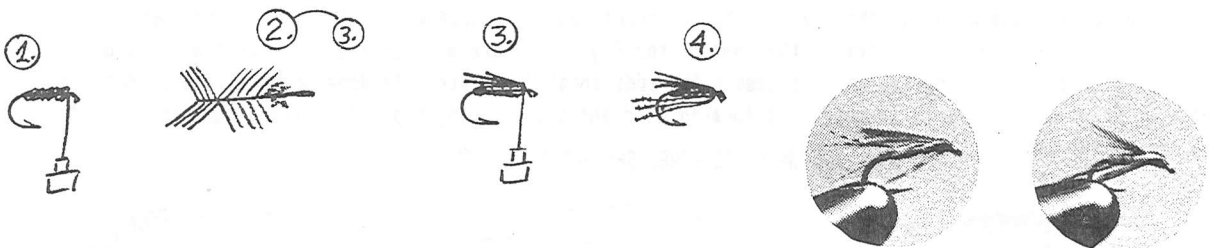
1. Tye in and run thread to end of hook-shank. Pinch-Dub a sparse-line of SPECTRUM #53 on thread and wrap thread up hook-shank to hook-eye, building a slightly tapered fly body as you wrap. Tye in behind hook-eye with a few thread-wraps.

2. V-NOTCH your dk. dun feather like this(color-side up). Discard tip-end.. 

3. Arrange feather-fibers so your working with 4-feather-fibers on each side of the stem . Lay V-NOTCHED portion of feather-fibers on top of hook-shank...just behind the hook-eye and color-side UP. Tye in with a few "SOFT" thread-wraps. Adjust the FEATHER FIBER LENGTH by pulling the feather-fibers forward thru the SOFT thread-wraps until the feather-fibers equal the FLY BODY LENGTH..OR LESS. Firm up the Soft Thread-Wraps. Cut out the "waste-portion" of dun-hackle or feather.

4. V-NOTCH a brown HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE feather. Arrange 4-feather-fibers(per step 3.) on each side of the feather-stem. Lay the feather on top of the hook-shank, color-side up..with these "working-fibers" only, sticking to the rear of the fly. Tye them in with a few SOFT-WRAPPS. With fingers on your left-hand, hold these "working-fibers" to the "under-side" of the fly body. Gently pull the "fibers" forward until their tip-ends extend to the hook-bend or even slightly past it. Firm up the soft-wraps securing them in place. Finish the fly head and color it brown with a felt-tip marking-pen.

TO FISH: Cast above sighted fish or rise. Allow fly to sink & skip it past his nose or thru the rise-form. OR..allow it to dead-drift with the current thru the "rise-form".



BLUE-WINGED OLIVE NYMPH...I like the Pheasant Tail Nymph pattern. Fish it at any depth, dead-drift. And dont be afraid to "skip" it along gently with your rod-tip.

DOUG'S SHOE-HOPPER, grasshopper pattern by Doug Christian

Doug Christain, math teacher and innovative fly tyer..gave us this fun pattern to tie. Doug is one of our favorite fly tyers and has shared his knowledge by demonstrating his tying techniques at FFF meetings and also at our retail store. We print the pattern as-done, on his computer. Do grasshopper-patterns work? Ask Charlie Slaughter. Aug. 30, 1986 he picked off a 4-1/2 pound rainbow just below the first waterfall at Bennett Springs Park on his own grasshopper-pattern!!

Hook: Mustad 9672,9671,94831 2X-3X long size 6-12

Tail: a few hackle fibers red or orange

Underbody: thinly dubbed body 2/3 of hook, color of main body

Body: 1/16X1/16 to 1/8X1/8 yellow section of beach tog (closed cell foam) trimmed with scissors to conform to hopper's body length of hook.

Wing Case: lacquered feather section of ringneck, turkey tail, or synthetic marked with brown marker

Legs: 2 knotted yellow medium living rubber tied as kickers on side of body.

Head and hackle: natural or yellow-dyed deer body hair tied bullet style

Alternate color combinations include shades of olive green, tan, or black depending on availability and color of the closed cell foam.

NOTE: Because of "materials-used", the fly may not be legal in certain "ZONES" at the State Trout Parks. Check the regulations.

Tying instructions:

Step 1: Using tying thread wind over entire hook and attach tail. Thinly dub a body of yellow dubbing up 2/3 of the hook shank.

Step 2: Cut a section of shoe crossways about 1/16 inch thick. Then cut 1/16 inch thick of the selection in the color selected. Trim the section to length of hook from eye to bend. This will allow about 1/3 body to over hang the tail when placed on the body. Shape the section slightly tapered at the tail but leave the front section square. Tie the shoe section on top of the dubbed body in three sections (about 4 turns each section). When finished the body will have three sections on the mid 1/3 of the hook.

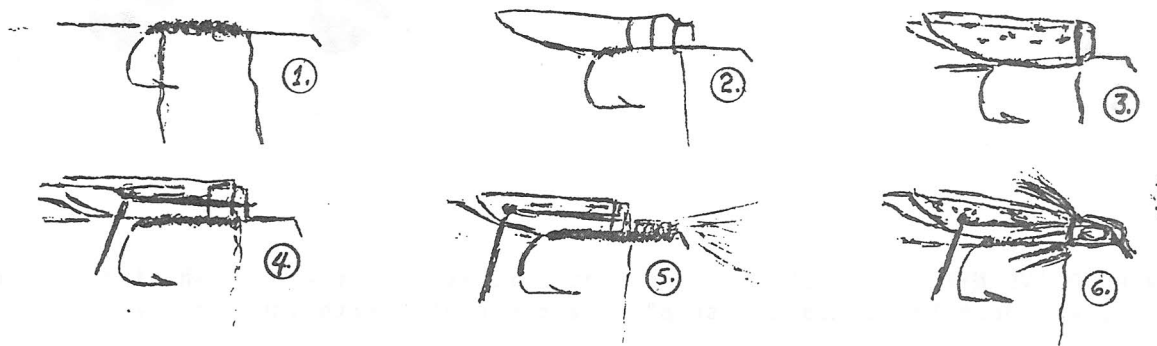
Step 3: Shape the feather or synthetic over wing for length so that it almost extends to the tip of the shoe body and secure around the body at the first section.

Step 4: Tie an overhead knot in each of two medium yellow rubber strands and tightly secure at the first body section so that the rubber knot is approximately at the hook bend and the other ends of the rubber legs hang down. Make two additional light turns in the second section surrounding legs and body so that the legs do not severely extend away from the body and advance to the first section. Twist the rubber legs a bit to position them properly and add a few drops of head cement to the windings. Trim the ends of the legs evenly to end just below the hook and advance thread in front of body.

Step 5: Cut a section of the deer body hair (approximately as thick as a kitchen match). Stack the tips evenly and cut to the hook length. If you measured the body properly the total length of the tips to be used will be the same size. Secure the deer hair in front of the body with the tips facing forward. Wrap the thread over the deer hair to the eye of the hook and return thread to the body.

Step 6: For durability the wraps at the head of the fly should now be soaked with thinned Pliobond. After cementing bring the deer hair tips back to the rear of the fly and secure with thread and whip finish. I usually coat the head with clear nail polish or head cement for additional durability. If done properly:1/3 of deer hair is wrapped on front third, 1/3 is wrapped back forming head and the flaring tips will extend back around body covering 1/3 of the body.

FOR LACK OF SPACE HERE..SEE PHOTO ON PAGE "D".



The DRY WOOLY SERIES of dry flys.

These are my survival flys. I have taken more trout on the Dry-Wooly series of dry flys than all other dry flys combined. My Wispy Blue-Winged Olives's are Dry-Wooly's. I have been writing about Dry-Wooly's for years in our F-C bulletins. And I keep getting better at selecting hooks, hackle and body materials for this series of trout flys. A Dry-Wooly is tied to display the SIZE, SHAPE AND COLOR of the fly body and is supported on the water by a quality dry fly hackle, Palmer-Wrapped "sparse". Never tie the pattern with a wing. Almost never. The Colorado King and The Elk Hair Caddis are two Dry-Wooly's tied with a wing to imitate the caddis fly. No quarrel, but they are not true DRY-WOOLY's..because they are tied with a wing. And I've heard the novice tyer call the DRY-WOOLY a Bi-Visible and even a Wooly Worm. Tied correctly, the DRY-WOOLY dry flys are beautiful and will fool the most selective trout.

At one time in my life I was 23, lived in a 3rd floor apartment in San Francisco with a beautiful blue-eyed girl(my wife). I owned a Chevy-wagon and had no responsibility. Occupation..fly tying material supplier. We took off to fish every trout stream in northern California and points east. We camped on spots that are parking lots now. People stand 10-rows and more deep to watch water and steam squirt from the ground. We camped next to the Merced River on the floor of Yosemite Valley and would never see another fly fisher working the water. The limit on trout was a foolish-15. We caught large wild trout until size was of less concern than being able "to fool" a selective trout at will. I've never stopped working on this "at will" thing.

We liked the way of life so well, that we repeated it again the following year(1958). Sea-run steelhead ruined my fly reels in the winter and early spring, and I lost far more fish than I ever landed. Even so, the memory excites me even today. A sea-run steelhead on a fly rod is never forgot. As quick as the snow was off the pass to the high Sierra, we left the coastal fishing for the mountains. Name a stream in northern California and points east..and we had fished it last week, or would be headed that way next week. Trout fishing bums. We of course would pay our dues for the 30-years to follow. Mortgages, kids, college, 8-day weeks at the business. Now, I've about come full circle. Daughter Robyn, out of college and in nursing school. And she will be married this fall to a fine young man with degrees in engineering and computers. You no longer see her at the store. Son Bob, in college now, runs the store a couple of afternoons a week and on Saturday with help from fly tyer Chris Vogt. And dad..dad is again looking to the open road. The blue-eyed girl picked up a bad habit called responsibility along the way. I hate it, and im working on her. I keep showing her photos of how we looked in the mountains, sun tanned..care-free.

After Bennett Springs as a boy, the mountain streams were a challenge. However, with all the fun we had along with the learning process on taking wild trout on the fly..there was one finding of real concern to me. It was tough keeping our fly boxes filled. I began tying Dry-Wooly's "in all sizes", using the same body color on everything. And the trout didn't seem to care. The dubbing was a fur blend in a color that could be called "pale March Brown". The hackle was ginger or furnace, as these colors were common and available. For nymphs, I added seal hair from my costal seal hunting trips. Keep in mind that in the 50's, the state of California considered the hair seal a varment. To bag a seal, you hit him between the eyes with a 180 grain 30.06 bullet. You then ran down and into the surf with a surf casting rod and plug. Three minutes you had, to cast past the floating seal, reel the plug up to it and snag it. The seal would then sink and you would guide it in with the surf. A seal is to heavy to reel in, in case you decide to try this. And always skin the seal with the wind at your back(whew). Try that little trick today and you will have a riot and jail term to deal with. BUT, one-color for all of those fly bodies? And trout took them as if they had never read the book on selectivity. Does it really mean size, shape and body color is all there is to it? Of course not. I hope not, or there would be little need for this manual and many of the books we all own. So today we tie them in colors to match the hatches we fish to. A Dry-Wooly is not where it ends, but its where many successful dry fly tyers and fisher begin(began). Start with Dry-Wooly's, and your love will grow for dry fly fishing because of the success your having, and your talent for tying other type dry fly patterns will grow and continue to improve while your having all that success. Now how can you beat that?

THE F-C CRACKLEBACK DRY WOOLLY

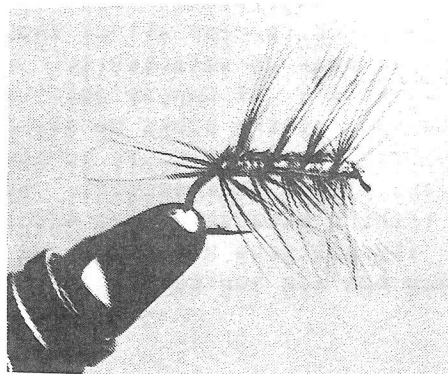
Without question, the CRACKLEBACK is the most popular fly from my personally developed collection of trout fly patterns. Its fished nationwide and has been in our nationally distributed fly tying bulletins for the past 12-years. Its a favorite on western river float trips. Its dressed with silicon-gel and fished as a "dry" as intended. If the fly sinks in fast water, its simply "skipped" under the surface with the rod tip. On the next cast, it'll float again. Frankly, this is the method used by most fly fishers. Fish it as a dry, if you dont get a hit..jerk the fly under and skip it along with your rod tip. I have been tying the pattern since the late 1950's. Its a take-off from a popular wet-wooly of that time, tyed with a chenille body and natural raffia pulled over the back, full length of the hook-shank. In the early 1960's I named the fly after a bass plug made by Bill Walters of Jasonville, Ind. It too had a pale olive body with a crinkly-green back. Lets tie the F-C CRACKLEBACK DRY WOOLY..

HOOK: Mustad 94840 size 10 (original) TMC 5210 & as small as you can find hackle
THREAD: Danville 6/0 prewaxed, color #100 black
CRACKLEBACK: Two strands of peacock herl
BODY: SPECTRUM #20 pale olive
HACKLE: India FURNACE saddle hackle, Or FURNACE neck hackle for the small sizes

1. Tie the thread in and run it to the end of the hook-shank. Select a long narrow India "furnace" saddle-hackle. Size and prepare it, then tie it in at the end of the end of the hook-shank, dull-side facing you. Tie in 2-strands of peacock herl at the end of the hook-shank..and tie them in so they are on-top of the end of the hook-shank.

2. The thread is still at the end of the hook shank and we are now going to dub with SPECTRUM. You will see that SPECTRUM is a continuous synthetic, very soft fiber. It comes packaged in a "hank". Tease off from the hank..a sparse continuous piece(strand). You now should have a sparse strand of SPECTRUM a little over two inches long. Lay the SPECTRUM piece under the thread close to the hook-shank..and with moistened fingers, roll the end close to the hook shank onto the thread. Roll it in one direction only. The balance of the strand is hanging loose. Where its now rolled on the thread..push it up to the hook shank, and using your bobbin, make two thread wraps around the hook shank..locking the SPECTRUM to the end of the hook-shank. With your E-Z MINI HACKLE PLIER, grab the other end of the SPECTRUM-STRAND and the thread AT THE SAME TIME. Firmly hold the bobbin out to your chest, making a shaft of the thread. Spin the E-Z MINI-HACKLE PLIER COUNTER-CLOCKWISE (like a propeller) around the thread. Instantly you have a fly body spin-dubbed on the thread. Now pinch the SPECTRUM and thread with your left hand fingers, while you remove the hackle-plier and shift the "pinched" thread and new fly body to your right(tying-hand). Wrap the now dubbed fly body on the hook shank and up to just behind the hook-eye. Tie it in with a few thread wraps. Cut away waste.

3. Lay the two strands of peacock herl over the top of the fly body and tie in behind the hook eye. Do not pull the peacock strands to tight as we are going to wrap the hackle over them. Leave a tiny amount of slack in the herl. Palmer-wrap the furnace saddle hackle forward in wide-wraps so plenty of fly body color shows thru the wraps. And notice because we used a furnace hackle, the fly body automatically has a black rib. Tie the hackle in just behind the hook-eye, finish the fly head and whip-finish.



DRY-WOOLY SPIDERS and MAYFLYS

I tried to say it all on another page in this manual. I have more respect for this series of dry flys than all other dry flys combined. Other patterns are more complicated and fun to tie. For catching trout, no other dry fly pattern that I have tied or fished can beat the Dry-Wooly. And when tied correctly, their beautiful. You can tie Dry-Wooly's as small as you can find the dry fly hackle to tie them with. I tie them down to size 24 when using hackle from Metz, and other quality dry fly necks. I use SPECTRUM, floss and feather-fibers from pheasant tails for the fly bodies. SPECTRUM synthetic material was developed by my long time friend Dr. Fred Horvath of Southport, Ct. He's been a great help in developing colors to our specifications. And SPECTRUM can now be found in most fly shops. I've had so much success with the theory..that its the fly body "size, shape and color", floated on a fine quality dry fly hackle, tied sparse...that really fools em. And I've fished these patterns everywhere with equal success. I tie all dry-fly patterns, you should do the same. However, after tying and fishing this series of dry flys, you will never be without them. And a number of fish can be taken on the same fly before its necessary to change. Its a durable fly. Lets tie the Lt. Cahill, Adams, Hendrickson and Spiders...

NOTE: The tying method is the same for all. Simply alter the body and hackle colors. The DRY-WOOLY SPIDER series is tied on short-shank hooks like Mustad 94838, TMC 100 etc

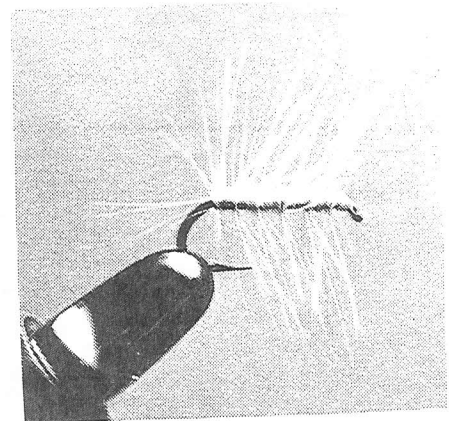
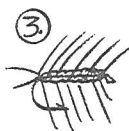
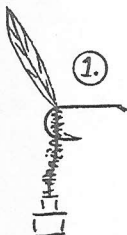
HOOK: Mustad 94840,33,38 & 59. TMC 100 & 101. Partridge L3A & K1A dry fly hooks
THREAD: Danville 6/0 prewaxed in a color to match the body color
BODY: SPECTRUM brand dry fly body material. Select a color to match the pattern
HACKLE: The best quality available. On size 10 & 12, India saddle hackle can be used. Select the long narrow webb-free saddles of dry fly quality. The shorter saddles of dry fly quality can be used on the short-shank hooks when tying the spider series in size 12 (Mustad 94838 size 12 is a popular SPIDER hook)

1. Put a 94840 size 12 in your vise. Tie in with yellow 6/0 thread and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank. Size and prepare a pale ginger or creme dry fly hackle, and tie it in at the end of the hook-shank with the dull-side of the feather facing you. Using #31 SPECTRUM, Spin-Dub a fly body on the thread using the Spin-Dub method found on the "Dubbing methods" page of this manual. Learn this dubbing method now.

2. Wrap the now dubbed fly body clockwise up the hook-shank in tight wraps and tie it in just behind the hook-eye with a few thread wraps. Cut away waste material.

3. With your hackle plier, Palmer-Wrap the hackle in wide-even wraps up to the waiting thread and tie it in with a few thread-wraps. Finish the fly head and whip-finish. We want wide hackle-wraps to allow that tightly wrapped segmented body to show through.

TO FISH: Dress the fly with dry fly floatant. Cast the fly above rising fish and allow it to dead-drift on the surface down to them. If you dont get a "take" after several attempts, jerk the fly just under the surface with your rod-tip, and skip the fly through the rise-forms. Its a deadly combination of dry fly and emerger fishing with the same fly. Even if no rises are apparent, you can wade along casting, floating and skipping this type dry fly as a "Search-Pattern".



RENEGADE...king of the "Fore & Aft patterns.

I must confess to not tying or fishing the Renegade pattern. And that's not smart. The Renegade is a most popular fly pattern at Bennett Springs and other state parks. And a favorite of those living and fishing the mid-Rocky Mountain states. Son Bob & I have watched fly fishers work Colorado's East River and Gunnison using a Renegade. We have always done so well with Dry Woolly's and other patterns on these same waters, that we have never added the Renegade to our collection of trout fly patterns. Because we don't fish the Renegade, we have asked Charlie Reading to tie the fly for the photo on this page, and give us his tying instructions for you to consider. Charlie operates Reading's Fly Shop near Bennett Springs State Park, and is also known for his beautiful custom made fly rods. Charlie has fished New Zealand, Florida Keys and most recently, Christmas Island. Also, most of the important streams both east & west in the United States. He just sent us a photo of an 8-1/2 pound bonefish taken Sept. 14, 1986. Its Oct 1986 as I type this, so that fish is still fresh in his mind im sure. Charlie sends the following instructions for tying the RENEGADE...

HOOK: TMC 5212 (first choice) Mustad 9671 or 9672 & 94840 in that order

THREAD: Danville 6/0 black #100 or Sue Burgess..both "waxed"

BODY: Peacock herl, single strand wrapped over thread-body with tacky cement

RIB: "Reversed-wrapped" with fine to very fine gold wire

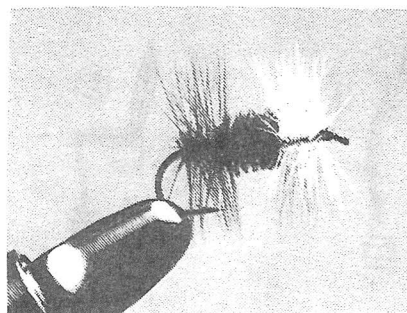
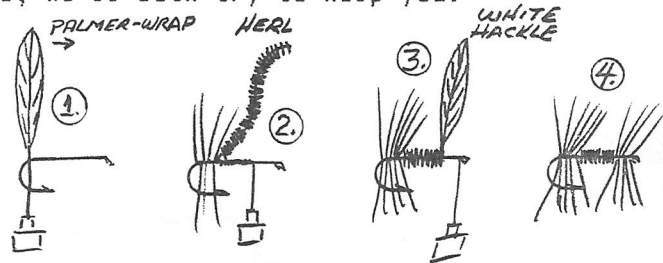
HACKLE: "Back-hackle" Dark or Coachman Brown, "front-hackle" White or barred cream

1. I (Charlie) prefer a long-shank hook for the Renegade since I use it as a dry fly and a wet fly. Also the longer-shank hook allows for a neat proportioned fly. I tie the Renegade in 1/3rds (1/3 back hackle, 1/3 peacock body, 1/3 front hackle). After stripping off the feather-fibers in preparing the hackle, tie the hackle in a little below where the feather-fibers begin...this allows the hackle to "square" off rather than "tailing-off" over the hook-bend. Repeat this procedure when tying in the front hackle also.

2. When tying in the peacock-herl, I prefer to use one (full) strand of peacock-herl, and wind-in over a thread body. This allows the herl to "breathe" or appear fuller when fished as a wet, than when using 2 to 3 strands and twisting them together with thread, forming a "rope" of herl.

....me again (Ed), we will try to diagram the tying steps for you. And some tyers like a gold "tag" on a Renegade. Im going to try and explain how you do this without leaving a "lump". Tie the thread in and run it to the end of the hook-shank. Tie in a length of fine flat gold tinsel. Wrap the tinsel in close-tight wraps almost half-way down the bend of the hook, and wrap it back over-itself to one wrap short of the first wrap tied in. Holding the tinsel in your hand with pressure on it..un-do the thread on the first-wrap of tinsel tied in, and cut that wrap of tinsel out. Continue to wrap the tinsel held under pressure in your hand to that point where you just cut the one tinsel-wrap out..and wrap the tinsel in your hand up to that spot on the hook-shank and tie it in with a couple of thread-wraps. And as you can see..no "lump".

And if your not sure about any of this, check with Charlie at his place, or stop by our store, we'll both try to help you.



The BLACK AND YELLOW MARABOU STREAMER

This easy to tie little marabou streamer is the most popular marabou color combination at Missouri State Parks. At Bennett Springs State Park its near impossible to find a trout fisher without this streamer in his fly box or sticking out of a sheep skin band on his hat. I have used this streamer on the Truckee River in California before the snow was off the ground with great success on browns and on my late April trips to the Beaverkill in New York it was always the first fly used while I searched the water for first signs of the Hendrickson hatch. Yet I never once saw or heard of this little streamer used or discussed by "regulars" on these waters. And its an old timer. I started fishing the fly at Bennett Springs State Park in the early 1950's and simply took it for granted that fly fishers everywhere used the pattern. It could truly be a Missouri trout fly pattern. Let me know, if you know different.

Marabou plumes and shorts are from the flanks and rear of common domestic turkeys. And there on the same places on wild turkey in dark dun colors that I have never been able to match with a dye. Area fly tyer Ed Frederick gave me a supply this past spring. High quality domestic turkey plumes are hard to find today as commercial turkeys are now raised to reach full weight maturity in the shortest possible time without regard for feather quality. For that reason I prefer to tie my marabou streamers with the "blood-feathers" as they are called in the trade. Washed, bleached and dyed they are then sold as dyed marabou "shorts" one to three inches of beautiful fluff. These little "shorts" will tie several patterns using one-fluff, or use part of the fluff in one color and part of another in a different color for multi-colored streamers. We'll tie several here. They are now the favorite of fly tyers everywhere that know how to use them. The longer 3 to 4-1/2 inch "bloods" are strung as premium marabou and also a favorite. Marabou-shorts and the slightly longer STRUNG marabou offer the best quality in marabou available today.

Regardless of the type marabou being used, hold the fluff verticle and gently blow on it to remove the excess dye particles and to arrange the fluff. Lets tie the BLACK AND YELLOW MISSOURI MARABOU STREAMER...

HOOK: Mustad 3906 or 3906-B, TMC 3761 or 3769 sizes 10 thru 14 most popular
THREAD: Danville pre-waxed 6/0, color black
BODY: Gold or silver tinsel, or the new "Pearlescent" Flat Tinsel or Glitter-Body
WINGING: Bottom wing, yellow marabou. Top wing, black marabou

1. Put a Mustad 3906 or 3906-B size 12 hook in your vise. Tie in and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank.
2. Cut a length of medium size Mylar gold or silver tinsel three inches long. Most Mylar tinsel is gold one side, silver the other. For this pattern we are using medium size Mylar. And we will tie it in with the silver-side facing us. When wrapped clockwise the gold side will show on the hook shank.
3. Cut one end of the Mylar piece at an angle and tie it in at the end of the hook shank with the silver-side of the Mylar facing you. Wrap the thread one wrap touching in front of the other up to just behind the hook-eye. The thread forming a base to wrap the tinsel over. Wrap the tinsel clockwise, passing it from hand to hand in very close, maybe slightly over-lapping wraps up to just behind the hook-eye and tie in. Now move the thread about three wraps back down the hook-shank. This being the spot on the hook shank that we will tie in the first "wing" of marabou.
4. Select a marabou-short or plume, and arrange a medium-sparse group of barbles in your fingers to be held while you cut them off at the stem of the feather. Tie them in on top of the hook-shank at the waiting thread, and measured so the tip-ends of the group of barbles sticks out past the end of the hook-shank about an inch or less. You'll decide how you like yours as you go. Many worry about short-strikes. I dont. Now, cut away the waste yellow-marabou close to the hook-shank. Prepare a medium-sparse group of black marabou as you did the yellow. Tie the black-marabou in just in front of the yellow marabou...so close that there is a fraction of over-lap. It should appear that it is tied on top of the yellow even though its a fraction of an inch in front of the yellow to avoid a "bulky" spot.

5. Carefully trim away any remaining waste material, wrap a neat bullet shaped fly head and whip-finish. Apply a small drop of penetrating type head cement and allow to dry. Another coat or two will add weight to the fly and help bond the bulky marabou fibers together. Always use a penetrating head cement. Rubber base cements and nail polish simply coat the threads without penetrating and bonding the material together.



NOTE: See photo, bottom page 22.

TO FISH THE MARABOU STREAMERS....

Its hard to fish them wrong. Many would argue they must be fished deep, just off the bottom. Yet I have fished them on the end of a dry fly leader around the moss and near the far bank at Bennett Springs with great success. Other days were tougher...but thats the way it is with any fly pattern..thank God. We'd all be bored with it,if one fly did it all, however you would be in very good shape if the one fly was a Black And Yellow Marabou Streamer. Lets tie a couple of more patterns using "Marabou-Shorts".

THE F-C MARABOU LEECH...

You may well know about this pattern. I started tying it the first time I saw a marabou-short. Its now fished nationwide as I have had the pattern in so many of our bulletins. The largest trout I know of caught while fishing this pattern was an 8-1/2 pounder during the winter season by St. Louis area fly fisher Jerry Clark. I get notes from fly fishers everywhere regarding their success with this pattern. Put a Mustad 3906-B size 10 in your vise.

HOOK: Mustad 3906-B, 3906..TMC 3761 or 1/80th or 100 oz jig all in size 10

THREAD: 3/0 or 6/0 Danville prewaxed, color black #100

TAIL AND BODY: Tied using marabou shorts. Any color combo, black and yellow here

1. Tie the thread in and run it to the end of the hook-shank. Using the tip end of a yellow marabou-short, tie it in for the tail, leaving it extend a hook shank length past the bend of the hook or less.

2. Select a black marabou-short and smooth "back" the barbles from its tip-top end so that it can be tied in by its tip-top end....at the end of the hook-shank.

3. Run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye. With your hackle plier, grab the butt end of the marabou-short and palmer-wrap it up to just behind the hook-eye and tie it in with the waiting thread on your bobbin. Put several firm wraps in. It'll be fuzzy and a little bulky, but you know where just-behind the hook-eye is on the hook shank. With the fingers on your left-hand, hold the barbles out of the way as you whip finish the fly head. Apply a small drop of penetrating head cement. When dry, add another.



NOTE: See photo, bottom page 22. (Fig.2)

This pattern is so easy to tie, and so effective. It will tease out a brown or rainbow from behind any rock in any stream or lake. Fish the F-C Streamer Leech deep, using a sink-tip fly line or split-shot a foot above the fly, or 6 to 36 inches of "lead-core section" on the end of the butt-section of your leader, with no more than 12 inches of tippet. Fish it deep, and before you do...work the fly in the water just in front of you. Notice the fly action, then duplicate that action with your rod tip as the fly works just off the stream or lake bottom. Along with our F-C Crackleback, this pattern has been in our bulletins for over 10-years, its been that popular.

F-C MARABOU DAMSEL FLY

This easy to tie marabou-pattern has been a favorite of many F-C Bulletin readers for years. It can be tied on a hook or fly rod size jig. Your going to like this pattern because it is easy to tie..and it takes trout!

HOOK: Mustad 9671, TMC 5262 sizes 10 thru 14. Fly rod size jigs 1/00th & 1/80th oz

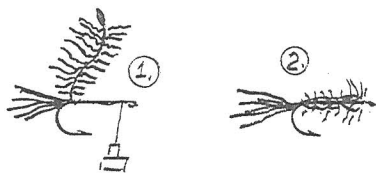
THREAD: Danville 6/0 or 3/0 in a color to match the marabou color

TAIL

& BODY: One Marabou-Short ties the whole fly

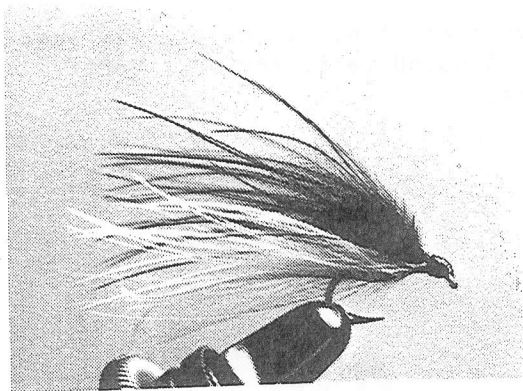
1. Tie the thread in and run it to the end of the hook-shank. Smooth a marabou-short back thru your fingers..leaving the tip-top end of the plume sticking out for a tail the length of the hook-shank or slightly longer. Run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye(or to the lead-head for a jig.

2. Take the balance of the marabou-short sticking-up at the end of the hook-shank..and smooth it thru your fingers, twisting it slightly. Now begin wrapping it up the hook shank CLOCKWISE..one wrap in front of the other to the waiting thread behind the hook-eye. Tie it in with several thread-wraps and cut away the waste marabou-short. Finish the fly head and whip-finish. Apply a drop of penetrating head cement to the fly head.



TO FISH: Fish as you would a marabou streamer. And try fishing this pattern just under the surface by holding your rod-tip high, keeping the fly at the desired depth(4-10 inches under the surface)

ANOTHER very good marabou streamer is Keith Fulsher's MARABOU SHINER, page 51 of his fine little book on tying the THUNDER CREEK STREAMERS. Keith sent me a copy of this book in 1973, and I still refer to it. And always carry a couple of the patterns. I like them best in fast rippled water. I refer you to Keith's book for tying instructions for all of his streamer patterns.



Black And Yellow Marabou Streamer



F-C Streamer Leech

SKIPPING WOOLY'S....Terry Stratmann's sub-surface ginger.

Missouri has the best Skipping-Wooly fly fishers. I have mentioned this fly and method of fishing a wooly pattern to fly fishermen in other states and often got little more than a stare in return. Some were reluctant to discuss the fly and method. Others admitted they were not sure what I ment. There are hundreds of good skipping wooly fly fishers in Missouri, maybe thousands. I like Terry Stratmann's "ginger" sub-surface Skipping-Wooly. Terry "skips" this pattern just under the surface with his rod tip, not to be confused with "stripping" a wooly, which is to strip fly line in with your hand, causing the fly to move very fast thru the water and also "exciting" a fish to strike. Again Terry "skips" his wooly just under the surface three to twelve inches deep, with the tip of his 8-1/2 foot Sage moderate action fly rod. Terry stopped to say hello on the Maramec Park spring-branch last February, and I "bummed" one of these Ginger-skipping wooly's from him. For the next two hours those winter-season rainbows grabbed this pattern as I moved along the stream "skipping" the wooly with my rod tip. Later that afternoon it slowed down on the "skipping" technique. Chris Vogt, Brian Flinchpaugh, son Bob, George Riebold and I were lined up just above the second water-fall, floating size 10 Cracklebacks dead-drift and all taking winter-rainbows. Be prepared, a good thing can give-out, be ready with a different fly and method. In this case, it was one good fly and method backing up another good fly and fishing method on the same water, the same day. Terry Stratmann teaches art at one of the St. Louis county areas fine high schools. Lets tye his Ginger Skipping-Wooly...

HOOK: Mustad 9671 size 12

THREAD: Danville size 6/0 prewaxed brown #47

BODY: Size FINE Danville #42 ginger chenille

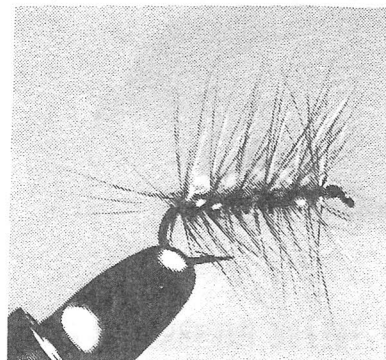
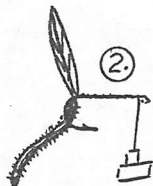
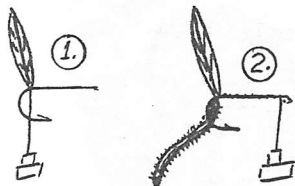
HACKLE: One India ginger saddle hackle

1. Tye in and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank. Size and prepare a long narrow ginger India saddle-hackle and tye it at the end of the hook-shank by its butt end, DULL-SIDE facing you ready to be "palmer-wrapped" later. (see page 5. "Palmer-Wrap")

2. Prepare a length of SIZE-FINE ginger chenille by pulling a small amount of chenille off the thread-core at one end and long enough to wrap full-length of the hook-shank. Tye it in by its prepared-end at the end of the hook shank, and run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye.

3. Wrap the chenille clockwise up to the waiting thread and tye it in with a few thread wraps. With your Hackle pliers, grab the end of the saddle hackle and palmer-wrap the hackle up to the waiting-thread just behind the hook-eye and tye it in with a few thread-wraps. (In each step, cut away the waste material) And when wrapping the hackle, make wide, evenly spaced wraps of 1/16th inch or more between hackle-wraps. Tye the hackle in just behind the hook-eye, finish the fly head and whip-finish.

TO FISH: Cast the fly up and across the stream. With your rod-tip, "skip" the fly just under the surface (3-12 inches deep). Use a tippet of 3-5 pound test, they hit hard. And, Skipping-Wooly's can be tyed in all colors and sizes.



DEEP SKIPPING WOOLY....by Jack Clynes

Jack Clynes is a Missouri resident and general manager of a large Illinois trucking company. He's a regular trout fisher at Bennett Springs State Park and while he ties and fishes a number of different fly patterns, he has a favorite "Deep Skipping Wooly" that is a consistent producer when it's fished deep...just off the bottom is deep. Jack, like other dedicated fly tyers is very particular about the material for this pattern and I have enjoyed watching him lost in thought as he inspects a METZ saddle looking for just the right one. It must be cream, yet have a hint of pale ginger to it. Nothing else will do. This is not a wimpy looking wooly, it's meant to be tied with a bulky looking body of large-chenille with slightly over-sized hackle. It's deadly when skipped just off the stream bottom and I've had good luck with this pattern on Meramec River trophy-water late in the fall of the year, and early winter. This pattern will take those tough browns on North Fork River if you fish it deep. You will have to fish it using a sink-tip fly line or up to 3-feet of lead-core "section" from the end of your leader-butts section. With the sink-tip fly line, use no more than 20-inches of level leader for a tippet. On the "sink-tip section", use no more than 12-inches of level leader tippet. And use 5X, (4-lb test) or more. And try to fish no more than 25-feet from your rod tip on these waters (Meramec and North Fork Rivers). The method takes a lot of fish, but it's horrible to cast. At Bennett Springs, Jack fishes a nine foot Sage moderate action rod, and use leaders nine to twelve feet long, depending on how clear the water is. He's always into fish, let's tie his Deep Skipping Wooly..

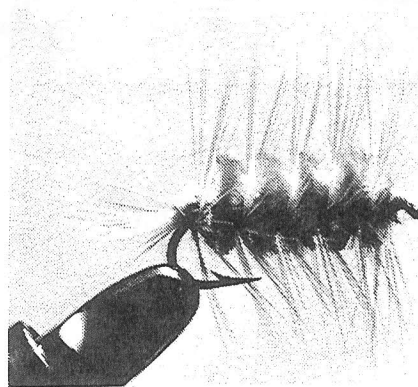
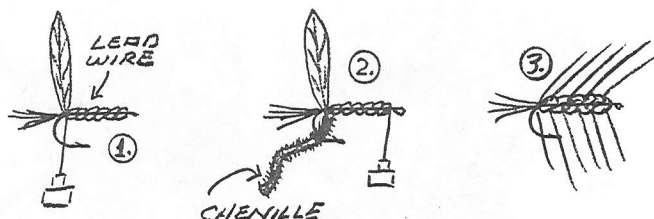
HOOK: Mustad 9672 size 8 or 10
BODY: Danville size-large chenille, color #42 ginger
HACKLE: METZ #2 saddle, creme with hint of ginger
TAIL: 6-8 fibers, same material as hackle
WEIGHTED: .025 or .035 full length of hook shank or front 1/4 of shank
THREAD: Danville prewaxed size 3/0 or 6/0 #4 Lt. Yellow

1. Put a 9672 size 10 hook in your vise. Wrap the full length of the hook-shank with .025 or .035 lead wire. Tie in just behind the hook-eye and build a thread-dam of a few wraps and move the thread to behind the lead-wire at the end of the hook shank and build a thread-dam of a few thread wraps, this is to lock the lead wire in place on the hook shank. Tie in a tail of six feather-fibers taken from near the butt-end of the saddle-hackle. Size and prepare the saddle-hackle and tie it in at the end of the hook shank with the DULL-SIDE of the hackle facing you.

2. Prepare a length of #42 size-large ginger chenille and tie it in at the end of the hook-shank. Now, run the thread on the bobbin up to just behind the hook-eye.

3. Wrap the chenille clockwise in tight-wraps up the hook-shank to the waiting thread and tie in with a few thread-wraps. With your hackle-plier, Palmer-Wrap the saddle-hackle up the hook-shank in wide-even wraps to the waiting thread and tie in with a few thread-wraps. Remember to cut away waste material as you tie. Finish the fly head and whip-finish. Put a drop of penetrating head cement on the fly head.

TO FISH: See above. This fly is weighted to get it deep. Just off the bottom in any depth water is "deep". Skip the fly just off the stream bottom, using your rod-tip.

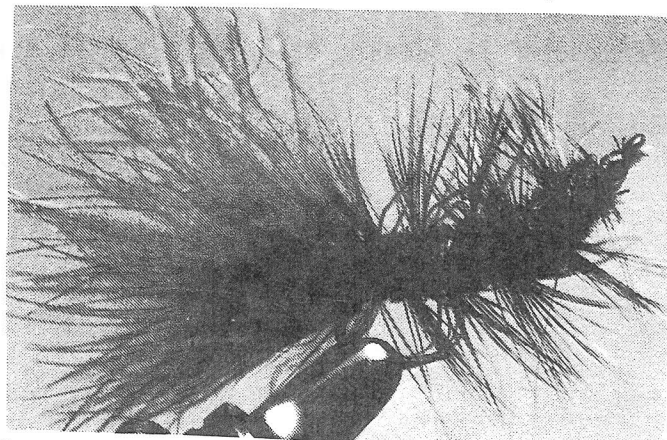
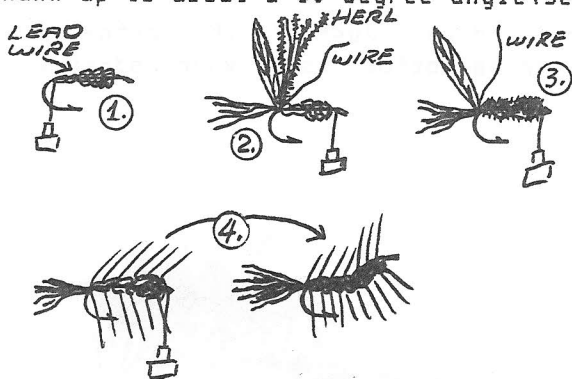


OLIVE WOOLYBUGGER..for fast, deep water...by Peter Mathiesen

Pete ties this Woolybugger pattern for fishing the swift North Fork River in Ozark county. This is a rugged fast river and the best kept secret in the state for large trout. Pete ties this Woolybugger to get DEEEP in fast water. There is nothing fancy about his methods in tying the fly. Its tied rugged to fish rough and tumble water. When Pete selects the olive-marabou for the tail on this fly, he will not accept anything but true olive. That is olive with a strong hint of brown, olive-brown is a better discription of the color. One thing surprised me when he tied the pattern for us. He palmer-wraps the hackle, while many tyers including myself, reverse-palmar wrap the hackle..meaning the hackle facing to the rear of the finished fly for less resistance to the water while sinking. I wont quarrel with Pete's method however. The fly is sitting next to me as I type this, and its got the look big trout like. And he sends the fly DEEEP with lead. Lots of lead-wire on the hook-shank. Then fish it dead-drift. Pete is another Missouri fly fisher that will share his success with you and infact has conducted fly tying sessions in the St. Louis area on behalf of the OZARK FLY FISHERS. He also knows his way around trout waters nationwide. Lets tie...

HOOK: Mustad 9674 in sizes 4, 6 and 8...mostly size 6. TMC 300 sizes 6 & 8
THREAD: Danville prewaxed 3/0 or 6/0 #60 olive
TAIL: Olive marabou, the length of the hook-shank or slightly longer
BODY: Seven to 10 strands of 5 to 7 inch long peacock herl
HACKLE: Dyed olive grizzly-saddle, or grizzly saddle stained olive with a felt pen
WEIGHTED: Full length of the hook-shank & half way back again with .035 lead wire

1. Weight the hook-shank by wrapping .035 lead-wire full-length up the hook-shank to just behind the hook-eye, AND half way back-down the hook-shank. Lock the lead in with thread-dams front and back with the thread ending up at the end of the hook-shank.
2. At the end of the hook-shank tie in a tail of olive-marabou about as long as the hook shank. Tie in a long dyed-olive grizzly saddle hackle with the DULL-SIDE facing you. Tie in 7 to 10 strands of long peacock-herl. Tie in a length of fine or medium copper-wire. ALL OF THESE MATERIALS ARE TYED IN AT THE END OF THE HOOK-SHANK. Now run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye. Let it hang there on the bobbin.
3. Wrap the peacock herl forward all at the same time, one wrap in front of the other up to just behind the hook-eye and tie in. Note: If the peacock herl you have is not long enough to make it up to the hook-eye when wound in as the body, tie more of it in where it runs out with a few thread wraps. Simply tie in 7-10 new strands of peacock herl and continue wrapping the fly body up to the waiting thread. Tie the peacock herl in with a few thread wraps, and cut away the waste material.
4. Palmer-Wrap the saddle-hackle in wide-even wraps up the hook-shank to the waiting thread and tie it in with a few thread-wraps. Carefully wrap the wire-rib forward and in-between the hackle-wraps to the thread at the hook-eye and tie-in. Finish the fly head and whip-finish. NOW, place your right thumb half-way down and on top of the hook shank. Using the first two fingers on your right hand..bend the front half of the hook shank up to about a 30-degree angle(see photo). Put a drop of cement on the fly head.



The PHEASANT TAIL NYMPH

Famous English river keeper, writer and professional fly tyer Frank Sawyer made the Pheasant Tail Nymph popular as we know it today. His method of tying was different, but the end result looks about like yours or mine. Frank Sawyer used no thread, he wrapped the fly with a blend of fibers from a cock ringneck pheasant center-tail feather and fine copper wire. His pattern was tied without leg representation in the thorax area as in his studies of live nymphs he found that most nymphs tuck their legs against their body while swimming. Had I ever the chance to discuss this pattern with Mr. Sawyer, I would have asked him why he never mentioned it tied with the fibers from the "side" feather on the same pheasant tail as it takes on an olive-color. And the same nymph tied with the fibers from a hen pheasant tail takes on a march-brown color. No matter, nothing stops you and I from tying them using these materials.

Frank Sawyer tied two other patterns that are not as well known as his Pheasant Tail Nymph. The GREY GOOSE and the KILLER BUG. These were also tied without thread. Copper wire was blended with the material while "wrapping" the nymph to completion. The Killer-Bug was like the well known "Army Worm", a famous pattern at Missouri State Parks, its made from yarn un-ravelled from olive O.D.(olive-drab) army socks. Frank used Chadwick Wool in a lighter color. The GREY GOOSE pattern is tied like the Pheasant Tail Nymph, using the fine copper wire..but the feather-fibers are from a grey goose wing quill. It must be a tame grey goose that has an olive-grey color to it. While I found a reliable supplier in India for the fine copper wire, I have never found a reliable supplier for this goose wing quill, even though its common in great numbers in China and Holland. I meet with our suppliers from all over the world every August and continue to look for this quill in big numbers. To be so exacting is not always necessary, but its part of the total enjoyment of being a fly tyer. And most of our customers nationwide will have it no other way. I agree.

HOOK: Mustad 9671 & 3906-B. TMC 3761 sizes 14 thru 18. My favorite, TMC 3761
THREAD: Danville 6/0 prewaxed color #47
RIB: Fine copper wire from India is the correct size and color
TAIL & BODY: Feather-fibers from a cock ringneck pheasant center tail feather
WINGCASE & THORAX: Same as TAIL & BODY

1. Tie the thread in and run it to the end of the hook-shank. Tie in 5 to 8 feather-fibers from the pheasant tail feather..and tie them in by their tip-top ends, leaving a tail sticking out the back of the hook about half as long as the hook-shank or a little less. Tie in a length of size-fine copper wire.

2. Wrap the feather-fibers ALL AT ONE TIME up to the half-way point on the hook-shank and tie them in..and tie them in so the remaining butt-ends of the feather-fibers are located on TOP of the hook-shank(they will be used later as the wing-case). Wrap the copper wire up to the half-way point and tie it in with a few thread-wraps. LISTEN NOW. The thread is just in-front of the tied-in butts of the feather-fibers. Lay those feather-fibers back toward the rear of the fly and move the thread back...and just slightly up on them. They are now wrapped-back just slightly onto the fly-body.(when we bring those feather-fibers back over the-top of the thorax there will not be a "gap" between body and thorax that your always complaining to me about). This is how you prevent the "gap" on any fold-over type nymph wingcase on any nymph pattern.

3. Cut eight feather-fibers from the pheasant tail-feather and tie them all in at the same-time just in-front of the wingcase, which is now the fibers laying back(tyed-back) over the fly body. Tie these 8-fibers in by their butt-ends all at the same time.(and remember to cut away the waste) NOW, run the thread on the bobbin up to just behind the hook-eye.

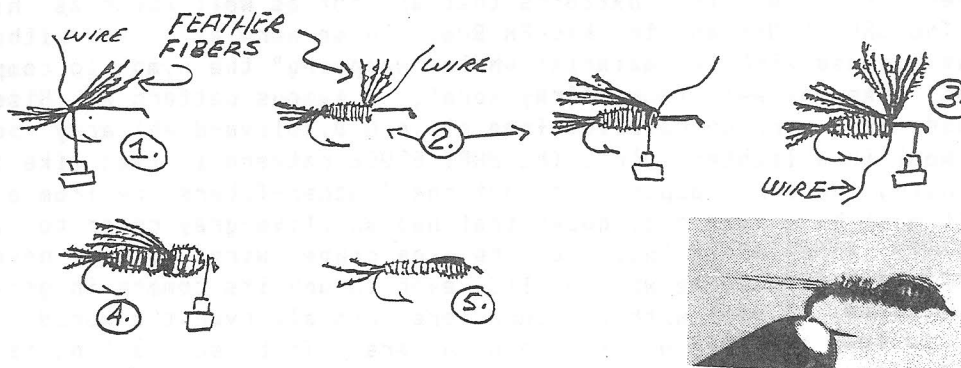
4. Wrap the 8-feather-fibers to be used for the thorax up to the waiting thread..all at the same time. Tie them in just behind the hook-eye with a few thread-wraps. Cut away the waste very close to the hook with your scissor "points".

continued..

PHEASANT TAIL NYMPH....continued.

5. Pull the butt-ends of the feather-fibers used for the tail and body..and now laying back over the body...up and over the thorax forming the wingcase. Tye them in just behind the hook-eye and cut away the waste material. Whip-finish the fly head and put a small drop of head cement on the fly head and also spread a little cement over the wingcase. It'll toughen it and give it a hard look.

TO FISH: It can be fished dead-drift at any depth. You can also "skip" it occasionally, imitating the nymph of the Blue-Winged Olive. And I have greased the tippet to within a foot of the fly, holding it just under the surface and allowing it to dead-drift right into a rise-form..then skip it, again imitating the nymph or emerger of the Blue-Winged Olive. It takes but a little practice to get it right, then it will work often for you.



PHEASANT AND PEACOCK HERL NYMPH

This is a variation of the Pheasant Tail Nymph. Even though I carry this pattern, I don't fish it often. That's a mistake. Every time I have fished this pattern DEEP and dead-drift it has worked for me. It's just that I like other methods of fishing and will often switch from a method that is working to fish a method I'm more comfortable with. I fish this pattern deep, using a sink-tip fly line or sink-tip section, and I soon tire of the method. This pattern could become a favorite of yours if you like these methods, or simply fish it under a "float-Indicator". This is a favorite method of many fishers.

HOOK: My favorite TMC 3761, also Mustad 3906-B, & 9671 sizes 12 thru 18
 THREAD: Danville 6/0 prewaxed #100 black or #47 brown
 RIB: Size fine India copper wire
 TAIL, BODY & WINGCASE: Feather-fibers from a pheasant center-tail feather
 LEGS: Feather-fibers folded-back from wingcase material
 THORAX: Peacock-herl strands

1. On a size 14 hook (reduce mtrl. for smaller sizes) tie in and run thread to end of hook shank. Tie in 6-feather-fibers from the pheasant tail feather, allowing for a tail-length..half as long as the hook-shank. Now tie in a 3-inch piece of fine copper wire. Wrap the thread up to the HALF-WAY point on the hook-shank.

2. The balance of the feather-fibers sticking-up become the fly body. Wrap all at the same-time..up to the waiting thread and tie them in with a few thread-wraps. Cut away the butt-ends of the feather-fibers. We won't be using them on this pattern.

3. Wrap the copper-wire COUNTER-CLOCKWISE in three evenly-spaced wraps up to the waiting thread and tie it in. Cut away the waste wire..or move it around to the thorax portion of the hook-shank, wrapping it on for added-weight. And by wrapping it COUNTER-CLOCKWISE, note that it does not slip in-between the fibers used for the fly body. It's now a visible-rib...and firmly secures the fly body for durability.

NOTE: Remember to study the diagrams as you read the numbered instructions. Compare the numbered instructions with the numbered-steps in the diagrams to see the position of the thread and materials.

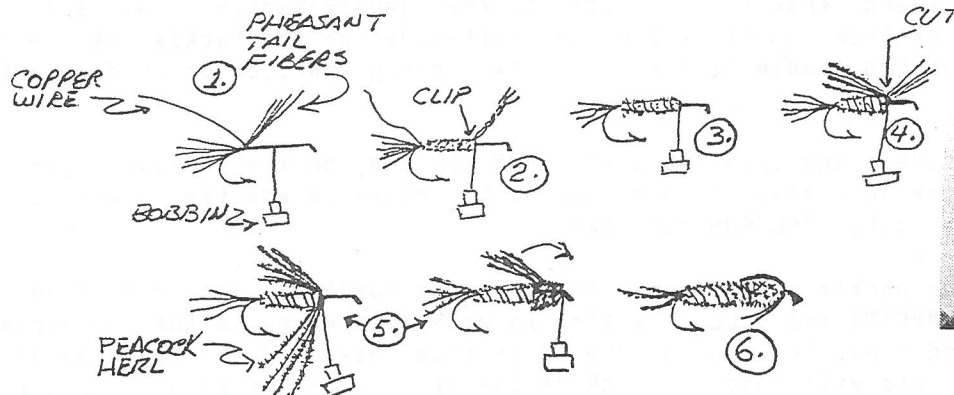
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PHEASANT AND PEACOCK HERL NYMPH.....continued.

4. At the half-way point on the hook-shank which is now the front of the finished fly body..tye in 10-pheasant tail fibers by their butt-ends ON TOP OF THE HOOK SHANK. The tip-top ends of the feather-fibers should be pointing to the rear of the fly when tied in. And ITS IMPORTANT that you tie them in at least half-way down their length so that when they are pulled over the top of the thorax as a wing-case...the tips of the feather-fibers can later be folded-back as "legs"...without being to-long and extending further to the rear than we wish. Cut away the waste butt-ends of the feather-fibers close to the hook-shank. And again..remember to tie those 10- pheasant tail fibers in at about their half-way(half their length) point or even slightly more than half.

5. Just in front of the fly body, tie in 4-strands of peacock herl. Prepare them by laying two facing one direction and two laying(or facing) the other direction..tie them all in at the same time by one-end of the strands. This "blends" the herl for a better looking thorax. Gently wrap all of those "herls" around the tying thread. Now wrap them all together on and with the thread up to just behind the hook-eye and tie them in with a few thread-wraps. Cut away the waste peacock-herl close to the hook.

6. Pull the wingcase of pheasant tail fibers over the top of the peacock herl thorax, and tie it in with a few thread-wraps. With the first finger and thumb of your left hand...smooth two or three of the tip-ends of the feather-fibers of the wingcase now protruding out the front of the fly...to back along the sides of the fly, on each side of the fly and of course facing the rear as "legs". Two or three legs on each side and held that way at the same time while you tie the legs into that position just behind the hook-eye.....or smooth 4-fibers down and facing to the rear of the fly and tie them in as a "beard" on the fly. They should extend to just in front of the hook-point. Cut away any waste feather-fibers and finish with a neat small fly head, and whip-finish. Apply a small drop of penetrating fly head cement to the fly head, and smooth a sparse amount over the wingcase. NOW move to the tail of the fly. Carefully cut away all but three of the feather-fibers. The remaining three fibers should have a center fiber with a fiber on each side. (For additional help, see the tying diagram)



PHEASANT AND PEACOCK HERL NYMPH

SPINNING DEER & ELK TYPE HAIR..we fit this in on this page simply because we had the space. Spinning deer-hair is easy. Its best to learn the method from an accomplished fly tyer however. On a muddler type pattern..the COLLAR is spun on first, using very fine deer hair. The "head" is spun on using thick northern type deer hair. Cut a small wooden-match stick size bunch of hair close to the skin. Using a fine-tooth comb, remove the under-fur from the butt-ends of the hair. Hold the clump of deer-hair along the hook-shank & make a loose wrap of thread around the hair and hook-shank...and as you start into the next thread-wrap...firm the thread up and continue with another firm wrap around the hook-shank, releasing the hair as you do this, so it can flair & SPIN. Put a wrap of thread in front of this "spun" bunch. Pack-it to the rear using the shell of a plastic ball-point pen as a hair-packer. Repeat the whole process until you have reached the hook-eye. WHIP-FINISH the thread. Flair the hair out to a 90-degree angle to the hook-shank with your fingers. Using your CURVED FISKAR 4-1/2 inch scissors..trim the fly head to the desired shape.

F-C DEEP EMERGER

When the water is off color or high, when the trout won't take anything on or near the top, or if I want a "search-pattern", this is the pattern I turn to. This pattern has saved the day for me often. Most often when fishing the conditions mentioned, and early spring and mid-winter also. It works because it can be "worked" a number of ways. We cast up and across the stream using a Sink-Tip fly line or Lead-Core Section to get the fly deep. On the sink-tip fly line I never use more than 18-inches of level leader for the tippet. On a lead-core section, I like 12 to 18 inches of leader tippet depending on the length of the lead-core section. And I make cast of 25 feet, sometimes less. I then mend and "feed" out more line as the fly swings past me. I start fishing it dead-drift, if I don't get something going in a cast or two...I begin skipping the fly just off the bottom. As it reaches the end of the drift, I skip it back to the surface or use the Leisenring-Lift...that is to allow the fly to come from down deep in a steady rise all the way to the surface. The pattern is so easy and economical to tie, that you should carry them in at least 3-colors. Very light, medium and dark.

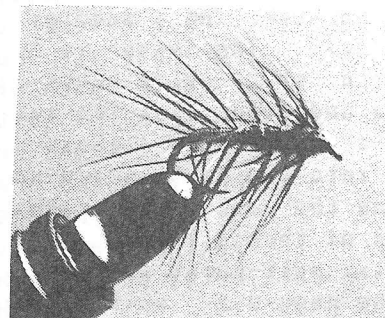
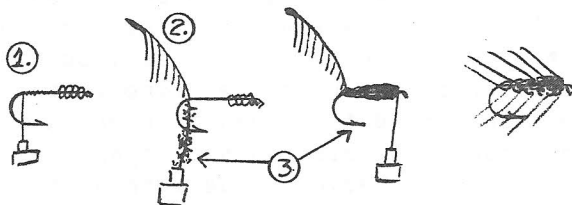
HOOK: Mustad 9671 size 12 or TMC 3761 size 12
THREAD: Danville 6/0 in colors #41 tan, #60 olive and #100 black
WEIGHTED: With 10 or 12 wraps of .020 or .025 lead-wire on the thorax area of the hook
HACKLE: India saddle hackle, reverse Palmer-Wrapped
BODY: SPECTRUM material, colors #31 tan, #20 pale-olive and #34 very dark olive. Or a fur-blend of your choice

1. Weight the thorax portion of the hook-shank with lead-wire (behind hook-eye for 10 wraps to rear). Tie the thread in just behind the hook-eye. Build a 4-wrap thread-dam and move the thread to just behind the last lead-wrap and build a small thread-dam to lock the lead in place on the hook-shank. Run the thread to the end of the hook-shank.

2. Select a long-narrow India saddle hackle (ginger or pale ginger for light color body, black saddle for dark color body). With the color-side of the hackle facing you..gently pull-off the feather-fibers from the left side of the saddle-hackle. The side we removed the feather-fibers from is now called the "belt-side" of the hackle. At the end of the hook-shank, tie the saddle-hackle in by its tip-top end...color side facing forward.

3. SEE THE PAGE ON DUBBING, and spin-dub a SPECTRUM fly body on the thread. Wrap the fly body clockwise up the hook shank to just behind the hook-eye and tie in with a few thread-wraps. Remove any waste SPECTRUM material.

4. With or without your hackle plier (some, including me sometimes use our fingers) begin REVERSE PALMER-WRAPPING the saddle hackle in wide even wraps up the hook-shank. This is to wrap the saddle-hackle with the "belt" we made "AGAINST" the fly body as we wrap. And the hackle-fibers will face the REAR of the fly body as we wrap. Make a wrap with your right hand, adjusting the just-wrapped hackle with your left hand as you go. The color-side of the saddle-hackle is kept facing the front of the fly as we wrap. Tie the hackle in just behind the hook-eye, cut away the waste and finish the fly head.



FOX SQUIRREL NYMPH

It was well known fly tyer and writer Dave Whitlock that made this pattern so popular. The first Fox Squirrel Nymph that I ever saw was tied by the late Leo Michl. He gave me one in the 1960's, and it was tied with a "collar", rather than the "wingcase" method used by Dave Whitlock. Dave recently wrote an article on the pattern for Fly Fisherman Magazine and I was surprised to see that he had switched to a collar on the pattern. Leo was a good fly tyer. And he was a tough, gritty guy. And this is what he is most remembered as. Leo did more than talk, he worked up a law suit against the park service, having to do with dredging state trout waters. He told me that state conservation bureaucrats really wanted to be junior luminaries, turning to writing and speaking rather than keeping their nose to the stone. Leo held nothing back. I taped a conversation on the porch of his home one time. He had retired to a house just across the road from Larry's, near the entrance to Bennet Springs State Park. Leo was tough but fair. And he had a certain insight. Many of the things he was concerned about..have come about. Dredging, building a circus around the state trout streams. Holding onto the natural beauty of the parks was I believe his real goal.

HOOK: Mustad 9671, 9672. TMC 5262, 5263 & 3761. Sizes 10 thru 16
THREAD: Danville 6/0 black #100 or 3/0 black #100 or brown #47
TAIL & COLLAR: Guard hair from a fox squirrel hide
BODY: The orange hair from a fox squirrel belly or a synthetic-blend to match
RIB: Fine or medium gold wire, or size-fine gold oval tinsel
WEIGHTED: Size 12 hook has 10-wraps .025 lead wire under thorax portion of hook

1. Tie in, and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank. Tie in a "tuft" of fox squirrel guard-hair for the tail(see photo). Tie in a length of gold-wire or size Fine, gold-oval tinsel. Tie in a dubbing-loop(see instructions elsewhere). Now run the thread 3/4s the way up the hook-shank(see diagram below).

2. Lay a sparse-line of your squirrel-belly material in the dubbing loop and close the loop by turning your loop-tool counter-clockwise...until the loop is closed all the way to the hook-shank. Wrap the loop CLOCKWISE around the hook-shank, and up to the waiting thread, forming the fly-body as you go. Tie the loop in at the waiting thread...and cut away the waste. Wrap the gold-ribbing material up to the waiting thread...in wide-even wraps. Tie it in with a few thread-wraps and cut away the waste.

3. At the point where the thread is now, make another dubbing-loop. Now run the thread to just behind the hook-eye. Cut a fine-sparse-line of guard-hair from the fox squirrel hide. And cut it "across" the hide. If you bend the hide in half, you will see the straight-line to cut along. We want a sparse-line of guard-hair say...2-inches long. Gently "lift" the line-of-hair from the hide and lay it in your dubbing-loop..catching the guard-hairs in the loop by their BUTT-ENDS. Again "BUTT-ENDS, not the middle of the guard-hairs. Close the loop all the way to the hook-shank by twisting your loop-tool COUNTER-CLOCKWISE.

4. Using your loop-tool...LISTEN NOW..begin wrapping the loop CLOCKWISE up the hook shank, and with each wrap..use your fingers on your left-hand to hold the hair facing the "rear" of the fly..while you make the next wrap. Do this with each wrap until you reach the hook-eye. Tie the loop in with a few thread-wraps, cutting away the waste. Finish the fly head and whip-finish. FISH this pattern dead-drift & deep..

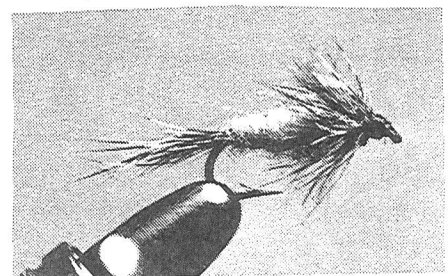
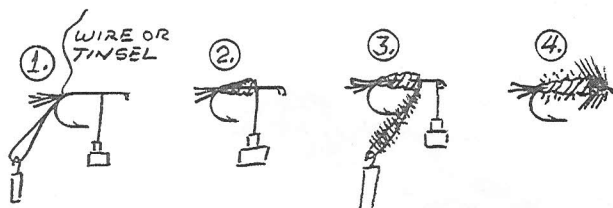


Photo Fly tied by Bob Story

GOLD RIBBED HARE'S EAR

If there is a more popular nymph pattern, I don't know of it. This trout fly is tied and fished everywhere. And every tyer has a favorite pattern. Some like a shaggy looking nymph (see FUZZY FUR-BUGS), others like a spiky-tapered body, full length of the hook shank, some even like it with wings. All of these patterns are tied with the fur from a hare's mask. A Hare's Mask of course is the "face" of an English Hare, or an American western rabbit (Jack rabbit), skinned out and dried. I wash a selected mask in ammonia, rinse with cold water, squeeze out the excess water and hang the mask by the nose and allow to dry. Popular dyed colors are black, olive and orange. The above mentioned patterns are great. However, we tied a Fox Squirrel Nymph elsewhere in this manual with a "collar", and said we would tie this pattern with a "wingcase", so the Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear with wingcase. (fish it dead-drift just off the stream bottom)

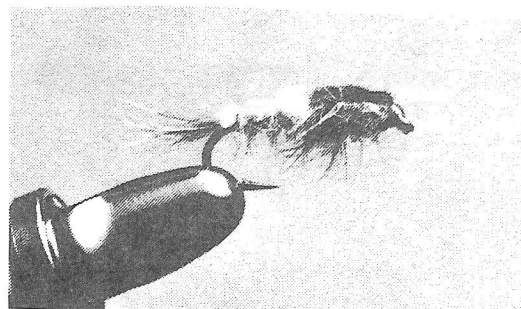
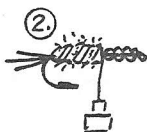
HOOK: Mustad 9671, 3906-B & TMC 3761 sizes 10 thru 16 are favorite sizes
WEIGHTED: On size 12 hook use 10 wraps .025 lead on thorax portion of hook
THREAD: Danville size 3/0 thread #47 brown, or 3/0 #47 brown or #100 black
TAIL: A tuft of hair from the area between the ears of the mask
RIB: Fine gold-oval tinsel. Fine gold wire on sizes 16 and smaller
WINGCASE: 3/16 inch wide section from wild turkey tail feather for size 12
BODY: Blended hair from the poll (cheek) area of the hare's mask
THORAX: Blended hair from the poll & between the ears of the mask

1. On a size 12 hook, wrap in 10-wraps of .025 lead-wire on the thorax area of the hook. Tie the thread in just behind the hook-eye and make a few wraps to hold the lead in place. Move the thread to behind the lead-wraps and build a small thread-dam there to lock the lead-wire in place on the hook-shank. Wrap the thread to the end of the hook shank. Tie in a tail using a tuft of hair cut from between the ears of the "mask". Tie in a length of size Fine gold-oval tinsel for sizes 10 & 12, gold-wire on 14 & 16.

2. On the thread, pinch-dub a blend of hair cut from the cheek (poll) area of the hare's mask. Simply cut a pinch of hair close to the skin and finger-blend it. Pinch-Dub the blend onto the thread and wrap it up to the rear-wrap of lead-wire, building the fly body as you wrap. (If no lead-wire is used, wrap the body to a fraction past the half-way point on the hook-shank. Tie the body in with a few thread-wraps, and wrap the tinsel up to this point in wide-wraps and tie in. Cut away waste material as you tie.

3. Cut a 3/16 inch wide section from a wild turkey tail. Tie the section in on-top of the fly body, at the beginning of the thorax, with the dull-side of the section facing up. Make a couple of thread-wraps to the rear of the now tied-in section and onto the body portion of the fly. This will prevent a "break-line" between the fly body and thorax. Make a dubbing-loop and run the thread up to the hook eye. (NOTE: Spray the whole turkey-quill with TUFFILM before using the quill. "Toughens it".

4. Make another finger-blend of hair from the cheek-area of the mask, and blend-in a little hair from between the ears of the mask. This will add a little spiky material and darken the color of the blend. Lay a sparse line of this blend in the dubbing-loop. Close the "loop" and wrap the loop up to the waiting thread..and tie in. Cut away the waste material, and pull the wingcase over the top of the thorax. The color side of the wingcase is now facing "up". Tie the wingcase in just behind the hook-eye, finish the fly head and whip-finish. Add a drop of head cement and spread a little on the wingcase



NYMPHS, Spiky Tapered-Body Type...hare's ear, otter, mink, muskrat etc.

These nymph-patterns are so easy to tie, and they are all tied using the same method. They are in-common, in that they are tied with the same type material, but from different furs to give each pattern its own color and "look". And these furs can be inter-blended with each other to make up your own "custom-blend". All of these furs are converted into a blend of the soft under-fur and the "spiky" guard hair. This "spiky" guard hair can be from the same fur used for the nymph, or additional spiky-hair can be added from another fur such as seal or squirrel. Remember, any furs blended will change the color also. Make a note of the percentages of each type fur used for your custom-blend. St. Louis area fly tyer Doug Christain showed us a blend of muskrat fur with 20 percent brown mink-fur. The mink fur added spiky guard hair while toning down the grey-blue color of the muskrat under-fur. Doug was taking trout at-will on this pattern last fall and early winter during the catch and release season at Maramec Springs State Park. Doug informs us the "muskrat-mink" blend is by Allen Lowe of Long Beach, Ca. for his "Lowe's Grey Nymph. Allen, it turns out, has been a customer of ours for years.

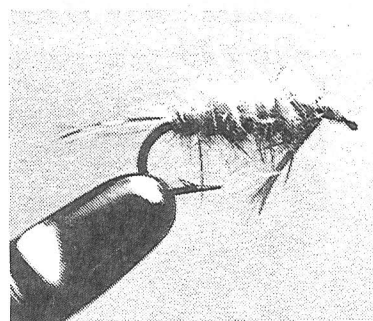
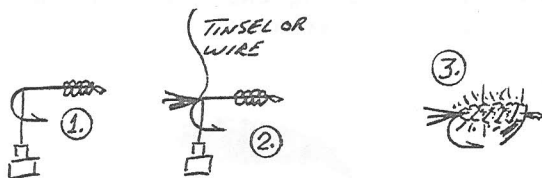
HOOK: MUSTAD 9671 or TMC 3671 size 12 and smaller
THREAD: DANVILLE 3/0 or 6/0 prewaxed in colors to match the fur used
WEIGHTED: 10 wraps of .025 lead-wire on thorax portion of size 12 hook
RIB: Gold or silver wire, tinsel-thread or fine gold-oval tinsel (or no rib!)
TAIL: Tuft of hair or feather-fibers from partridge, etc. BEARD: Feather-fibers

1. Wrap 12 turns of .025 lead-wire on the thorax-area of the hook-shank. Tie the thread in just behind the hook-eye building a small thread-dam in front of the lead-wire. Run the thread to behind the lead-wire and build a small thread-dam and the 10-wraps of lead wire are now locked in place on the hook-shank. Run the thread to the end of the hook-shank.

2. Tie in a tail of brown hungarian partridge feather-fibers or a tuft of hair from the hair type being used for the fly body. Tie in a length of fine or medium size gold or silver wire.

3. With your scissors laid-flat against the skin on the cheek area of a hare's mask, piece of muskrat, otter or other fur mentioned...cut away a small amount of the fur. We want that soft under-fur, and will get the guard-hairs at the same time. With your fingers, blend the soft under-fur with the longer guard-hair..mix it all together. Tease out a sparse-webby line of the now blended fur. Lay it on the under-side of the thread close to the end of the hook shank with your left hand. With moistened thumb and first finger on your right hand, firmly..very firm, pinch-dub the fur onto the thread. Begin wrapping the thread onto the hook-shank one wrap in front of the other clockwise up the hook-shank and..adding more dubbing to the thread as necessary until you reach that little area behind the hook-eye in front of the lead-wraps. Tie the now formed body in with a couple of thread-wraps. In wide clockwise wraps..bring the ribbing tinsel forward to the waiting thread and tie in. If you want a beard on the fly, tie it in now and finish the fly head and whip-finish. With your fingers..pluck away any unwanted or unruly hair from the nymph.

TO FISH: Dead-drift, just off stream bottom. A strike-indicator helps detect the hit. And, use the "Leisenring-Lift" at the end of the drift.



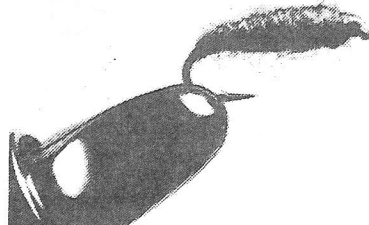
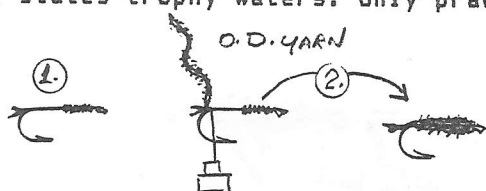
The ARMY WORM

This was another first for me as a teenage fly fisher. This was the first nymph pattern that I fished. The year was probably 1949 or 50 and the place was Bennett Springs State Park. Everyone fished the Army Worm and many still do today. My mentor was a nameless fly fisher. I watched as he allowed the nymph to be drifted thru a section of water, and at the end of every drift he would set the hook on an imaginary strike. He then lifted the fly and made a short cast up and across the section of water being "nymphed". At the end of the dead-drift he lifted his rod tip quickly as is he had a take...and again made the up and across cast. After working several yards of water he was into a fish at the end of the drift for no apparent reason that I could see. And this went on as he moved down the stream. There were times of course that he made quick lifts of the rod tip during the drift at suspected takes by the fish, and took no fish. But it was the method of assuming there was a take at the end of the drift that has served me well to this day. Its a method you will see on the Beaverville and Willowemoc in New York...yet I never saw anyone use this nymphing method on the west coast. Even today at Bennett Springs, I dont often see the method used. Of course, many nymph fishers today grew up using styrofoam bobbers and strike indicators to detect a "take". A real nymph fishermen is always a joy for me to watch, and I'll stop my fishing to watch his ploy. He makes short casts up and across the section of water being worked. He's hunched over, he's in total concentration, his rod arm is a cocked pistol, he works in mili-seconds...zap, gotcha. His eyes are on the fly line where it enters the water. He see's something the inexperienced dont see. A slight hesitation, a tap, a stop or even nothing as his sixth-sense takes over and in a mili-second, he makes his move. He'd been a gun fighter a hundred or more years ago in Dodge. Today he must settle for nymph fishing...but it takes the same stuff to be successful. Otherwise you drift dry flys, skip wooly's, fish mini-jigs...and may never make the big league, or even understand nymphing, and what its really about. A real nymph-fisher can take trout any time of day, in any stream, during any month of the year. Lets tye...

HOOK: Mustad 3906, 3906-B and 9671, TMC 3769, 3761 5262 all in sizes 12 thru 18
WEIGHTED: If you like. On midge sizes use copper-wire. Large sizes, lead-wire
THREAD: Danville prewaxed olive color #60
BODY: O.D.. (Olive-Drab) yarn from a world war two army sock or sweater. Korea too, I've already used all of my Army socks and sweaters up..gave them to you etc. the true olive-drab, meaning a brown-olive. And its hard to find.
TAIL: A short short tail of body material, or no tail

1. Weight the hook-shank on the thorax portion of the shank. On sizes 16 & 18 , use the fine copper-wire to weight the full length of the hook-shank. (Or no weight at all!!)
2. Tye the thread in at the end of the hook-shank. Use the thread to fill-in and continue shaping the hook-shank. Finish with the thread at the end of the hook shank. Tye in a length of the.. "O.D.-YARN" leaving a short tail sticking out the back of the fly. Run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye. Wrap the O.D. YARN clockwise up the hook-shank to the waiting thread and tye in with a few thread-wraps. Cut away the waste and finish the fly head with a whip-finish.

TO FISH: Dead-drift at any depth..around moss and other cover. Finish the "drift" with the "Leisenring-Lift. This simply little "bug" takes trout everywhere fished. And this is a good pattern to "sight-fish" at the state parks. Dont confuse "sight-fishing" with the true Nymph Fisher. Sight-fishing is "park" fish bowel fishing and will not work on the states trophy waters. Only practice will make you a true "nympher".



DOWNWING CADDIS dry fly

You must carry a DOWNWING CADDIS pattern with you on Missouri trout streams. After the sun drops behind the trees or bluff in the late afternoon and evening..a caddis hatch is taking place somewhere on the stream your fishing. Sometimes over the full length of the stream. This happens every evening during the summer and early fall months. Most of these caddis are tan, brown, grey and even black in color. Those black colored ones im convinced are small stoneflies, and you also see them on the water during the winter catch and release season. Even on cold days, providing the sun is on the water. All of these "bugs" are clowns. You see them dancing and bouncing about on the water...and the trout are grabbing them. Everybody has a favorite pattern to match them. In 1979, Eric leiser sent me a copy of his and Larry solomon's book..THE CADDIS AND THE ANGLER. I dont know Larry Solomon, but Eric was so high on the Chuck Caddis at the time that we began processing ground hog hides. I never forgave Eric for that. These are horrible hides to process, yuk. And..and then I cannot find the Chuck Caddis in their book. If you can, please let me know what page. Regardless, this book should be in your collection, its the best on caddis flies. NOTE: To support and float a caddis pattern, many tyers prefer to palmer-wrap the fly body with a dry fly hackle. The Henryville type body. Others simply tie in a "down-wing" of mink, deer or ground hog GUARD-HAIR....and the fly floats on its shoulders of hair-wing material and of course its hackle-collar. Lets tie a simple DOWNWING CADDIS....

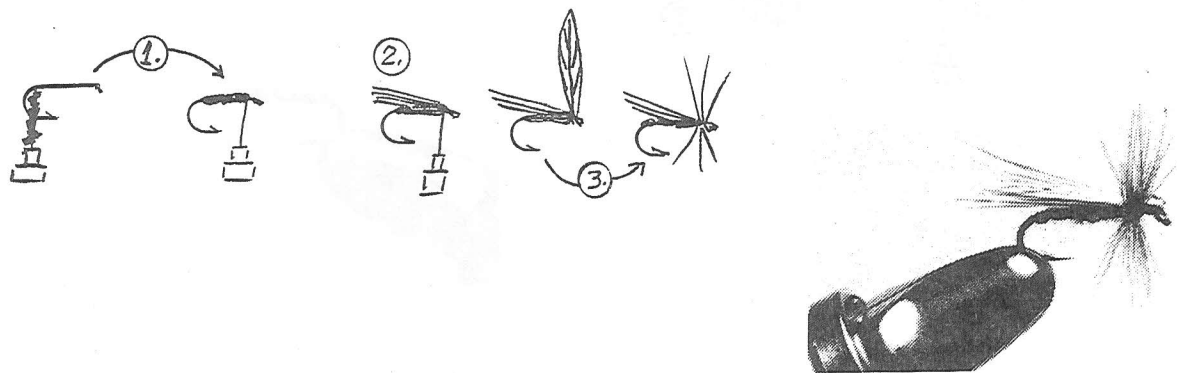
HOOK: Mustad 94840, 42 or 33 & TMC 100, 101 & 5210. Partridge L3A sizes 14 thru 18
BODY: SPECTRUM color #31 tan, #20 pale olive, #34 dark olive or your other choice
WING: Mink tail guard hair, ground hog guard hair, coastal deer, & fine deer-hair
HACKLE Dry fly neck hackle in colors pale ginger, ginger and dun, or your choice
THREAD: Danville 6/0 prewaxed color #41 tan, #7 Lt. olive & #60 olive, your choice

1. Tie in and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank. Dub a sparse line of SPECTRUM on the thread....and run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye, building the fly-body as you go. Tie in with a few thread-wraps. Cut away waste material.

2. Select one of the above materials to be used as the wing. Put the tip-top ends of the hair into your hair-stacker and tap the hair-stacker on the bench top to "even" the tips of the hairs. Carefully remove the "stacked-guard hairs" and place them on top of the hook-shank....tying them in just behind the hook-eye. The wing extends 1/3rd the length of the fly-body "past" the end of the hook-shank.

3. Make a level-base with your thread over the tyed in butt-ends of the wing material so we will get a nice even hackle wrap. Tie in a "sized" dry fly neck hackle just behind the head-area of the hook-shank, with the dull-side of the hackle facing you. Palmer-Wrap three to five wraps of hackle just in back of where the finished fly head will be. Tie the hackle in with a few thread-wraps, cut away waste and finish the fly head.

TO FISH: Dress with dry fly floatant, and float dead-drift over rising fish. It wont hurt anything to give the floating fly a twitch of the rod tip now and then. And remember, often those TINY bouncing-bugs are really Blue-Winged Olives! (Grey Whispy's)



ELK-HAIR CADDIS dry fly

This caddis pattern of course was made popular by Montana pro tyer and guide, Al Troth. And its now everybodys favorite. Easy and economical to tye, floats like a cork and fools trout everywhere. Before this pattern took off..it was George Bodmer's Colorado King, tyed much the same way as is the Elkhair Caddis that was so popular. The "king" is still king in George's home state of Colorado. Its tyed with a hackle palmered body and a stablizer type tail of moose or peccary guard hairs. And the fly head is wrapped tight, un-like the Elk-Hair Caddis. Missouri trout fisher Jack Herr tyes the Elk-Hair Caddis down to size 20...size 20, and is into fish much of the time on his favorite water..Bennett Springs State Park. To fish this pattern...dress it with dry fly floatant, and float it dead-drift over rising trout most any evening. We are going to tye it using a slightly different method than Al Troth, but will arrive at exactly the same finished fly(well, almost. We are going to leave out the gold-rib, and Al tyes the hackle in at the hook eye, wrapping it back to the end of the fly body, tying it in with the wire-rib, then wrapping the wire-rib forward) Lets make it simple for you to tye and take trout with. The TAN ELK-HAIR CADDIS..

HOOK: Mustad 94840,94833, TMC 100, & 5210, Partridge L3A all in sizes 10 thru 20

WING: Lt. elk hair, or better..bleached Coastal deer hair

BODY: SPECTRUM #31 tan, #20 lt. olive, #17 dk. brown, many other colors

THREAD: Danville prewaxed size 6/0 in a color to match body material

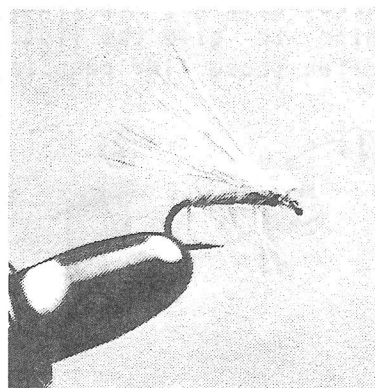
HACKLE: Pale ginger or ginger dry fly hackle...or color to match body material

1. Tye in and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank. Size a pale-ginger dry fly hackle and tye in at the end of the hook-shank, dull-side facing you.

2. Dub the SPECTRUM #31 on the thread and wrap the thread up the hook-shank to just behind the hook-eye, forming the fly body as you wrap. Tye in just behind the hook-eye with a few thread-wraps. Cut away waste SPECTRUM. Palmer-Wrap the hackle in wide-even wraps up to just behind the hook-eye and tye in, cutting away waste material.

3. Cut a "small-sized" clump of hair from the elk or coastal deer hide piece, and tip-down, place the hair in the hair stacker.(NOTE: before doing this, remove any under-fur from the butts of the hair). Do this on any deer-type hair to be stacked. Carefully remove the stacked-hair and hold them on top of the hook-shank with the tips of the hairs extending to the end of the hook bend. Tye the hair in just behind the hook-eye. With your fingers, adjust the butt-ends of the hair, and cut, leaving a stub of hair sticking up at a slight angle(see photo).

NOTE: The most common mistake made when tying this pattern is using to-much hair for the wing. This will un-balance the fly on the water. Keep the wing-material Sparse. I prefer natural or bleached Coastal-Deer hair for the wing on this pattern.



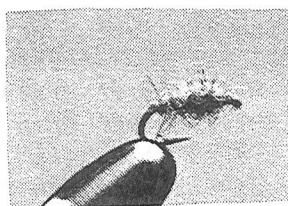
MIDGE NYMPHS

These little nymphs can save your day. They don't look like much, maybe that's why these sparse-tyed little nymphs do such a big job for us, and so easy to tie.

THE THREAD & NOODLE MIDGE NYMPH

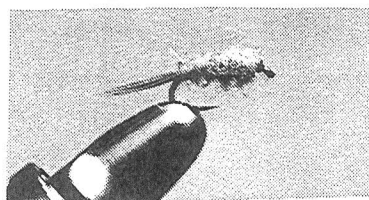
HOOK: Mustad 94842(up-eye) sizes 18 thru 24, 3906 sizes 16 and 18
THREAD: Danville 6/0 in a color to match the fly body color
WEIGHTED: With fine copper wire
BODY: Choose fine soft-textured furs and blends, muskrat, mole, aust. oposom
TAIL & BEARD: Very sparse, two feather-fibers of brown or grey hungarian partridge depending on the body color. (and optional on these little nymphs)

1. Using fine copper wire, build a tapered body from the end of the hook-shank to just behind the hook-eye. Tie the thread in at the end of the hook-shank, leaving a "TAIL" of thread 2-inches long...hanging out the end of the hook-shank.
2. Spread out a thin-line of dubbing fur in the palm of your hand or infact on the top of your pants leg. Blow on the palm of your other hand to form a little friction-moisture. Rub the palms of your hands together..making a fur noodle of the dubbing fur. If the fur is on your pants leg, rub the palm of your hand over the fur, forming the fur noodle. Gently lift the fur-noodle to the hook-shank so that one end of the noodle is laying over the end of the hook-shank. Wrap that end of the noodle onto the hook-shank with a couple of thread wraps. Move the thread on the bobbin to just behind hook-eye.
3. Gently lay the balance of the fur-noodle and the thread-tail together long-ways, parallel with each other. With your E-Z MINI HACKLE PLIER..grab both the thread and the end of the fur noodle and using the hackle plier, twist the thread-tail and the fur noodle together counter-clockwise, forming a thread twist-dubbed body.
4. Remove the hackle plier while holding the fly body together in a finger-pinch, and wrap the fly body up the hook-shank, one wrap in front of the other clock-wise until you reach the waiting thread just behind the hook-eye. Tie the fly body in with a few thread-wraps, finishing the fly head and whip-finish.



COMMON MIDGE-NYMPH

1. After weighting and shaping the hook-shank with fine copper wire as in step-one of the THREAD & NOODLE NYMPH ABOVE, tie the thread in at the end of the hook-shank. Tie in a tail using 3-feather-fibers of a color to match the fly body dubbing material color.
2. Tease a little of your dubbing fur into a sparse-webby line. Moisten the first finger and thumb on your right hand and "pinch-dub" the fur onto the thread. Pinch HARD, and roll the thread clockwise only(never back and forth). Now rap the dubbed fly body up to just behind the hook-eye and tie in with a few thread wraps. Whip-finish.



TO FISH: These tiny nymphs are great for "sight-fishing" at the state parks. Short casts are made, allowing the nymph to drift down to the sighted-fish. When you see the trout take the fly, lift your rod tip. Also fish with a Strike-Indicator.

ANTS....SPECTRUM dry fly Ants.

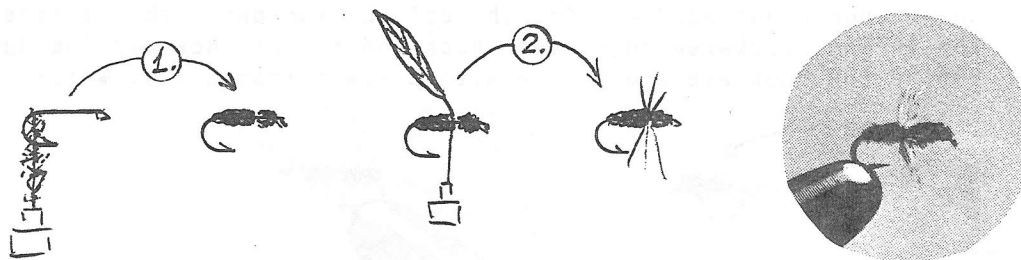
When a good breeze or light wind is blowing through the tree tops, you can expect good fishing using this Ant pattern. Its even better if the wind is really blowing hard. The problem is with a wind like that, its hard to see whats going on, on the wind rippled water. If your fishing a wind protected stretch of water, so much the better, as you can both see the fly on the water and the rise. And if you dont have any Ant patterns with you on these windy days, fish a size 16 or 18 Flat-Wing pattern found elsewhere in this manual. The body colors should be SPECTRUM #5, #20 or #21 to imitate the Leaf-Rollers and other little green-bodied bugs that are wind-blown out of the trees and bushes along the stream. These green Flat-Winged things and Ants dont last long on the water. Trout accept these "wind-falls" as a real treat, and will rise to take them when no other dry fly in your box will bring them to the surface. The wind will create these casual rises when there is little or no evidence of a "hatch", and you should be prepared. Ant patterns lay in the surface film, allowing a feeding trout to sip it off the surface before your aware of it. If its possible, move to an area of the stream where you can see the wind in the tree-tops, but it has little effect on the water being fished with regards to disturbing the surface. A real Ant-pattern fisher calls this spot..heaven. Lets tye the SPECTRUM Ants...Black and Cinnamon.

BODY: SPECTRUM fly body material #50 black and #46 cinnamon
THREAD: Danville 6/0 prewaxed thread, colors #100 black and #52 wine(brown #47 also)
HACKLE: Dry fly neck hackle from Metz or other good dry fly neck. I like GRIZZLY or DUN
HOOK: Mustad 94833 size 16 & 18, Mustad 94859(ringeye) in size 20 and smaller. TMC 100 size 22, Partridge K1A in sizes 24, 26 and 28

1. Tye in and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank. Dub a sparse-body on the thread by teasing a sparse line of SPECTRUM from the main hank of the stuff. Moisten the first finger and thumb of your tying hand and.....pinch-dub the SPECTRUM onto the tying thread. Begin wrapping the thread up the hook-shank, building and shaping the fly body to the familiar Ant body shape. The low point of Ant body should be dead-center of the hook-shank. When the fly-body is to the correct shape, make a fly head behind the hook eye, whip-finish and CUT THE THREAD OUT.

2. Tye the thread back in "just a wrap or two", to the rear of dead-center on the hook shank. At that point, tye in a sized grizzly dry fly neck hackle, dull-side facing you. Now move the thread a couple of wraps forward on the hook-shank(almost in the same spot is what we are saying). Palmer-wrap the grizzly hackle for two to four turns in almost the same spot and tye in with a few thread-wraps, and whip-finish. With a Matarelli Whip-Finisher, you can whip-finish anywhere on a hook-shank. NOTE: When tying in the "hackle"..tye it in on the "stem" a little below the point where the feather-fibers on the hackle. When wrapped, you wont have un-ruly fibers sticking this way and that!!

TO FISH: Dress the Ant with a dry fly floatant, and cast to rising trout. If fish are not rising, cast to a known or likely location of the trout. Dont worry about not seeing any rises. Ant-patterns create rises.



NOTE: The hackle fibers on the finished fly can be trimmed on the top & bottom of the fly body, allowing the remaining hackle-fibers to stick out to the sides of the fly body only....."front-view">>> 

FUZZY FUR-BUGS

Fuzzy Fur Bugs are the opposite of the Pinched-Dubbed, firm body nymphs. And just as easy to tie. These fuzzy little fur and synthetic nymphs are tied with the aid of a Dubbing-Loop Tool. They fool trout everywhere. They can be fished dead-drift, and if that's not working, skip them from down deep, to the surface with your rod tip. Or try the "Leisenring-Lift. And keep moving, if I'm not taking fish with a particular fly or method..I move, or I go sit down and watch a favorite stretch of water for something to happen. The wind picks up, or shadows move onto the water, a hatch might begin. No stretch of trout water remains the same for long, and my favorite trick is to sit down and enjoy the view, study the surface, "learn"..while waiting for the "change". Then knock their butts off. Lets tie a Fuzzy Fur Bug in a color and material of your choice.

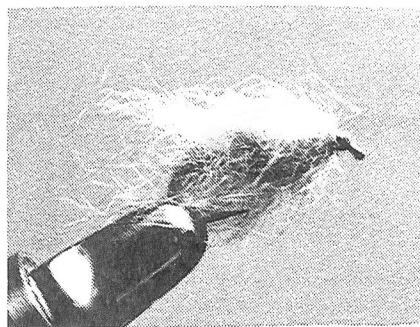
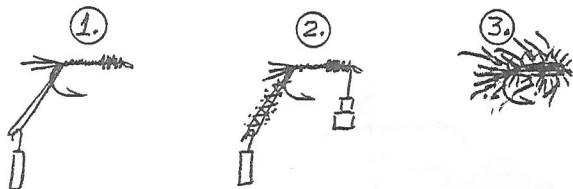
HOOK: Mustad 9671 size 10 thru 18, TMC 3761 size 10 thru 18, or hook of your choice
BODY: Muskrat, Hare's Mask, Australian Opposom, Otter, Hair off your dog(or cat)etc
THREAD: Danville 6/0 or 3/0 prewaxed, in a color to match the fly body
RIB: Fine to medium size tinsel or copper wires depending on fly size, or none
TAIL: If you like. A few feather-fibers or a tuft of hair to match the body color
WEIGHTED: Copper or lead-wire to weight and shape the hook shank

NOTE: We are going to use a dubbing-loop tool in making this fly body. For help on using this tool, see the index for DUBBING-LOOP TOOL.

1. Weight & shape the hook shank with the correct size and type wire for the size hook being tied on. Start at the end of the hook shank, wrapping the wire forward, and over-wrapping the wire on the thorax area of the hook. Tie in and run the thread to the end of the hook shank. Tie in a tail of feather-fibers. Now hold the first finger on your left hand about 2-1/2 inches directly under the hook, at the end of the hook shank. Using your bobbin..wrap the thread under and around that finger forming a loop that ends where it began at the end of the hook shank. Tie the loop in at the end of the hook shank with a few thread wraps. Hang your "Loop-Tool" in the bottom of the loop, and lay the left "leg" of the loop in the hook on your material-spring on the jaws of the vise to hold the loop open. All of this loop-making should have taken less than 10-seconds. Now run the thread up to just behind the hook eye.

2. Prepare the body material to be used. We want a sparse-webby line of material(fur, or fur and synthetic blend) to be placed in the dubbing loop. And place it in the full length of the loop so we won't run out of "body". After some experience, you'll know how much "length" your going to need. The loop should close dead-center on the material in the loop, equal lengths of fur sticking out both sides of the loop.

3. Twist the Dubbing-Loop tool counter-clockwise, closing the loop and "catching-up" the material in the loop as you twist the loop closed. When the loop is twisted-closed all the way up to the hook-shank, begin wrapping the "body" clockwise up the hook-shank..using your Dubbing-Loop tool to aid you. Simply pass it from one-hand to the other, one-wrap in front of the other until you reach the waiting thread on the bobbin just behind the hook-eye. Tie the loop in just behind the hook-eye and cut away the waste-portion of the loop and thread. Finish the fly-head and whip-finish.



SOFT HACKLE wet flys

The Soft Hackle patterns were some of the first patterns mentioned in the very first records of fly tying, and no one will let you forget it. So lets shoot past the history of the fly. Sylvester Nemes did more than anyone else to make the fly popular among todays fly fishers. I dont know Sylvester, but have both of his books on the subject fly. I was really disappointed with his first book on this important series of flys. The patterns were so poorly tyed, bulky fly bodies and fly heads with material showing through. And I feel the wrong method of tying-in the hackle is used in both books. The color plates of the tying materials in the second book are beautiful and the fly bodies are better proportioned. Finding soft-hackle feathers small enough in the correct colors is a problem when size 14 and smaller are tyed. The most over looked feather is from the shoulder area of most of the quail breeds in America. And you should start a quail wing collection from hunting pals nationwide. Some quail will have shoulder feathers of blue-dun to rusty brown. And take it a step further..we want the "LEFT" wing from the bird. We are going to remove the feather-fibers from the left side of the feather stem to prepare the feather for tying, and because of the nature of the feather-fiber, we want the left wing. Quail, starling, partridge, snipe, rail, woodcock, coot and more provide "soft-hackles". Lets ty the Partridge and Orange...

HOOK: Mustad 3906, 3906-B, TMC 3761 in sizes 12 thru 20. NOTE: The size 18 and 20's are hackled with the "under-neck" feather from a mature male starling.

BODY: Danville Flat Waxed Single Strand Floss, color #503 fluorescent orange is the body AND "tying-thread". Other body materials..peacock-herl, dubbed-fur & silk

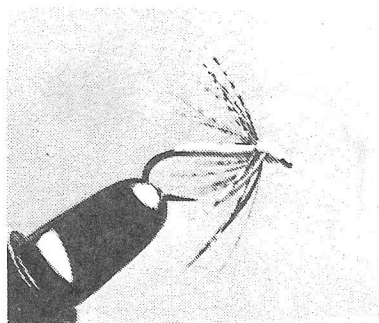
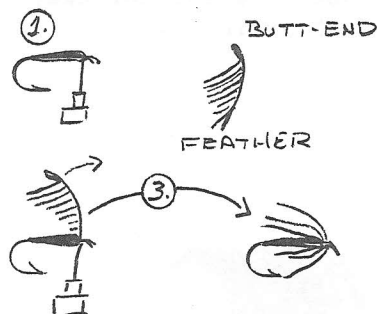
HACKLE: Brown Hungarian Partridge feather for "Partridge & Orange". Use other feathers and colors for other patterns. Refer to book: Soft Hackled Fly Addict.(Nemes)

1. Select a size 14 hook and tye the floss(the floss spool should be in your bobbin) and run it 3/4s the way to the end of the hook-shank. Using the floss, build a bullet shaped fly body with the floss ending up just behind the hook-eye.

2. Select a brown partridge feather, and with the color side of the feather facing you, gently tear-off the feather-fibers from the left side of the feather-stem. The side of the stem without the feather-fibers is now called the "belt" side of the feather stem.

3. Gently seperate the feather-fibers at the tip-top end of the feather(see diagram 2.) Tye the feather in at the waiting floss by its TIP-TOP END, color side of the feather facing forward, the "belt" side of the feather facing away from you. Cut away the waste material close to the hook-shank. With your hackle-plier....carefully make 1-1/2 to 3-wraps of the feather CLOCKWISE, and on the belt we made around the hook-shank. NOW, if necessary, make one floss-wrap back over the hackle to lay it back "slightly" over the hook shank. Finish the fly head with the floss and whip-finish.

TO FISH: Cast up and across the stream, allowing the fly to dead-drift with the current. At the end of the drift, use the "Leisenring-Lift. And Soft Hackle patterns are great as "Emerger-Patterns". Try "skipping" them right thru the rise.



GLO-BUG

Long time pal and customer Tom Watson and his wife market GLO-BUG YARN from their home in California. Tom is an avid fly tyer, and has a large fly tying material collection to include a wide variety of materials. Tom is very exacting about his materials. He knows exactly what he wants. I have searched the world to find some of the material in his collection. And his own GLO-BUG YARN, there is nothing else like it. No other yarn ties a GLO-BUG like GLO-BUG YARN. Tom can tie these GLO-BUGS down to the size of a B-B. With a little practice, you can too. And they can be tied on mini-jigs or any hook for that matter. Its best to start out with a STOUT-SHANKED GLO-BUG HOOK until your good at the "method". Then tie them on any hook of your choice.

HOOK: STOUT SHANK GLO-BUG HOOK size 8-10 & 12 (we have them in nickel-plated size 12)

THREAD: SUPERTHREAD, Danville FLYMASTER PLUS or size "D" or stronger rod-wrap thread

YARN: GLO-BUG YARN in a color of your choice. "GLO-BUG" is a trademark by the way.

1. Over-wrap the thread to tie it on the hook-shank..just behind the hook-eye. Now wrap the thread full-length of the hook-shank and back to dead-center of the hook-shank.

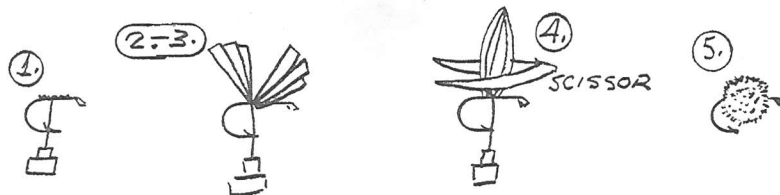
2. Cut three pieces of GLO-BUG YARN..each piece being about 2-1/4 inches long. "LADDER-STACK" the three pieces ON TOP OF THE HOOK SHANK...that means one on top of the other and "on top of the hook-shank". NOTE: If you want an "eye" in your GLO-BUG, the TOP-PIECE of yarn should be a different color than the other two pieces. If you want a "marbel" GLO-BUG, the MIDDLE piece of GLO-BUG yarn should be a different color than the other two pieces of yarn.

3. "Soft-wrap" the thread "twice" around the three pieces of GLO-BUG YARN that are held "ladder-stacked" on top of the hook-shank with the fingers on your left hand. Holding the bobbin out to your chest...pull the thread tight..tighter. Without releasing the tension, make another wrap in the same place..dead-center of the stacked yarn while holding the yarn in position. Make a third wrap if necessary to hold the yarn firmly on top of the hook-shank. NOW HOLD ALL OF THE YARN BACK..as you put a couple of thread wraps behind the hook-eye and whip-finish, We are finished with the thread.

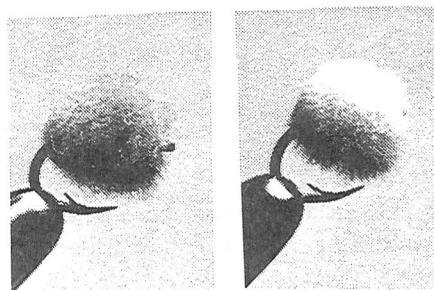
4. LINE-UP all of the ends of the GLO-BUG YARN by pulling up..straight up on them. And while holding them in that position with your left-hand..squeeze out any "slack" in the yarn with the fingers on your right-hand, re-adjusting the slack into the fingers on your left hand. You are now pulling all of the yarn straight-up under considerable pressure with your left hand. While the yarn is under this pressure..make one quick-cut with a pair of FISKAR fly tying scissors a quarter-inch or more above the hook-shank. PRESTO..there is your perfectly-round GLO-BUG. The closer you make the final cut to the hook-shank, the smaller the GLO-BUG will be. No additional trimming with a scissor is necessary, or your doing something wrong.

5. Gently pull and fluff the GLO-BUG. After a little practice, all of your GLO-BUGS will be perfect. You can tie a seasons supply in one evening of tying. Most beginners have trouble tying the yarn in so it will stay on top of the hook shank. Another thing..when you tie them on a jig hook, remember the hook is not tempered. You must minipulate the yarn only. If you bend the hook, it will break.

TO FISH: Put a split-shot 10-inches above the GLO-BUG on the leader and sight-fish them, or fish the under a strike-indicator. These things are so deadly, many thought they would not be allowed in the fly-only water!! They are allowed however.



GLO-BUGS tied by Bob Story



The GREENBUG

Keith Jones of Alton Illinois showed me this fly in the late 70's. He gave me a couple of them and they layed in a fly box for a couple of seasons before I fished them. As you will see, its such a simple little wooly-fly. That was a real mastake on my part. Keith and his wife Trudy are regulars at Bennett Springs and I should have listened. Keith and Trudy are both excellant fly fishers and have that special knowledge learned (earned) from expierence to choose a fly...and take a fish at will. I have often fished with them both, and their special people to me. Keith told me a fly fisher at Bennett Springs gave him this fly with fishing instructions. Its a very small Wooly as you can see. It should be dressed with a silicone-gel to allow it to float..but, it should only float for a short distance. The fly should hit the water with a "plop". It is then allowed to float dead-drift for a yard or so. After that yard, the chennile body will absorb water and sink the fly to just under the surface. It should then be "skipped" just under the surface with the rod tip. A method used with Dry-Woolys. The method works everywhere. One Sunday afternoon on the Meramec River, George Ribold stood next to me while I fumbled with changing a leader-tippet and caught and released three browns in about as many casts. It didnt make changing that leader-tippet any faster for me, it just promoted more fumbling as I rushed to get an otherwise simple job done. And while Keith Jones only tyes this pattern with a medium-green size fine chenille body, George was fishing a Greenbug tyed with a hot-orange chenille body. Since then, we have tyed the pattern with chenille bodies in several different colors and they all work. Keiths pal tyed it in medium-green and I know Keith. If its medium-green its medium-green. Both of those guys are gonna get us for fooling with the pattern. You take your own chances, but I would start with medium-green color chenille for the body. The chenille size is fine or extra fine...

HOOK: Mustad 3906 size 16...new TMC 100 sizes 18 thru 22

THREAD: Danville prewaxed size 6/0 Lt. Olive #60

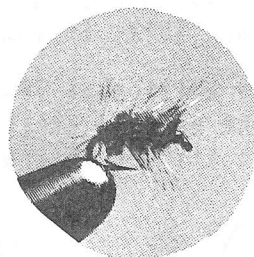
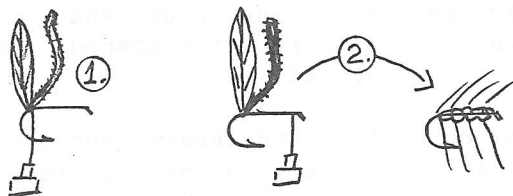
BODY: Size-Fine or Extra-fine chenille, Danville #67 green & other colors

HACKLE: A "sized" grizzly dry fly neck hackle. Other colors used are ginger and dun

1. Put a Mustad 3906 size 16 in your vise. Tye in and run the thread to the end of the hook shank. At the end of the hook-shank, tye in one "sized" grizzly dry fly hackle with the dull-side facing you. Cut and prepare a length of size "fine" chenille in Danville color #67 green, and tye it in at the end of the hook-shank.

2. Run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye. Wrap the chenille up to the waiting thread and tye it in with a few thread-wraps. Cut away the waste material. Palmer-wrap the grizzly hackle up to the waiting thread and tye it in. Cut away the waste material and finish by wrapping a small fly head and whip-finishing.

NOTE: The fly in the photo is tyed with size "fine" chenille. Size "extra" fine makes a neater-looking fly, but wont hit the water with that "plop".



Remember to refer to the "TERMINOLOGY PAGE" if you dont remember or understand the terms "sized", "palmar-wrap" etc used in this manual.

F-C DACE-DARTER MUDDLER..sub-surface

This is a sub-surface muddler. Tied to fish just under the surface in quick darting motions with the rod tip. Its been in a couple of our national bulletins and is now a favorite with many. On a cold April day in the 1970's I visited with Elsie Darby, then parked on the road behind their house to fish Willowemoc Creek. I walked upstream to the first little waterfall, and fished back to the car from there taking a number of browns skipping this pattern just under the surface. That was the first year I had tied or fished the pattern. Since then I have fished it more than the famous floating muddler. And have taken trout everywhere with it, except Bennett Springs State Park. I simply do not know why I cannot get those rainbows in that stream to take this pattern. I have never fished the pattern at Montauk, but I always take both rainbows and browns on the pattern in Current River and on the trophy water of the Meramec River, its a favorite pattern during the spring and very early summer with me.

HOOK: Mustad 9672, 79580 sizes 6, 8 & 10. (79580 my favorite)

BODY: Size medium flat silver or pearl tinsel, or new "Glitter-Body" braid material

THREAD: Danville 6/0 for "tying". Danville 3/0 or FLYMASTER PLUS for "spinning" hair

WINGS: From the hair of a Monga-Ringtail & 5-7 strands of Pearl Crystal-hair

HEAD: Spun deer or light elk hair in the natural color

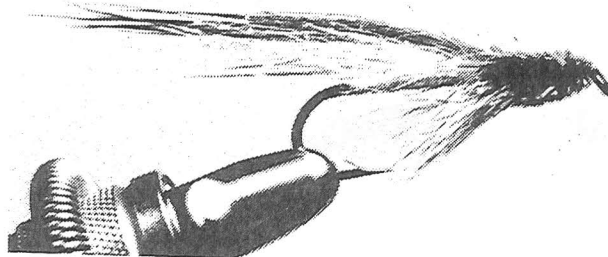
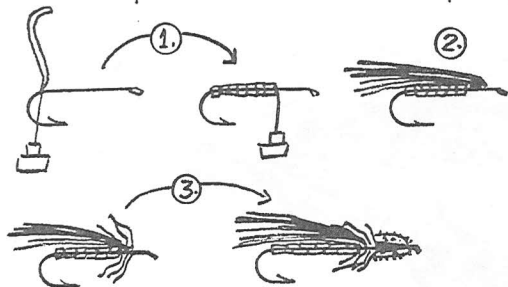
COLLAR: "Reverse-Palmer Wrap" of soft natural grizzly hen saddle or body feather

1. On a size 8 hook, tie in and run the thread to the end of the hook-shank. Tie in a length of silver flat tinsel. Tie the tinsel in with the gold-side facing you..when wrapped the silver-side will show. Wrap the thread up the hook-shank to just past the half-way point on the hook-shank. Make the wraps close together and smooth out the "lump" made when tying in the tail and tinsel. Now wrap the tinsel clockwise up the hook shank in close wraps, forming the silver fly body and tie the tinsel in at the waiting thread. (New GLITTER-BODY braided material can also be used) *MY FAVORITE !!!*

2. Where the thread is now hanging, tie in a sparse wing of WHITE monga-ringtail hair. The tip-ends should extend well past the bend of the hook. Now cut a sparse section of of hair from a BLACK BAND on the monga-ringtail, and tie it in over the top of the white hair already tied in. Adjust the thread build-up on the hook-shank, so that when tied in, the "wings" lay over the top of the fly body and not "sticking up".

3. Where the "wings" are "tied-in", Reverse Palmer-Wrap a collar of natural grizzly hen saddle or body feather. It must be a soft feather so that it lays facing to the rear of the fly and it is made "sparse" by removing the feather-fibers from the left side of the stem while the color-side of the feather is facing you. This "collar" is just behind the area where we will "spin" the deer-hair fly-head. Now spin a "muddler-type" head of deer or light-elk hair. With your Curved-FISKAR scissor's...trim the head to a muddler-head shape. TRIM THE HEAD flat and closer on THE SIDES than you would a regular muddler head. We DONT want a lot of "floatation" on this pattern. When you have the head trimmed...use a BLACK Sanford SHARPIE felt marking-pen to make a straight HORIZONTAL-LINE on both sides of the fly head representing the line you see on the Dace or common creek minnow.

TO FISH: Cast in any direction. Jerk the fly under the surface with your rod tip and keep the fly moving and darting with your rod tip. I cannot remember the last time I used this pattern at Bennett Springs, and thats why I dont take trout on it there!!



Tyed by pro fly tyer Bob Schneider, Little Dixie Flies

MUDDLER (floating)

This pattern is so well known, so popular, just say muddler. Original by Dan Gapen, improved on and made popular by the late Dan Bailey and his shop at Livingston Montana. Daughter Robyn and I would lose count of the smallmouth taken on this pattern on our floats from Onondoga Cave to Campbell bridge. Son Bob always takes the largest brown of the afternoon on Meramec River, while I fuss with the Tiny Olives. If your not taking fish on a muddler, your probably like me. Not fishing the pattern when you should be, which is early morning or late evening..or anytime!! It can be weighted and fished with a sink-tip fly line or lead-core section to imitate a sculpin. It can be "dressed" and floated to imitate a grasshopper. It can be tyed with dyed elk or deer hair. The two best muddler tyers that I know are pro tyer Lee Rudisill of Ojai, California. I've supplied mottled turkey for the wings on hundreds of his muddler patterns. And expert fly tyer Jerry Jarosik of the St. Louis, Mo. area. I've had the pleasure of watching Jerry tye with deer-hair at a meeting of the Ozark Fly Fisher's. Nobody's better! Never miss the opportunity to watch Jerry work with deer hair. Its a pleasant learning experience. We've asked Jerry to tye a muddler for the photo on this page...

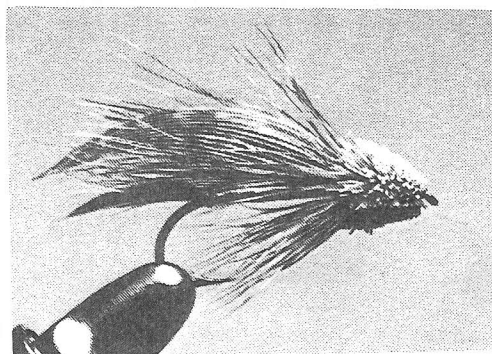
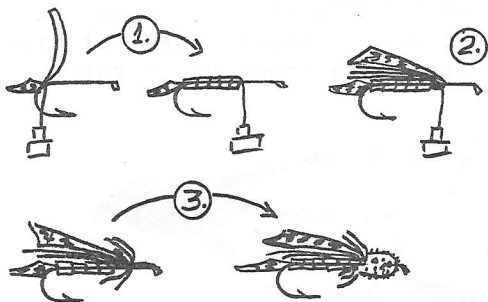
HOOK: Mustad 94831 sizes 6 thru 10(my favorites). Mustad 9672 and TMC 5263 6 thru 10
BODY: Flat tinsel gold or silver, or Pearlescent flat tinsel
THREAD: Danville 3/0 or FLYMASTER-PLUS
WING: Section from a wild turkey "mottled" wing quill
TAIL: Same as wing
COLLAR: "Fine" deer-hair "spun". HEAD: Thick spinning-quality deer or elk hair

1. Tye in and run thread to end of hook-shank. Tye in a section of mottled(or barred) turkey wing-quill(see photo for length,etc). Tye in a length of flat-tinsel. Wrap the thread up the hook-shank to the 3/4s point on the hook-shank. Wrap the tinsel body-material in tight-close wraps up to the waiting thread and tye it in with a few thread wraps.

2. Where the thread is now, and on top of the hook-shank..tye in a sparse "wing" of grey squirrel "tail-hair"(see photo for length). Now cut a 1/4-inch wide section of turkey wing-quill. Tye this wing-quill section on TOP of the squirrel tail hair-wing, and about as long as the squirrel-tail hair-wing. (see photo) Note: Before using turkey wing-quills, I spray them with TUFFILM...holds the fibers together.

3. Cut a small clump of "fine"..non-spinning type deer hair from the hide. With a comb, remove the "under-fur" from the butt-ends of the deer hair. Put the deer-hair "tip ends down" into your hair-stacker and tap the stacker on the bench-top to "even" the hairs. Gently remove the "evened" hairs and "spin" them onto the hook-shank as the "collar". From a piece of deer-hide with THICK "spinning-type" deer-hair...cut a clump of hair the size of a wooden-match, and spin it onto the hook-shank just in front of the Collar. Continue to "spin" deer-hair on the hook-shank for the fly-head until you reach the hook-eye. Whip-finish the thread behind the hook-eye and cut thread out. With your Curved FIAKAR scissors...trim the deer-hair muddler head to shape.

TO FISH: Dress the "floating-type" muddler with dry-fly floatant. Fish as a "hopper".



PEEKING CADDIS LARVA

St. Charles Missouri fly tyer and leader-builder Dave Barron allows us one of his favorite patterns for this edition of the manual. Dave is an excellent nymph fisher. He has a weekend trailer-home at Bennett Springs State Park and knows that water well. "Lunker-Patch" trout are not unusual to Dave. He's demonstrated fly tying at the Ozark Fly Fisher meetings, and can often be found at our store demonstrating both fly tying and leader building techniques. The following pattern & fly tied by Dave Barron..

PEEKING CADDIS LARVA pattern.

Missouri trout streams have an abundance of Caddis Fly. Over the years people have created flies for adults, pupa, larva..and have tried to create flies for the cased larva. The PEEKING-CADDIS LARVA is one of the simplest patterns tied for the "Cased-Larva". This pattern is to be fished deep, bouncing along the bottom during none-hatch periods. Trout are used to seeing this form of cased-larva and they readily take the fly, because they know the larva cannot escape.

The fly has two basic colors to it. One is to represent the "case" or home, and the other, the "larva" itself.

HOOK: Mustad 9671 sizes 10 thru 14
BODY: Hare's Mask blend
RIBBING: Fine gold-tinsel
LARVA: SPECTRUM #5 green, or #31 tan
LEGS: Brown hungarian partridge body feather
HEAD: Black ostrich herl
THREAD: Danville prewaxed 3/0 #100 black

1. Run thread to end of hook-shank. Wrap .035 lead-wire on front 2/3rds of hook-shank and lock-in with tying thread. Run thread back to the end of the hook-shank. Tye-in a 6-inch piece of gold-tinsel.

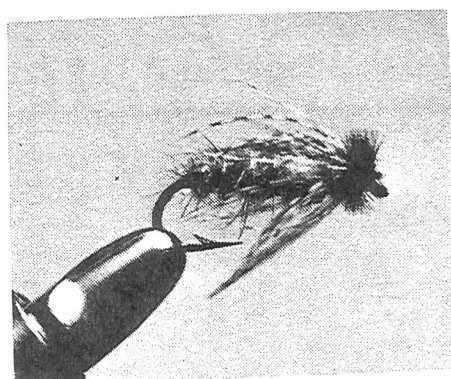
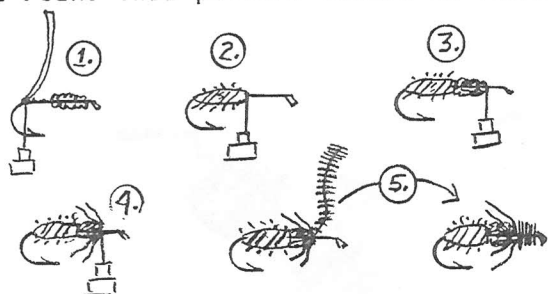
2. Use the Hare's Mask for dubbing, leaving the guard-hair. Form a well tapered body to the mid-point on the hook-shank. In wide-even wraps..advance the gold-rib over the tapered fly body.

3. Now for the "Larva" part of the fly. That's your #5 or #31 SPECTRUM. Dub a body in front of the Hare's mask body...and about 1/2 the length of the body. This will form the "larva" sticking out of the case.

4. Select a brown partridge feather about half the length of the hook-shank and remove the left side of the feather (color-side of feather facing you). Tye in by its tip-top end (soft-hackle style) and make two wraps in front of the larva body. Tye-off and cut away waste feather. The remaining feather-fibers being the "legs" of the larva.

5. Select one black ostrich herl and tye in, forming the "head" of the larva with 3-4 turns of herl. Tye off and whip-finish fly head.

TO FISH: This pattern should be fished slow and dead-drift.



BURLAP-BUGS

Burlap-Bugs are a secret weapon in my arsenal of simple, yet effective trout flys. This pattern must be tied in an exacting way with the correct material. You must use "natural" burlap. The new synthetic burlap is of no value for this pattern. If you cannot find the "real" burlap, contact me as we still have it in the "sheet" form. Years ago we shipped raw fur in custom sized burlap bags. Pull a strand of the burlap from the bulk piece (small diameter strand) sized to the hook-size you will be tying on. I tie most of my Burlap-Bugs on Mustad 3906 size 16 & 18. Tease one end of the strand to reduce its size and taper it for the nymph-tail. And use your thumb-nail to scrape the burlap-strand, breaking-down the fiber and fraying it to allow loose-ends of the burlap "hemp" material to fray out and away from the strand..as you wrap and shape the nymph-body. This is the Burlap-Bug we will tie below. Another favorite of mine is this same body with a tail of 3-feather-fibers from a lemon woodduck flank feather. And when the burlap-strand is tied in at the end of the hook-shank..tie it in with the "strand" to the front of the fly. Then "back" the first wrap to the end of the hook-shank, before you wrap the strand forward. This method will prevent the "lump" at the end of the hook-shank. Another pattern that I do well with is to tie a few feather-fibers from a brown hungarian partridge feather in for a tail. Tie in a strand of burlap at the end of the hook-shank. Move the thread up to just behind hook-eye. Wrap a straight(not shaped) body up to the thread and tie in. Now use the V-NOTCH METHOD to put a collar of starling or dark-dun around the fly, just behind the hook-eye. I fish this pattern as an Emerger when "Olives" are hatching. Skip it right thru the rise-forms, using your rod-tip. The trout take it for the Emerging Blue-Winged Olive. The nymphs can be sight-fished or fished under a strike-indicator. Another thing, drop a tied Burlap-Bug in a clear glass of water. Turn the glass in a good light. The Burlap turns from dark to light in color, depending on the light-angle, "natural" burlap will not darken..

HOOK: Mustad 3906 or TMC 3769 sizes 16 and 18. For a longer hook-shank TMC 3761

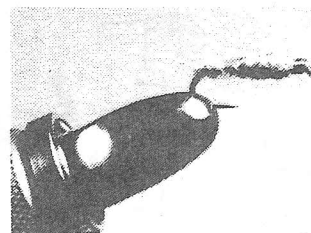
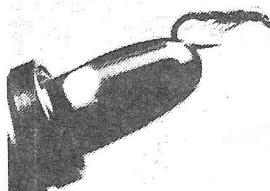
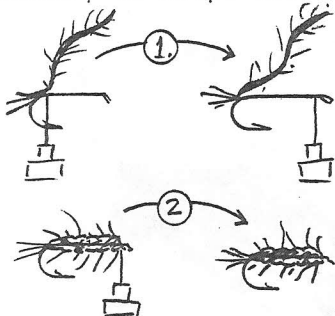
TAIL: See above commentary

THREAD: Danville tan #41, size 6/0

COLLAR: If tied "Emerger-Style"..dark-dun hackle, coot, or starling feather V-NOTCHED

1. Tie in and run thread to end of hook-shank. Choose a small-diameter strand of burlap and "tease" one end of it with your finger-nail to fray and reduce its size. Pull the whole strand of burlap over your thumb-nail, while pressing your thumb-nail against the first finger on your right hand. NOW THEN..tie the burlap-strand in at the end of the hook-shank(hold it on-top of the hook-shank) leaving a sparse tail of frayed-burlap sticking out the back of the hook-shank...and the balance of the strand sticking out to the "front" of the fly. Move the thread on the bobbin up to just behind the hook-eye.

2. Wrap the burlap-strand up the hook-shank..being sure to back-up the first wrap so your starting at the end of the hook-shank. Continue to wrap the strand forward up the hook-shank clockwise..forming a nymph-shaped body as you wrap. This requires very close wraps..and over-wraps to form a body larger at the front, then it is at the rear. (see photo). Tie the now formed burlap nymph body in just behind the hook eye and whip-finish the fly head. NOTE: If your going to apply a V-NOTCHED hackle-collar, its not necessary to shape the fly-body. Simply wrap the burlap-strand forward in close wraps.



TRICO-SPINNERS (Tricorythodes Species)

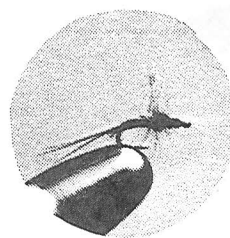
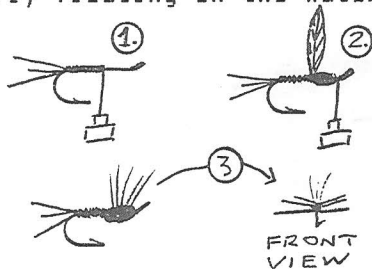
Call'em TRY-CD's or TREE-CD's...I hate em. They must be tied in size 20 and smaller to be effective. And you (I) cannot see them floating on the water. Tied as a "spinner" they lay flat on the water, and because of their very small size, its hard to keep your eye on them as they dead-drift along on the surface. This tiny dry-fly fished under the right conditions will take fish when no other fly will however. So tiny, unless you "up-size" the hook, your going to be tying on Mustad 94859(ring-eye) or 94842(up-eye) in size 24 & 26. The Partridge K1A series is a good choice hook also in sizes 26 & 28. With its wide-gap, you have a better chance of hooking the fish on the rise. And "clear sewing-thread" tippetts are necessary. And you should rig a "shock-gum" section of 10-inches long on the end of your fly line to prevent breaking the thread-tippet. I hate these Trico's, however they are a very important dry-fly "hatch" on our Missouri trout waters. And they are on the water right up to the first frosts of fall in late Oct. And if you like fishing midges..the Trico's give you a morning hatch(or "fall") to fish too, and in the afternoon, you can fish the same water with Blue-Winged Olive imitations. Of the ten known Trico's, we are going to tie the black & white pattern. And I tie this pattern in tan also..using #31 SPECTRUM for the thorax, Danville #41 tan 6/0 thread, and ginger-grizzly for the tail and "spent-wings". I gave one of these to Dick Ryan as a sample, and he and Mel Trotier had good success with the pattern on the trophy-water of the Meramec River. Here, we are going to tie the "dark" version...

HOOK: Mustad 94842(up-eye) sizes 22 & smaller. Partridge K1A sizes 26 & 28
THREAD: Danville Prewaxed size 6/0 color #100 black
THORAX: SPECTRUM #50 black or SPECTRUM #17 dark brown
WING: Dry fly grade Grizzly neck hackle, wrapped and "clipped-flat"
TAIL: Three feather-fibers from a grizzly neck hackle..tied "stablizer" style
BODY: The tying thread

1. Tie in and run thread to end of hook-shank. Tie in a tail as long as the hook-shank using a small bunch of feather-fibers from a grizzly neck hackle. Use you fingers to pull the out-side feather-fibers to a 30-40 degree angle to the hook-shank. Leave a single "fiber" sticking straight out the back of the hook-shank. On this tiny pattern, its not necessary to use the "fur-ball" method of Stabilizer-Tailing. Wrap the thread forward up the hook-shank in close-touching thread-wraps. This is all there is to the fly-body. Stop the "wrap" at the rear of the "thorax-area" of the hook-shank.

2. At the rear of this "thorax-area"..tye in a slightly over-sized grizzly dry fly hackle, dull-side facing forward. Tease a tiny amout of SPECTRUM from the hank and dub onto the tying thread. Wrap the thread to the hook-eye, building a slightly enlarged thorax area as you wrap. Tie the thorax in just behind the hook-eye with a couple of thread wraps.(By "over-sized" hackle..we mean relative to the hook-size)

3. Using your hackle-plier..wrap the grizzly-hackle over the thorax(palmer-style) and tie it in behind the hook-eye. Only two or three wraps should be needed. Now using your finest eye-surgeons scissor or G-Nipper..cut the hackle "flat" on the bottom side of the fly. And..YOU must decide if YOU should cut the TOP-SIDE of the hackle flat. Its correct to cut it flat, as this is a "spinner-pattern", and should float laying FLAT on the water. However..if you leave the top-side..un-cut, its easier to see this little fly floating on the water. Try it both ways, and then decide!!



IRON BLUE WINGLESS NYMPH

Mike Fischer, Alton Illinois attorney and long time friend brought this pattern to our attention. Its an old old pattern by the late Jim Leisenring, and Mike has had great success with the pattern at Bennett Springs State Park. A few years ago, several of our pro tyers "listed" the fly. I dyed up several pounds of India saddle to the required "honey-dun" for the tail and collar. A few dozen packages remain in the store or warehouse...and thats it!!..I've since forgotten the formula used in dying it. Always write-down a custom-dying formula. Never leave it to memory!! For this pattern, you can get by with a natural pale-ginger India saddle hackle. Natural honey-dun and dyed honey-dun are both hard to come by. Jim Leisenring was before our time, yet his methods for tying and fishing wet-flys remains the "standard" even today. And this pattern will take trout anywhere. A long time favorite of mine, im never without it..

HOOK: MUSTAD 3906-B, 9671 or TMC 3761 sizes 12 thru 16...(I like TMC 3761 size 14)
THREAD: Danville 3/0 RED # 56 or 6/0 RED #56 (I use and prefer the 6/0)
TAIL: Honey-dun feather-fibers or same from natural pale-ginger India saddle
COLLAR: Honey-Dun or natural pale-ginger India saddle, wrapped or V-NOTCHED
BODY: The darkest natural muskrat fur you can find
WEIGHTED: On TMC 3761 size 14..8-10 wraps .025 lead-wire (this hook used for photo)

NOTE: We'll tie on TMC 3761 size 14..the hook is now available everywhere.

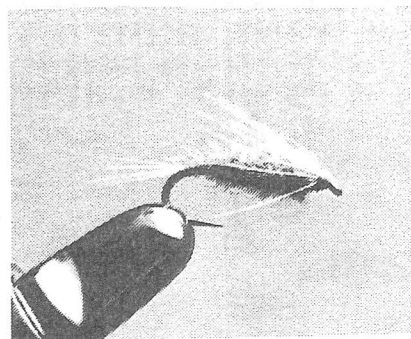
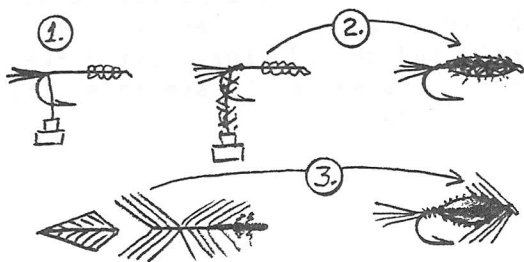
1. Put 10-wraps .025 lead-wire on thorax-portion of hook-shank. Tie in just behind hook-eye and run thread to just behind last "lead-wrap"..building thread-dams to hold lead-wire in position on hook-shank. Run thread to end of hook-shank. Tie in 5-8 feather-fibers from the honey-dun saddle hackle for a tail half as long as the hook-shank.

2. LISTEN NOW...Sparse..pinch-dub a "sparse" amount of dark muskrat dubbing fur on the thread and wrap it for the first 3 to 5 wraps up the hook-shank so that the red thread shows-thru. Now, pinch-dub more fur on the thread and continue wrapping and building the body up to just behind the hook-eye and tie in with a few thread wraps.

3. At the rear of the fly-head, tie in a V-NOTCHED COLLAR from a dyed honey-dun saddle hackle, or from a pale-ginger saddle hackle. We want 4-feather fibers on each side of the fly, and not to extend any further to the rear of the fly than the body is long. Finish the fly head and whip-finish. Apply a drop of penetrating head cement to "head".

Im always watching for DARK-MUSKRAT fur for this pattern. Years ago these hides were called "Dakota-rats" in the fur business. Dark-muskrat fur is normal and can be found simply by asking your supplier to "search" his inventory for you.

TO FISH THIS PATTERN: Allow the fly to DEAD-DRIFT just off the stream bottom. At the end of the drift, use the Leisenring-Lift.



The C.R.GOLD..Current River Gold.

NOTICE: We left out of this manual any fly-patterns considered "not-legal" on our State Park "fly-only" sections of water. This C.R.Gold pattern is tied with "rubber-leg" material front and back, as you will see. For that (rubber-leg) reason we caution you to check with regulations regarding material legal to use in tying fly-patterns to be used in the "FLY-ONLY" sections of our State Park Waters. You have now been warned!!

Ok, my friend Dick Ryan developed this fly. His pal and mine..Mel Trotier did the test work on the pattern. Dick didnt even give the fly a name! So I called it the C.R.GOLD after the success Mel had on the Current River with the pattern. Then I told expert fly tyer, fly rodder Mike Ott(Jeff. City, Mo.) now living in the St.Louis area about the fly. Mike has taken trout on the state trophy-trout waters using the pattern, and has told others of his success with the pattern. Mike dont even know Dick Ryan...yet. Im after Mike to join the OZARK FLY FISHERS. Now that Mel, Mike and myself have made Dick Ryan and his C.R.Gold pattern famous..well, regionally famous..he's probably off speaking at FFF meetings as far away as my favorite town, Springfield, Mo. Ask him about his Ru Ru DICKY-BIRD pattern. Anyway, we thank Mel Trotier for giving us Dick Ryans approval to expose the C.R.GOLD...lets tie it.

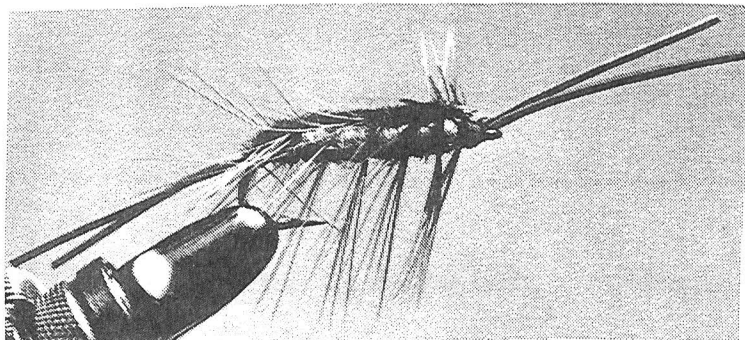
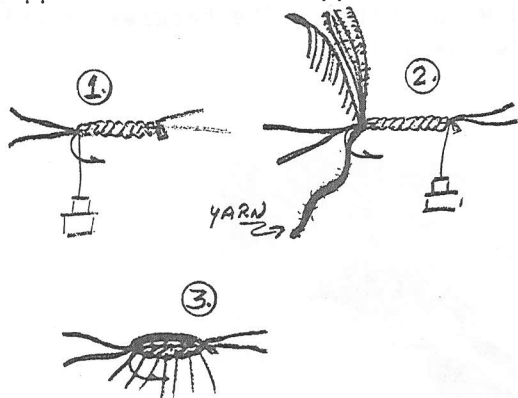
HOOK: Mustad 9674 size 10(original)..other hooks of your choice.
BODY: Gold "Sparkle-Wool" from India or sub SPARKLE-YARN 3-strand un-raveled
FEELERS & TAIL: Size "fine" strands of rubber-leg material
HACKLE: India Furnace saddle hackle reverse palmer-wrapped
BACK: Peacock-Herl strands
WEIGHTED: Full length of hook-shank with .025 lead-wire
THREAD: Danville prewaxed Color #100 black in sizes 3/0 or 6/0

1. Tie in two-strands of size-fine rubber-leg material..full-length of the hook-shank, allowing two-strands to stick out the back of the hook-shank for 1-inch as the tail. Allow two-strands...to stick out the front of the hook-shank for 1/2-inch as the "feelers". Over-wrap the full length of hook-shank with .025 lead-wire. Run thread to the end of the hook-shank.

2. Tie in one furnace India saddle-hackle prepared to be "reverse" Palmer-Wrapped. Tie in 4-strands of peacock-herl. Tie in a 6-inch length of gold Sparkle-Wool. Wrap the thread up to just behind the hook-eye.

3. Wrap the gold Sparkle-Wool up the hook-shank forming the fly body and tie in behind the hook-eye. Reverse Palmer-Wrap the furnace saddle-hackle up to just behind the hook-eye and tie in. Pull the peacock-herl strands over the top of the fly body and tie in just behind the hook-eye. Whip-finish the fly head.

TO FISH: I've fished this fly deep using a sink-tip fly line and 18 inches of 4-pound tippet. It can be skipped or allowed to dead-drift just off the stream bottom.

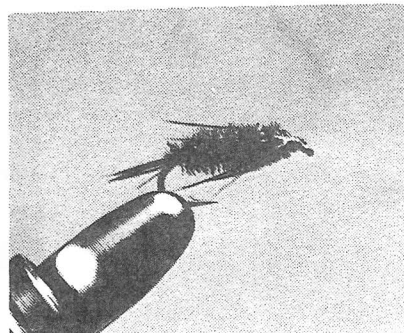
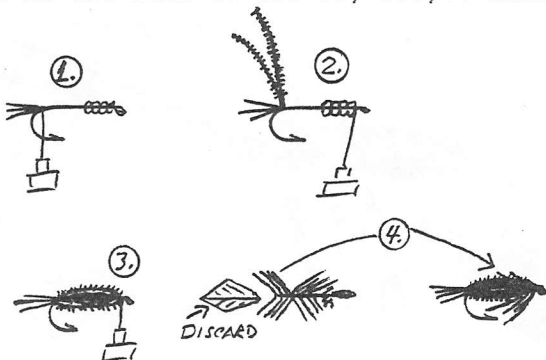


NOVEMBER-PEACOCK wet fly

I originally called this little wet-fly the WINTER-PEACOCK. I changed the name to NOVEMBER-PEACOCK in celebration of our Missouri "winter trout season" a few years ago. The only thing special about the pattern is that it has a peacock-herl body. I've said that if you do nothing but wrap peacock-herl around any hook-shank, you have a pretty good trout fly. And this pattern looks very much like other wet-fly patterns using peacock-herl for the fly body. Nothing original about that. Its only after you tie and fish the pattern, that you become so fond of it. I tie it in the two sizes mentioned, and its been a very good WINTER FLY for me. When the hard-woods put a vail of black over the late "winter-water", we must change our thinking..or we fail to take trout! Be very cautious (stealth) when entering the section of water to be fished. Gentle presentations over flat dark looking, but gin-clear water are necessary. On these waters I use the size 16 (below). As gently as possible I cast the fly up and across the stream. Then I allow it to dead-drift, finding its own-depth relative to drag and current. Then I gently twitch the fly along with the rod-tip. Then speed the twitch up to a "skip" using the rod-tip. At the end of the drift I use the Leisenring-Lift. Often enough to keep the pattern in my fly box...one of these methods works. Lets tie...

HOOK: Mustad 3906 size 16, TMC 3761 size 14 (TMC 3761 size 14 my favorite)
THREAD: Danville Flymaster size 6/0 RED #56
WEIGHTED: "FINE" copper-wire size 16, 8-10 wraps .025 lead-wire size 14 (under thorax)
TAIL: Feather-fibers from a GREEN-ALMOND ringneck Pheasant feather
BODY: 2-strands peacock-herl size 16, size 14, 3-strands peacock-herl
HACKLE: V-NOTCHED feather-fibers from a green-almond ringneck pheasant feather

1. Build the thorax area up on the size 16 with fine copper-wire. Use 10-wraps of .025 lead-wire under thorax-area of hook-shank on size 14. Tie thread in behind hook-eye and wrap to end of hook-shank, locking in "wire" as you wrap. Tie in a tail of 5-8 feather-fibers from the green-almond feather. (always cut-away waste as you tie)
2. Tie-in two peacock-herls (3-for size 14) at the end of the hook-shank. Before tying herl in..lay them in opposite-directions of each other. Wrap the thread up to just behind the hook-eye and let it hang there on the bobbin.
3. ALL AT THE SAME TIME..wrap the peacock-herl up to the waiting thread and tie in with a few thread-wraps. Wrap the thread "back" to a point just behind where the finished fly head is going to be. Cut away waste herl & keep for next fly.
4. V-NOTCH a GREEN-ALMOND feather. Gently pull back & out of the way all but 4-feather-fibers on each side of the feather-stem. Lay the V-Notched feather down on top of the fly body (color-side up) at the waiting-thread. Tie it in with a few "soft-thread-wraps". Hold the feather-fibers to the side and slightly lower than the fly body, while you gently pull the fibers through the soft thread-wraps "sizing" the hackle-length as you pull..so that the tip-ends of the fibers extend no further back than the hook-bend. Tighten-up the thread-wraps & finish the fly head and whip-finish. The hackles should be on the side of the fly body (4-each side) and facing down.



COMMON WOOLYBUGGER

Elsewhere in the manual we tied Pete Mathiesen's deep fast-water Woolybugger. Its special in that its weighted very heavy to get it down deep in fast or deep water. Much of our trout fishing is done in waters of varied depth and current. And most trout fishers tie and fish a Woolybugger much like Pete's, but with less weight. And you can vary the body material and or colors of a Woolybugger pattern. And they all work very well. In fact you should never be without this pattern. Its a good winter-fly pattern also. It should be fished deep and slow. I often use a sink-tip fly line with no more than 18-inches of 4 or 5 pound test tippet-material. I make short (25-foot) Roll-Cast to the head of a pool or up and across the stream, allowing the Woolybugger to get as deep as possible. Then dead-drift it through pool or stretch of water being fished. After each "drift", move a little down-stream and make another roll-cast. This way, your fishing a little old water and a little new water with each "drift". I keep a firm-line to detect the "take". In late winter, its often just a "tap" or a slight "tug". During the spring and summer, a trout will grab this pattern hard and run-off with it!!

HOOK: Mustad 9674(my choice) or Mustad 9672 all in sizes 4 thru 10
THREAD: Danville 6/0 or 3/0 in a color to match fly body material
TAIL: Marabou in a color of your choice, blended with Flashabou if you like
BODY: Peacock-herl, regular Chenille or Ultra-Chenille
HACKLE: "Long" India or China saddle in a color of your choice(I like 6" Blk. China)
WEIGHTED: .025 lead-wire, full length of hook-shank or under thorax portion only

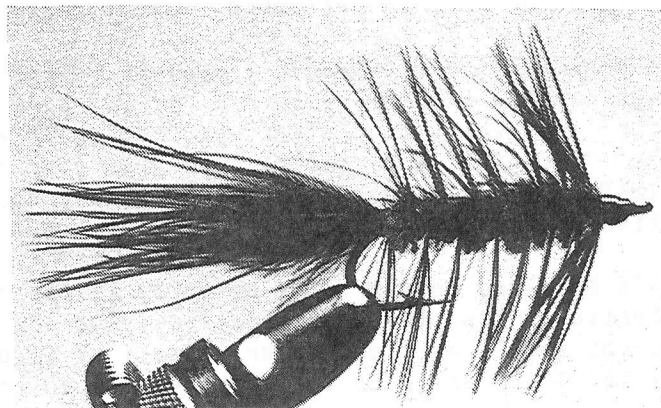
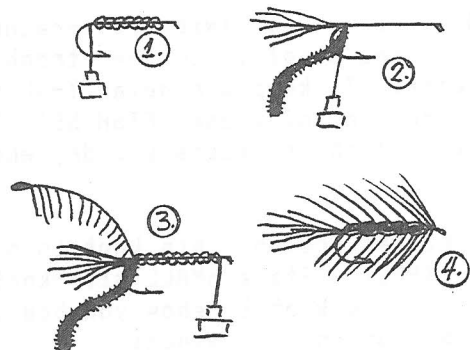
NOTE: Here we are going to tie my favorite Chenille-body Woolybugger. We will be using med. size Dk. Olive chenille, black-marabou tail, black China saddle-hackle.

1. Wrap full-length of hook-shank with .025 lead wire, leaving ample space behind the hook-eye for the fly head. Also leave ample space at the end of the hook-shank to tie in the needed materials. Tie the thread in just behind the hook-eye and run it to just behind the end of the lead-wrap. Build a small thread-dam, locking the lead-wire in place on the hook-shank.

2. At the end of the hook-shank tie in a tail of black-marabou extending to the rear of the fly in a length to match the hook-shank length or slightly longer. At the end of the hook-shank, tie in a length of Size Medium Dark Olive Chenille.

3. Prepare a long saddle-hackle to be wrapped "reverse Palmer-Wrap". Remove the feather-fibers from the left-side of the hackle-stem while the color-side of the hackle faces you. You now have a "belt" on one-side of the hackle. Tie the hackle in by its tip-top end, color-side of the hackle facing-forward, "Belt"..facing away from you. Run the thread up to just behind the hook-eye.

4. Wrap the Chenille in close-tight wraps up to the waiting thread and tie in with a few thread wraps. Wrap the hackle forward in even wraps. Wrap it on the "belt-side", keeping the color-side facing forward. As you near the last 3rd of the hook-shank behind the hook-eye...make the hackle-wraps closer together. Tie the hackle in just behind the hook-eye with a few thread-wraps and finish the fly head and whip-finish. Apply a drop or two of cement.



FROM EXPERIENCE...

VESTS...Buy a shorty vest the first time and save money. Your going to own a "shorty" vest sooner or later anyway. You will soon grow tired of dragging the lower pockets of a standard length vest thru the water. Fred Horvath told me to sew a "curtain-hook" under the left arm, and hang my net there while walking from spot to spot. Since then, I've hung both the net and a can of beer on that hook. For the bucks, the Cortland SHORTY vest is the best buy. Its around \$40.00, and has the best pocket layout.

WADERS...no comment. Buy anything you have the courage. Its been a tough year with wader quality..both boot foot and neopreme. I carry a pair of quilted under-wear bottoms. Pull them over the outside of my pants, then pull on waders. Always carry a bandanna in the pocket to dry your hands as you change dry flys. Carry a "carpet-sample"..2 X 3 feet in size, cost a buck..lay it on the ground to "change-on".

SUN GLASSES and visual-aids. I wear the Pola-focus(bi-focal in bottom) type of sun glasses. And Jack Herr started me using the "Flip-Up" magnifier. It clamps to the bill of your hat. Folds out of the way, until you need to poke an 8X tippet thru a number 22 Grey-Wispy. I no longer take my "granny-glasses" to the stream.

DRESSING YOUR FLY LINE..I dress my fly line EVERY DAY THAT I FISH. It takes 10-minutes. And the line shoots thru the guides, floats high for an easy pick-up. I use "LAZAR LINE SPEED". Its a liquid copolymer. It re-surfaces the line to a smooth fast finish. My favorite fly line is a long-belly that I put on a reel 5-years ago. Its a little stained, but shows no wear. Wet fly fishers need not be so concerned.

SHEEP SKIN PATCH OR HATBAND..never!! Your hook starts rusting as soon as you stick it into this thick wool, and the fly never dries. Get a sheet of 1/8th inch poly-foam packing material and cut a patch from it. Stick it on your hat or vest with a safety-pin. Replace as needed, its costs little or is free. And the hook and fly dry fast.

FLY BOXES..for the midge dry fly and wet fly fisher, the Swedish "small" 12-compartment fly box is the most popular fly box we have ever sold. There hard to find, we have them most of the time. Back orders are frequent however. They fit in any shirt or vest pocket. And because the box is only 1/2-inch thick, you wont have to "dig" for a fly. And I "dress" dry fly boxes in right-pockets of vest, wet fly boxes in left-pockets.

FELT-SOLES..I use the "sandle-type" strap-ons. I dont need "felts" for most of my Missouri stream fishing, with the exception of North Fork River. It a death-wish to fish this beautiful stream without felt-soles. And felt-soles are good to have on everywhere. However, they will wear out fast on long "dry" walks, like the parking lot at Maramec State Park to the trophy water on Meramec River.

I carry a custom-made cloth "Leader-Tippet Wallet" made for us by the wife of a customer. It holds four tippet-spools. The leader tippet "protudes" thru the top velcro closure, or groments in the bottom. You mark the size tippet next to its outlet. Then you pin the wallet on the inside of your vest, just under the clipper on your vest.

On your fly tying bench, keep a dark colored 3X5 card and a white 3x5 card. Lay or position the card on the bench, and "tye into it", using it for the background.

TWO WINTER FISHING GARMENTS I CANT BE COMFORTABLE WITHOUT.."down-vest"(wide-temperature range)..and a FISH-NET T-SHIRT. If you walk a long way to the stream, to the trophy-water area..back to the car..your going to work up a sweat. To keep a regular T-shirt from "clinging" and getting cold when your not active, get one of these FISH-NET T-SHIRTS from L.L. Bean. They trap "air-pockets" under your T-shirt, keeps you dry when active and a lot of clothes on..yet no sweat!!

WALTS KNOT..we only brushed on knots in the manual. Tom Lasker brought this knot to our attention. Its the best knot for Tying the FLY TO THE TIPPET. Its a SMALL slip-knot, and you should ask Tom Lasker, myself or anyone that knows this knot to show you how to tye it. I prefer it to the improved clinch-knot that I mention in this manual.

RODS, REELS and LEADERS...some thoughts and experience

We could fill a manual on these items, based mostly on what we have learned from you. In Missouri and across the country, SAGE is your favorite factory rod and blank. Following SAGE and in no particular order is Scott, Powell, Winston and Diamondback. It continues with a lot of other fine rod names. And fine craftsmen are assembling rods for you, made up from these blanks. I like my "made-up" rods clean and sleek. I have no message for you on my rods, no mud flaps, no dice hanging from the mirror. Simply a rod-blank, outfitted with quality parts and pieces. The rod "action" says it all.

For years I fished Bamboo only. This was a mistake much of the time. And to own a silk-line is like adopting a teenager with a drug habit. Constant care! Today's graphite rods are a joy to cast and require little care. Your favorite lengths are 8, 8-1/2 and nine foot for line weights 5, 6 and 7. I fish a SAGE 8-1/2 foot moderate action rod made for 5-6 weight line. I fish it with a 5-weight "Long-Belly" fly line. The rod, its bag and case sells for just under \$200.00 and is our best selling rod at the store and nationwide. We also sell a lot of Cortland GRF 1000 rods in lengths 7-1/2 foot thru 9-foot. These rods sell for under \$50.00 and we have had no problems with these rods. Depending on the water you fish, 7-1/2 thru 9 foot is where you should be. These are "casting" lengths. For sight-fishing at the state parks, 6 & 6-1/2 foot rods are again becoming popular. You must use the extension of your arm to bring out the casting qualities of these short rods. If you're a beginner, or want one rod...make it an 8 or 8-1/2 foot rod. You can add other lengths as you go, and you will.

FLY LINES

And the "long-belly" fly line mentioned above? It loads your rod quickly. You can make a short cast to a "rise" just in front of you, or zing a cast across the stream with little or no false casting. I have been writing about the advantages of the "long-belly" fly lines in our bulletins for the past five years. We sell more long-belly fly lines than all other fly line tapers combined. And it's our most re-ordered fly line. Lee Wulff has added this taper to his line. He in fact, started me using this taper in the mid 1970's. It was before its time. It did not handle well on the softer actions of the bamboo and glass rods. Ted Simroe got me interested again after sending me a sample BORKAST line 5-years ago. And now I consider anything less than a "long-belly" taper, second best on a graphite rod. SA builds the BORKAST, Wulff...and now a long-belly taper in their own Supreme line. Jack Driscoll (Cortland) gave me a sample long-belly this past spring to try. Cortland will call it the long-body. So important is the future of this taper, that Bruce Kirschner at SAGE told me this past summer.. "SAGE will start putting but one line weight number on their rods". Line weight numbers on rods by the way mean this..5-6 wt., means the rod was designed for 5-weight double-taper line, 6-weight-forward-taper line. There is a "long-belly" taper fly line in your future however!!

REELS

I'm using a Hardy LRH. I also have a back up. Function with class. I love em. The first was purchased twenty five years ago. It was dropped from the top of Keith Jones car doing 25 MPH on a black top road. Not a test, just dumb. I had left it there while you and I talked. It got dark, we took off, forgetting the reel on top of the car. It bounced off the road with no more damage than a "nick" to remind me not to be dumb like that again. My tippet range is one to four pound test. I don't concern myself with drag. To a dry fly fisher with a size 18 Blue-Winged Olive tied on the end of a 7X tippet, how can you be concerned about the drag on your reel? Drag is myth in this situation. On a large fish we don't talk drag, we talk control. And if you try to use your trout reels for steelhead fishing, there is a dummy standing in your waders. And some think they'll horse a Michigan steelhead with a 20-lb tippet, while forgetting the 18-lb test backing on their reel...and the steelhead breaks the backing and steals the whole fly line and leader outfit. Buy a reel designed for the fishing you do. Not the one or two trips you "might" make. And today the rim-control drag is popular. The Hardy Marquis out-sells the LRH. While the LRH is considered class by old timers, the rim-control looks more functional. Manufacturers jumped on it. Us too. Finally a selling feature that we all like. The SA 456 at under \$50.00, the MARTIN 67SS at under \$30.00 and the Cortland Rim-Fly at under \$30.00 are fine reels for the money...when used for trout fishing. For a little over \$100.00 you like the Hardy Marquis, Ross R-2 and G series and the Hardy LRH in that order. It spreads thin from there. Pay much more for a trout reel and your being pretentious or trying to kid somebody about your need for drag. (the exception being "pride" of ownership, regarding a "class reel".

Rods, Reels and Leaders continued..

If you fish steelhead each spring or fall, get a reel for it. The SA SYSTEM TWO reels for the money are a great buy. And mega-bucks for a class steelhead-salmon reel is also a good investment. The reel won't let you down after a long drive!

LEADERS

Mention the word in a group of three fly fishers and get three different thoughts. As a beginner, you really having a problem with connecting your leader to your fly line. This is probably the number one problem you bring to our store, looking for help with. Even the advanced fly fisher can use some help. Let's nail it down, being specific. Let's simplify it, using our methods. Then you try other methods, and decide on one you like. I never never roll a leader on my fly reel. I went on about this with the late Dan Bailey. At the end of the day, he not only rolled the leader up on his reel, but the tippet and wet fly also. Again, you decide, but here's how I do it. I make it clean and simple. Put a loop in the end of your fly line per instructions elsewhere in this manual. They last for years. You now need at least two leader butt-sections with an easy to tie surgeons-loop in both ends of the butt-section. It takes 2-minutes to learn to tie a surgeons-loop. These butt-sections are five or six feet long and taper from, say.....021 to .009(5-lb. test). At the bottom end just above the knot on one butt-section....you will have a 1-inch piece of fluorescent-orange fly line as a strike indicator. These come in packs of three for a buck. The other butt-section is for your dry fly fishing. To complete the leader, cut a 22 to 35 inch piece of your favorite "tippet" material, and put a surgeons-loop in one end of it. Attach the butt-section of the leader to your fly line loop to loop. Then you attach the "tippet" loop to the loop in the end of the butt-section. Now tie a fly on the end of the tippet with an improved clinch-knot and start fishing. You set-up in a couple of minutes. Replace tippets during the day as needed, and at the end of the day..back the leader butt-section off the loop on your fly line, and put the butt-section of your leader away till next time. IMPORTANT: You must make the loop to loop per the diagram elsewhere in this manual, "love-wraps"..Marty King calls em. To remember the sequence on the stream..remember..the big-guy always punches the little-guy out. That is to push the big(fly line-end) thru the loop in the Butt-section..and up onto your line for an inch or so. Take the other end of the butt-section and push it thru the loop in your fly line and pull the whole outfit up tight. Do the same with the lower end of your leader butt-section..push it thru the loop in the end of your tippet..and push the other end of the tippet through the loop in the "end"....of your butt-section and pull it tight. Anyway...see the diagram. We use this "love-wrap" loop to loop.....to prevent "HINGE". HINGE-EFFECT...dirty words. And the most over-worked words in leader language. Lefty Kreh told me he often sets up a leader combination in reverse to demonstrate how over worked this term is. Fly casting is a matter of timing and rhythm. It's so easy, that in a few casts, you can adjust to many leader combinations, not all of them perfect. This past summer Fred Arbona(CLIMAX LEADERS) sent me several leader combinations to try. We were in the process of having a custom tapered leader made under our own label. Busy testing these, I gave the Climax leader to expert leader builder Dave Barron. Dave was really impressed with the butt-section only, of one of the leader combinations. He had me order in a dozen and he took them west to Montana fishing this summer. He was using them for dry fly leader butt-sections. That's ok, however the butt is 021 and tapers to only 012, and we are using tippets down to 7x and 8x(thread) on that 012 butt-end, loop to loop. It should'n't work. It's so popular now, that we sell them as the "Red-Baron" and it's one of our most popular leader butt-sections. It's dyed-red by the way. It has a soft feel about it that I'm still not sure of. One of the new "blended" copolymers they tell me. It's going to be our most popular leader for dry flys size 12 and smaller.

SHOCK-GUM

Several years ago, fly fisher John Carmen sent me a spool of shock-gum. It laid around the store and you pulled on it and we all agreed it was another gimmick. Jim Brandt called me one evening a couple of weeks ago. He said he had taken a number of fish, including several good size fish...using "clear-thread" as a tippet. And didn't break a fish off!! He had a short section of shock-gum, loop to loop between his fly line and leader butt-section. A week later, Dave Barron and I fished the trophy water on the Meramec River. I "rigged" a 6-inch section of shock-gum, loop to loop as Jim did, between the fly line and leader butt-section. I fished a "thread" tippet on the end of a Red-Baron butt-section...took nine browns, and never broke a fish off. No

Rods, Reels and Leaders continued..

lunker fish involved..10 to 12 inch browns, but I leaned on them with the rod to see what the "shock-gum" would...could do. More testing is needed, Dave uses shock-gum sections up to 18-inches long. At Bennett Springs, he's taken rainbows to 4-1/2 pounds. Two like that this past Sunday on tiny (size 20) nymphs. I was fishing size 20 and 22 Blue-Winged Olive's on the Meramec. NOTE: You must put the loops in shock-gum with a "perfection-loop". My surgeons-loop tends to slip on this rubber-band type material. Jerry Clark had to show me again, how to tie the perfection-loop, im so found of the surgeons-loop that I rarely tie anything else. And what about "HINGE" at the shock-gum section?? If there was(is) any, I must have adjusted for it automatically. Its not a problem. And your going to be hearing and reading a lot about SHOCK-GUM, I like it.

So there you have it. A simple, fast method of line, section, leader and tippet connection. So easy, and this loop to loop method will serve you well. It might be the only method you will ever need. However, you will never know unless you try other methods, and decide for yourself. The knots you should learn are the surgeons-knot and surgeons-loop..takes two minutes to learn. And the perfection-loop for your shock-gum section, and the improved clinch-knot for tying the fly on. And never..never the blood-knot, I hate em..will take up bowling before ever tying another blood-knot. AND one more advantage to the loop to loop method. On cold days during the winter season..I wont tie a knot of any kind at streamside. At home, where its warm...I make up several tippet-sections with a loop in one end and a favorite nymph tied on the other end. I carry these "ready to Go", rolled up in my leader wallet. I slip em on loop to loop and fish. And change flys at will, loop to loop, no kkknots on a cccold day.

SINK-TIP FLY LINES AND LEAD-CORE SECTIONS

See the page elsewhere in this manual on making up a "lead-core" section. If its your first time fishing a "section", I suggest it be a 12-inch section, then a longer section after you get the feel of fishing these things. We sell the material by the continous-foot at the store and in our bulletins. Make up any length you need. Loop to loop, it slips on the end of your leader butt-section. Makes for a quick-change from dry fly to deep wet fly fishing. A one foot section will take a fly down fast. And this is true when fishing a sink-tip fly line. I like the extra-fast sinking type fly lines. The first 10-feet sinks. Put a loop in the end of the line..and never use more than 18-inches of level leader..even less. And I use 4-lb test tippet material and large nymphs and woolybuggers. Your going to be deep, and snag-up now and then. Be prepared. And a longer leader or tippet simply "bouys-up" off the bottom. And you cannot roll-cast with a long tippet. That applies to a "lead-core" section also. Its impossible. And I try to fish within a 25-foot area of where im standing. These things are horrible to cast. Even dangerous to cast in the conventional way. That sink-tip end will whistle past your ear..or take the ear with it. You'll see! The late Joe Brooks started me fishing a sink-tip line, and laughed when I told him I was using a 7-1/2 foot leader on it. We met in Miami Florida. He was president of the big salt water tournament and club there. And here is something else I learned on that trip. I had lunch with some of the guys at the Americana hotel on Miami beach, and delivered a box of wild colored 6-7 inch China saddle hackle. One of the guys invited me to some fly fishing on the spot. A method and fish I had never heard of till then, or ever again. We walked in the surf behind the big hotels, watching the girls and looking for Ladyfish just out past the surf. When we spotted one, we cast a size 10 streamer to the fish, skipping it past him with the rod tip. Be prepared, a 15-18 inch Ladyfish will have you into the backing on your reel fast. I could'nt believe it, still cannot believe that know one has ever mentioned this great fly fishing. Lefty Kreh later became the manager and I think president of that organization. I have never asked Lefty about the Ladyfish. He calls and writes often, and I will ask him about this Ladyfish-ing. Ask me or you tell me about it next time we meet. I dont know anything about salt water fly fishing the east coast. I learned my salt water fly fishing on the west coast from Monterey Bay and north to Eureka California, and it was dissapointing most of the time, for me. I keep trying the "salt". I slipped away from a trade show in Atlantic City and cast into the surf around the big pier. I picked off a couple of ugly things...I cut the leader and kicked their butts back into the sea. Locals laughed at my method and the fish. I fly fished downtown Reno(Truckee River) and they laughed...and again for good reason.

FEATHERS AND FURS...starting your collection

Starting your collection of feathers and furs to be used as fly tying material is going to be another of the enjoyable, even educational things you will be involved in as a fly tyer. Maybe profitable if you are a hunter or have access to quantities of material. You may elect to sell excess materials to fly tyers and shops. A few years ago, I wrote the book "HUNTERS WANTED NOW". It was directed at the nations hunters in an effort to prevent the waste of materials needed by fly tyers, and provide additional income for the hunter. Its a manual on starting your own business. Hunters nationwide have since become suppliers of needed and hard to find materials. It turned out that many that bought the book became valuable suppliers to our company infact. You must know both federal and state laws regarding feathers and fur, even as an individual collector. Only the common house sparrow, feral pigeon and starling are not covered by law. Other birds and animals are protected in some way by law. This means you cannot even pick up a feather from a bird listed as a song bird. The same applies to hawks and owls. This means picking up a loose Blue Jay feather is against the law. Be careful with the following migratory game birds. "You" can shoot during the legal hunting season crow, coot, dove, woodcock, rail, snipe, certain cranes and I may have missed some. Anyway.."you" can keep these bird feathers for your own fly tying, however you cannot give or sell these feathers or the flys tied with them to anyone. Waterfowl with a webbed foot and legal hunting season can be taken and the feathers sold for making fishing lures or stuffing pillows and garments with, and thats all. You cannot display these feathers in any way. Never stick one in your hat! The federal laws can be checked with the Department Of The Interior, Fish And Wildlife Service. There is an office in St. Charles Mo, the next office is in Denver Colorado. Upland game birds may be taken during the hunting season assigned to them by the state, and the feathers may be used for both fly tying and display. And certain animals are considered fur-bearers. You need a permit to hunt, trap and sell the fur hide. Certain requirements must be followed as a holder of a fur traders permit. You have but a short period of time to dispose of the "green-fur". If you cure or tan a fur hide, you may keep it. Providing it was legally taken. Curing and or tanning a fur hide destroys it as a market-fur. Squirrel and deer hides and tails can be sold without a fur buyers permit, however a bill of sale is required. Always check the state and federal laws every year for changes. And as fly tyers we must obey the law. To pick up a loose songbird feather might sound like no harm done, it is harm done in its own way. Like just a little raw sewage running into your favorite trout stream. And the law regarding feathers and fur is easy to follow and in no way prevents us from tying our favorite fly patterns.

BIRD WINGS

Starting a bird wing collection is easy. Legal bird wings in size up to and including mallard duck wings are simply cut from the bird, trim the excess flesh away, and lay the wings in a safe cool dry place. In a few weeks the wings dry "hard". In the meantime "mom", there is no odor. They must be layed out flat, safe from kids and pets, in a cool dry place. I have a dozen dove wings on the shelf drying as I type this, right here in the office in my home. If there was an odor, we'd all be gone!

TO SKIN A STARLING AND OTHER BIRDS

Birds are easy to skin. A little messey, but easy. And I must use terminology here that might upset you. If skinning a bird upsets you, read around this section. Starlings are in your back yard and mine. Considered a pest, they can be taken any time in any numbers. Yet, of all bird skins..a male starling skin is the one bird skin we get the most orders for. A mature cock starling is a valuable addition to your collection. Vince Marinaro and I once quarreled about starlings. It was his position that that the starling in your back yard is not the same bird as the English starling. Its the same bird. Its the time of the year that you "get-one" to skin thats important. The feather-color and design on a starling changes four times a year. If you want the "bottle-green" spotted starling that "Skews" wrote of, shoot or trap a starling in the months of Oct, Nov and December..early December in northern areas. You cannot paint another spot on them at this time. After that, the males turn to their breeding-black color. The "hens" turn to a dark dark brownish-black. When Vince shot one of these

hens, he found no bottle-green or spotted feathers. Its easy to recognize the mature male bird. In late March and early April, he can be found on a phone wire or dead tree, neck feathers ruffled and making strange noises. He's trying to attract a female. And it works. Single guys should remember that the next time your in your favorite watering hole. The mature male bird now has those long-narrow "under-neck" feathers that tie Soft Hackle patterns down to size 20. The flank-feathers are tapered and will tie Soft Hackle patterns down to size 16. The edges of the "coveret" feathers on his wings still have the "bottle-green" color to them. And on his upper-back are the spotted feathers that Vince wanted for tying his little flat-wing..the Jassid. Several months before Vince died, he wanted a genuine Canadian Lynx tail(Bobcat tails are now sold off as Lynx tails) I sent him a Lynx tail from my personal collection. Vince had shot starlings every month of the year. And he found the starling feathers he was looking for. In 1972, Vince sent me a copy of his book "A MODERN DRY FLY CODE" and on page 148 you can find a good discription of how the Blue-Winged Olive looks on the water. Vince referred to them as "sulfers". I never fully understood some of his thoughts in that book. However the book was part and party to the reason I started my study of this one "bug" and its importance to the Missouri trout fly fisher. That same year Art Flick sent me a copy of his little "STREAMSIDE GUIDE" and he had added this pattern, and that same year Ed Koch sent me a copy of his "FISHING THE MIDGE". Ed called them Little Olives. Ed Koch by the way is an engineer by training. And he gave us the first formula for our TOP-FLY GEL dry fly floatant. Its been your favorite for so many years, we've sold a million. Ed also owned the Yellow-Breeches fly shop at one time, near Boiling Springs, Pa. Many of you now know that Tony Skelton(ORVIS) recently died. Tony grew up in this area of the Yellow Breeches, knew the stream so well...and should me how to tie a simple surgeons-knot. His brother worked at the Yellow-Breeches fly shop infact. Tony's death is a real loss. Such a young man, and made so many friends at the Orvis fly fishing schools. WHAT ABOUT SKINNING THE gawddamed starling???, sorry.

SKINNING A STARLING...and other birds is easy, fast and a bit of a mess. Lay the bird on his back. (remember, if you cant take it , dont read it)...Most all birds have a "feather-line" from the top of the breast to the vent. Seperate the feathers along this line. Bare skin is what you have from the top of the breast to the vent now. Using a sharp knife or single-edge razor blade, make a SKIN DEEP "ONLY" incision from the top of the breast down to the vent. Go back and continue cutting the skin from the top of the breast to the birds bill..do this by working the blade of a scissor or knife just under the skin. Work your fingers around the neck bone and... cut it in half. Begin working, pulling and pushing the skin away from the carcass at the breast area. When reaching the wing, work the skin away and around it..than it can be clipped(thru the bone) free of the carcass, but attached to the skin. Do this to the other wing. Decide on how much of the neck is to be saved and cut the remainder..and head off the skin. Continue to gently pull the skin from the carcass until the leg area is reached. Pull the leg inside-out(like a sock) and cut it from the carcass. Be very careful when gently pulling the skin from the lower-back area of the bird. Its very close to the back-bone of the bird and this is where most bird skins are ruined in the skinning process. Gently pull and push the skin away from this area. Then cut the entire skin away from the carcass..just above the butt-ends of the tail feathers. Go back over the starling skin and gently pull away any clinging fat, flesh or tissue. Clip away the lower legs of the bird. Cut a tiny hole in the top of the neckskin area. Gently stretch the skin so the air can get to the skin-side. Hang the skin on a nail by the hole you made in the neck-skin area. DO NOT apply salt, borax or anything else to the skin. These products only seal in the body and skin oils. We want the skin to dry. The starling skin will dry in a day or so...HOWEVER the wings will take a couple of weeks, as the "meaty" part is slow in drying. Never put wings or skins that are not dry in an air-tight container. Waterfowl skins must be fleshed for several days, as the oils in the skin continue to surface. Upland game birds..quail, grouse, partridge and waterfowl are skinned per above. We still offer game bird and other bird skins on a seasonal basis. We never have Cock Starling skins, but have a waiting list. And we suggest you make arrangements for processing your own starling skin if you want to be assured of getting the correct one for your needs. If you dont care to "skin", save the wings per above, and simply "pluck" the needed body feathers. And remember the "rump" feathers from the "under-side", these are favorites with the Soft-Hackle tyers because of their markings and soft feather-fibers.

HOW TO CATCH YOUR LIMIT EVERYTIME, AND A LUNKER TO BOOT

You've read our manual and bulletins. Your going to get better at your fly tying and methods to fish the various fly patterns, and your fly casting is looking good. Your fishing Bennett Springs, Montauk and Roaring River State Park. And your fishing the same parks during the winter catch and release season, to include Maramec Spring Park. NOW YOU WANT TO CATCH SOME TROUT. YOU WANT TO CATCH YOUR LIMIT NOW!!

OK, lets get "your limit" of trout NOW, using your fly rod. And lets take a shot at landing a Lunker.

METHOD ONE..."SIGHT-FISHING".

Rig your fly-rod outfit with a loop in the end of your fly line(see instructions), add a six to ten inch section of "trout-size SHOCK-GUM" loop to loop to the end of your fly line. Add a five or six foot "tapered leader BUTT-SECTION" to the end of the SHOCK-GUM section, loop to loop. And to the end of the tapered-leader butt-section..add 22 to 30 inches of "tippet-material" in sizes 6X to 8X or clear-thread. All connections "loop to loop". And this whole rig should take you less then three minutes to set up. BACK AT YOUR TYING BENCH...you tyed a couple of dozen midge-nymphs. Use the patterns in this manual, or if that is still beyond your talent at this time...simply do this. On mustad 3906 size 16 and 18...simply wrap a sparse tapered body using floss, yarn or SPECTRUM. Tie the nymphs in a number of different colors. And do not tie in a tail, wing or beard. Keep it simple and sparse. Tie one of these tiny-nymphs on the end of your tippet with an improved Clinch-Knot. Moisten the knot with your tongue, and pull the knot closed slowly. NOW LETS GO TROUT HUNTING(sight-fishing). Walk the bank, or wade up on sighted fish. Let things settle down as you prepare your assault. Make a short cast above the sighted-fish, and let the fly dead-drift with the current to the fish. Never take your eyes off the fly or the fish. When you see the fish take the fly, lift your rod-tip to set the hook. If you lose sight of the fly..but see the fish move, lift your rod-tip. If you lose sight of the fish, watch for a "flash" or even the "white" of the trouts mouth as it takes the fly...quickly lift your rod-tip. You must lift the rod tip quickly, the trout spits that little nymph out the instant it detects that its not a real nymph. If an individual fish, or group of fish show little or no interest..keep moving, or change flies. Sometimes a color change is enough to "move" a fish into action. Often you will find the fish lose interest if you continue to fish the fly past them for long. In normal water conditions at our state parks, this "SIGHT-FISHING" method will never fail you.

LUNKER-PATCH TROUT

Use the above method.."sight-fishing". At the state parks, most Lunker-Trout are caught sight-fishing. Sure, Lunker trout are caught while "just fishing" a wet fly or nymph at random. If you really want a Lunker, locate several and "sight-fish" to them. Again, walk the stream banks with your sun glasses on searching. And always search for a Lunker as you wade and fish. Watch the water around other fishers as they clean their fish. Lunkers love those "cleanings", and will rush in to garb a mouth full and return to their "lie". Ask, or listen as other fishers talk about Lunkers they have "spotted". Make a mental note of the Lunker-Fish you have located. Now get tough. Start with one Lunker, using the sight-fishing method. Drift that tiny nymph right past his nose. If the first fish is not interested, move on to the next "known" Lunker. You keep fishing those known Lunkers and looking for additional Lunkers to add to your list. Continue moving from Lunker to Lunker, fishing wet flies, tiny nymph patterns as mentioned and mini-jigs to them. Persistence...and you will finally get your Lunker to take the offereing. Then its up to you to control and land your Lunker. And I must tell you that in all the years that I have fished the state parks, I have not taken a fish over three pounds on top(dry fly). And I only know a few others that have...including Charlie Slaughter's 4-1/2 pounder, taken on a hopper-pattern this summer.

GLO-BUGS

Tye your GLO-BUG per instructions in this manual and sight-fish them. Trout turn into suckers over GLO-BUGS. And a number of Lunker trout have been caught on GLO-BUGS. When tyed per instructions, the GLO-BUG resembles a salmon egg. Put one ore more Split-Shot on your leader a foot above the GLO-BUG, to get it down to the fish. Carry GLO-BUGS in several different colors. Another "sure-thing" method.

CATCHING YOUR LIMIT EVERY TIME...continued

METHOD TWO... "STRIKE-INDICATORS"

As a beginning nymph-fisher, you often going to miss the "hit" because you were not aware you even had a hit. While nymph fishing a "hit" can be very subtle. Often, several trout in a single drift of the fly will gently pick the fly up and instantly drop it or spit it out without the beginning nymph-fisher even knowing it. Still happens to me if im not careful, and lose my concentration. Using a "strike-indicator" is much like bobber-fishing for bluegill. The "indicator" signals the "hit". You can buy the bright red Styrofoam-Floats at the state parks and look like everyone else. Or you can make your own strike-indicators. I like the little one inch sections of bright-orange fly line "indicators". As mentioned elsewhere, these can be purchased three to the package for around a dollar. You slip this little hollow sections of fly line on your leader. I leave mine on my "wet-fly leader", just above the loop-knot, on the lower-end of the Butt-Section(see diagram elsewhere). You can see these bright-orange indicators even when there under the surface. And by being only the length of your tippet away from the fly, you get a quick indication of a "hit". For a large weighted nymph...or when you must use split-shot on the leader to get the nymph deep, A "float" type Indicator is best. Most of the strike-indicators sold at the parks will work. However I prefer to make my own. I like a small indicator, thats easy to cast..causing less disturbance of the water being fished. John Freise should me one he made from a #10 popper cork. I liked it so well that I made several. With a tiny drill-bit in your electric drill, drill a hole long-ways thru the cork. Using an emery-board fingernail file, shape the cork similiar to a football. Paint the cork with hobby lacquer and let it dry. After its dry, put two coats of "clear Sally Hansens Hard As Nails" fingernail polish over the colored lacquer-finish on the cork. For cork "stoppers", buy a package of the little plastic toothpick like things you wife uses when she curls her hair. I recently bought a pak of a hundred for \$1.89 at a hair-care store. A wooden toothpick type "stopper" swells so much after getting wet that its hard to adjust the "indicator" up and down the leader as diferent water depths are fished. You can make these little cork strike-indicators to any size you like. You slip them on the leader butt-section and again, adjust them up or down the to keep the nymph just off the bottom of the stream. And these little cork floats wont effect your casting much. Flip the Indicator and weighted nymph up and across the stream using a gentle roll-flip cast...and watch that little Strike-Indicator as it drifts past you. If it hesitates or goes under, lift you rod tip. And keep adjusting the Strike-Indicator up or down on your leader as you wade along through water depths that will vary. Its a must to keep the nymph just off the bottom...most of the time. Sometimes at the end of the drift your going to get a natural "Leisenring-Lift" as the "indicator" enters the "swing" of the drift. Be prepared, as many of your "hits" will come at this time. And at the end of every drift, assume you have a hit. Lift the rod-tip sharply, then continue with your next cast. The first mistake you make when using this method of fishing...is to make long casts and think you must fish the other bank of the stream. Start out by making "casts" that are easy and land on the water as gentle as possible. At the state parks, you can get by with the Bennett Springs "thrash". That is to continue to roll-thrash a cast over the water until your happy with where and how the fly, split-shot and strike-indicator land. This method will work just fine on "park" trout. It will not work at all on trophy-water River-trout. I've watched you try it time and again. Park fishers are easy to spot outside of the parks. Often you wade right through rising browns as you apply the Bennett Springs Thrash-Roll cast..again and again you slash it over a selected spot of water. I have yet to see this method take a single trophy-water fish. However..to each his own. I wont quarrel with the method at Bennett Springs and Montauk state parks. It works, and we are now talking about taking your limit. So get it out there anyway you like. Use any nymph in this manual. Use a split-shot if necessary to get the nymph deep, and use the strike-indicator to signal the "hit". Keep moving if your not getting any action...or continue fishing the same water, however keep changing flies. Try a larger size or smaller size or a different color. Dont just stand there roll-thrashing without results. A nymph under a strike-indicator, and keep moving..is another sure-thing method to take your limit everytime...

METHOD THREE...the dry fly

Awww, your speaking my language. A beautifully tied dry fly with the finest of materials, or a dry Beefeater martini over cracked ice with anchovy stuffed-olives both make my head spin. An intellectual clod, I confess to not being able to tell a Rembrandt from a water color by your brother in-law. However im quick to recognize one shade or one grade off on dry fly hackle or body material on a dry fly pattern. That kind of knowledge wont get you the price of that dry martini. Some roll bowling balls, some hit golf balls...some are exacting about material, tie and fish dry flies. Dry fly fishers are not concerned with really large fish. We like to spot a rising fish, and fool him into taking our fly. We like sleek fly rods balanced with light reels and lines. And we like numbers. We watch for hatches to fish to..and we like to see lots of trout rising. I dont know if we really match the hatch. Come close in size and color on the end of a good presentation(cast) will take fish for you. Here is a quote from Ray Bergman "I cant believe that they take our artificial Blue Dun for the "natural" blue dun..unless they are so dumb that it doesn't matter much what we use, in which case all of this talk is just so much babble"..Ray said that a long time ago in his book "Trout", and it pretty much holds true today. However...I always find that if I present a dry fly of the right size... and body color, tied sparse...I do very good "on top". I've told you how I made Fred Horvath crazy sending him sample colors for our "Missouri" Baetis body(Blue-Winged Olive).. SPECTRUM color #53 is finally the right color. Elsie Darby and Art Flick were the same way with me regarding exacting material. Famed pro-tyer Walt Dette is still that way..."exacting"...and will call to be sure I understand his needs. Harry Darby was a pussycat compared to Elsie..and so was Art Flick compared to Walt Dette. Its a feeling the individual dry fly tyer has. Now its Larry Duckwall from North Dakota. Larry's original home was New York State, and a student of the Catskill traditional tyers. Larry, this past week sent us a nine fly collection of Catskill dry fly patterns. Larry now enters the world of the pro tyer, and we will present him in our next winter bulletin. His Catskill patterns will be on display at the store for your inspection. Beautiful dry flies, the "tradition" is safe.

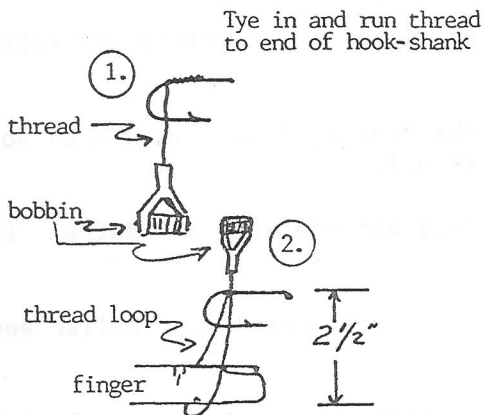
Well, is it all pomp...this dry fly tying and fishing. Heck no. Look at the easy to tie dry fly patterns in this manual. These are the patterns I use everywhere I fish. We left the Catskill traditionals for another edition. I want you tying dry flies and taking trout on them now! Frankly its a cop-out. How can you miss. You toss a dry fly over a rising fish...and he hits it or he dont, you zap em or miss em...whats the big deal. After you start your dry fly tying and dry fly fishing, lets go over that again. We'll both know if we're speaking the same language. And in the meantime, dont expect Lunker fish on dry flies. I must tell you that I have never taken a trout over three pounds on a dry fly, even at the state parks. And I dont know many others that have. I've mentioned elsewhere that Charlie Slaughter took a 4-1/2 half pounder at Bennett Springs on a Hopper-Pattern this past summer. Marty King, he picked one off at Maramec Spring Park during the winter catch and release season last year(1985-86). A trout over 4-pounds on a dry fly is a real trophy anywhere.

Again, what about this dry fly tying and fishing. Do I tie dry flies in the class and quality as those mentioned above. No and no. And again, my favorite patterns are in this manual. Anyone can learn to tie them, with only a little help and practice on your part. Im hooked though...I try to fish my favorite dry fly water twice a week. I slip off in the morning and get back around noon or maybe later. You've been trying to call me. I never admit what I've been doing. Sometimes I do things that must look strange to others. I'll sit down in the water, and with a 6-power monocular, I watch what is going on...on the surface of the water. Remember, im hooked on dry fly fishing. I want to know the identity of what their taking and the size and body color. And when I see people watching me, I know they are thinking the same thing about me. I met Marty King on the river a couple of weeks ago. He carries a monocular. We both agreed, the things are great for watching the birds. Red headed this..yellowheaded that..floating by in canoes!! Anyway if your a store customer, I've taken you along. I've stood shoulder to shoulder with you pointing out rises. If the trout takes the dry fly, I throw my hat in the air. If he dosen't, I blame it on your presentation. I do the same thing on Sunday afternoon with regular fishing pals. And we whoop and holler over a 12-inch brown on a size 22 dry fly. Except for son Bob, he always nails the largest fish on a Muddler, And George, he always gets a good brown skipping a Green-Bug. Do as you will, but im a dry fly fisher...unless the waters up or off..then look out Lunkers, here come the nymphs.

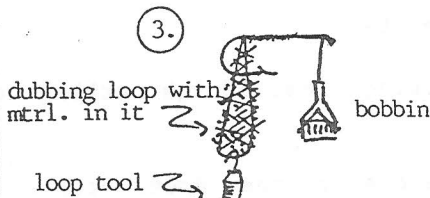
THE DUBBING LOOP TOOL

Using a Dubbing Loop Tool, you can easily make a complete Fur-Bug, or dub both a "Shaggy" or "firm" nymph fly body. And this is the tool used for making a "fur-collar" on certain nymph patterns. Most any "loose" dubbing material can be used and it will only take you a couple of minutes practice to see just how important this fly tying tool is. Our F-C Dubbing Loop Tool is custom made for us of brass & steel. Its the correct length and weight, based on a lot of testing at the fly tying bench.

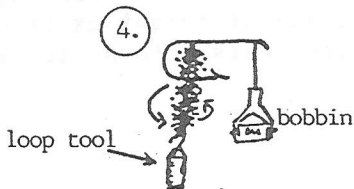
METHOD-A, "FUR BUGS"



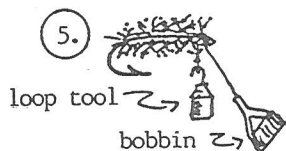
Hold first finger on left hand 2-1/2 inches below hook shank and loop the thread around the end of the finger and back to the point at the end of the hook shank where you started. Tye the loop in with 3-wraps of thread.



After making your loop, hang the loop-tool in it as shown and run the thread on the bobbin to the hook eye. Now place a loose material such as blended rabbit in the loop in an even sparse line. Close the loop..



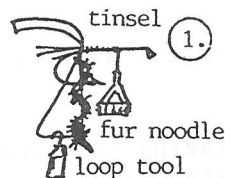
Twist the loop-tool COUNTER-CLOCKWISE locking the material in the loop



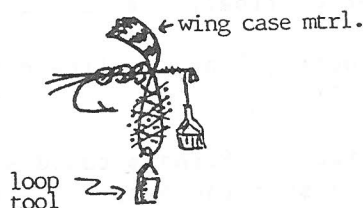
With your loop tool wrap the loop with the material in it up to the hook eye one wrap in front of the other clockwise up the hook shank. Tye the loop in with the thread on the bobbin waiting for you at the hook eye. Cut out the excess loop. Finish the fly head.

METHOD-B "TIGHT FUR-BODIES"

Take a small-ball of loose-fur in the palm of one hand, and with the palm of your other hand..rub both palms together..making a fur-noodle 2-1/2 inches long. Wrap the fur-noodle around the "right-leg" of the dubbing loop. Close the loop by twisting the loop-tool COUNTER-CLOCKWISE..and close it all the way to the hook-shank. Now wrap the loop(using the loop-tool) CLOCKWISE around the hook-shank and half-way up the hook-shank. Tye the loop in with a few thread-wraps and cut away the waste. SEE BELOW AS WE TYE THE GOLD RIBBED HARE'S EAR nymph.....



At the end of the hook-shank tye in the tail, tinsel, and a dubbing-loop. Run the thread on the bobbin half-way up the hook-shank. Make a fur-noodle(per-above)and wrap it around the "right" leg of the loop. Pull the loop closed, twist the loop COUNTER CLOCKWISE securing the material, and wrap the loop half-way up the hook-shank and tye it in at the waiting thread with a few thread wraps.Wrap the tinsel-rib up to this same point, and tye in. Cut away the waste material.



2.

Tye in wing-case material. Make a another dubbing-loop in front of wing-case mtrl. Place a sparse line of spiky-material in loop, close-loop. Move thread to just behind hook-eye.



3.

Twist dubbing-loop, locking in material and wrap dubbing-loop with material to hook-eye. Tye loop in with a few thread wraps. Cut away waste mtrl. Pull wing-case over top of thorax and tye in behind hook-eye. Finish fly head & whip-finish.

METHOD-C DEER-HAIR FLY HEADS

For "spun" deer-hair fly heads on "small-hoppers & muddlers..lay a fine sparse line of deer-hair in dubbing-loop. Twist loop closed..COUNTER CLOCKWISE. Wrap the loop to hook-eye and tye in, cutting away waste. Trim hair to head-size.

METHOD-D "FUR-COLLAR" OF SQUIRREL-HAIR OR OTHER SHORT HAIR

Lets use squirrel here. Make a dubbing-loop at the rear of the thorax-area on the hook-shank. Cut a sparse-line of guard-hair(or fur) from the hide. If you bend the hide in half, you will see the "straight-line". Gently lift 2-inches of the line of hair into the loop..catching the hair by their butt-ends. Twist the loop closed counter-clockwise. Begin wrapping the loop for-ward, and as you wrap..hold the fur facing to the "rear" of the fly with your fingers as you lock it into that position with the next wrap. Tye the loop in just behind the hook-eye, cut away waste & finish the fly head.

METHOD-E "DEER HAIR HACKLE FOR DRY FLYS"

Lay a sparse-line of "fine" deer-hair in the dubbing-loop and twist the loop closed locking in the deer hair. Make but 2-3 wraps around the hook-shank in front of finished fly. Using a half-hitch tool "lift" hair into position by as you build a thread-dam with the thread as you half-hitch, holding hair in up-right position. Finish fly head and whip-finish.

MAKING TWO SHOOTING LINES FROM ONE "DOUBLE-TAPER" FLY LINE

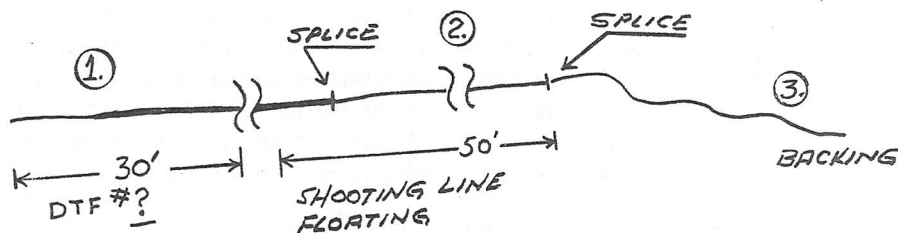
Instructions by Fred Horvath, The Andra Co. (SPECTRUM)

1. Don't confuse this line with the western style of shooting line which has as its only feature, the ability to whack out big casts.
2. The character of the double-taper line is not changed. You can do everything with this system in terms of delicacy of presentation and roll casts as before.
3. Effect on rods is reduced, especially with bamboo. All load on long casts and false casting is reduced.
4. Fishing downstream, which I (Fred) do is easier, the running line floats when you let the head drift down, allowing better control and lift off.
5. There are none of the problems of monofilament coiling and the wear on guides is reduced to nothing.
6. With the decrease in size, you can usually go to at least one reel size smaller and lighter.
7. You end up with two lines, taking your choice of two shooting lines or one shooter and a regular double tapered of sixty feet.

HERE'S HOW TO DO IT: ✓

1. Cut off 30-feet of one end of double taper fly line. This is the part to use.
2. To this, splice fifty feet of floating shooting fly line (L2 or L3)
3. To the L2 or L3 level shooting line, splice dacron-backing line. Enough backing to fill your reel. And thats it!!!

This of course means that two fly fishers could share the cost of one double-tapered fly line and each make his own shooting head. A simple connection can be core to core loop to loop from the tapered line to the level "running" line. And a core-loop in the running line to a loop in the backing. Its important to remove the fly line finish and make the loops in the fly line "core" material to keep the loops small in diameter and a loop of a half-inch long. Thread wrap the loops in with 6/0 thread. Then apply three coats of F-C nitro cellulose base head cement. Then using 6/0 thread, totally over-wrap the loops with thread-wraps, making a smooth wrap full length of the connection. Again apply the F-C head cement, allowing for drying time between coats of cement as it will penetrate to the core, bonding everything together. Making this "loop to loop connection splice" is not difficult.



HOW TO MAKE A "LEAD-CORE" SINKING-SECTION

Our long time customer and friend Ralph Dougherty, M.D. of McKeesport, Pa. started it all. He gave writer, fly tyer George Harvey several of these lead-core sinking-sections, and George wrote an article about them for FFM. What we are talking about is a short(6-inches to 3-feet)..of lead-core fly line with a loop in both ends. Slip the lead-core section "loop to loop"..to the butt-end of your leader-butt section, and you have many of the advantages of a Sink-Tip Fly Line. Start with a lead-core section of 12-inches, or even less in length, until you gain some experience in using them. These are not easy to cast with a lot of line out. I try to fish them within a 25-foot area of where im standing...and never use a tippet of over 12-inches long. Its really tough to cast one with a longer tippet, and a roll-cast is near impossible. And a longer tippet is just not necessary when your fishing deep. I use these "sections" for a quick-change from dry fly fishing to deep nymph fishing. A "section" will get a nymph or woolybugger down deep even in swift water. And I use a tippet of 4-5 pound test.

You can even loop to loop these "sections" directly to the end of your fly line. Then add a tippet to the end of the loop in the "section". This tends to make a roll-flip cast easier. Frankly, I need more work, testing and study on this method. I welcome any in-put you have. The use of these "sections" can be a great timer-saver. When your dry fly fishing and want to "rig" for deep wet fly fishing fast, this is a great way to do it. You wont have to change the spool in your reel to the extra spool loaded with a sink-tip line for instance. And since starting with a 12-inch "section"...I've had fun with sections of four to six inches in length. We sell the bulk lead-core fly line by the foot in our bulletins and retail store.

1. Stick two-inches of one end of the lead-core fly line piece in Acetone for 15-seconds or less. With your thumbnail, remove the now softened vinyl coating from the line, exposing the braided core of the fly line. Push this braided-core back, exposing the lead-core. Remove two inches of the lead-core. "Nip" it off with your fingernail.
2. Make a small loop in the "braided-core" and tye the loop in with thread-wraps just as you do when putting a loop in the end of your fly line(elsewhere this manual). Put in 3-layers of thread-wraps. Coat the thread-wraps with 3-coats of F-C Head Cement(nitro-cellulose base). Be sure to allow drying time between coats.
3. Repeat numbers 1 and 2 on the other end of the Lead-Core Section.

NOW THAT YOU KNOW HOW TO MAKE THEM...the following materials are needed.

LC 13 Lead-Core fly line
6/0 Danville Flymaster thread.
1-ounce bottle of ACETONE, and 1-ounce bottle of F-C Head Cement

LC 13 Lead-Core level fly line weighs 13 grains per foot in case you want to compare that to the twist-ons or split-shot your now using.

BEWARE: As little as a 6-inch "lead-core" section may well be all you need for your fishing. We suggest you buy 3-feet of LC-13 (cost less than a dollar a foot) and make up and test sections of 6-inches to 18-inches in length. You'll soon know what your favorite length is going to be. I carry several lengths in my leader wallet.

HOW TO "PUT A LOOP IN THE END OF YOUR FLY LINE"

TOOLS NEEDED:

ONE OUNCE BOTTLE ACETONE (you can sub fingernail polish remover)

A FINGERNAIL on your thumb

HEAD CEMENT..penetrating-type (we like our F-C type, its Nitro-Cellulose base)

A FINE NYLON THREAD..Danville 6/0 fly tying thread in color #505 is good (Fluorescent)

SHARP-POINTED SCISSORS

FLY TYING BOBBIN...put the thread in the bobbin and wrap the thread 3-times around a leg of the bobbin before running the thread thru the bobbin-tube.

1. Stick 1-inch of the end of your fly line in the bottle of Acetone and hold it there for 15-seconds. The vinyl-finish on the fly line will soften, and you can remove it with your thumbnail. You now have 1-inch or so of fly line "braided-core" remaining.

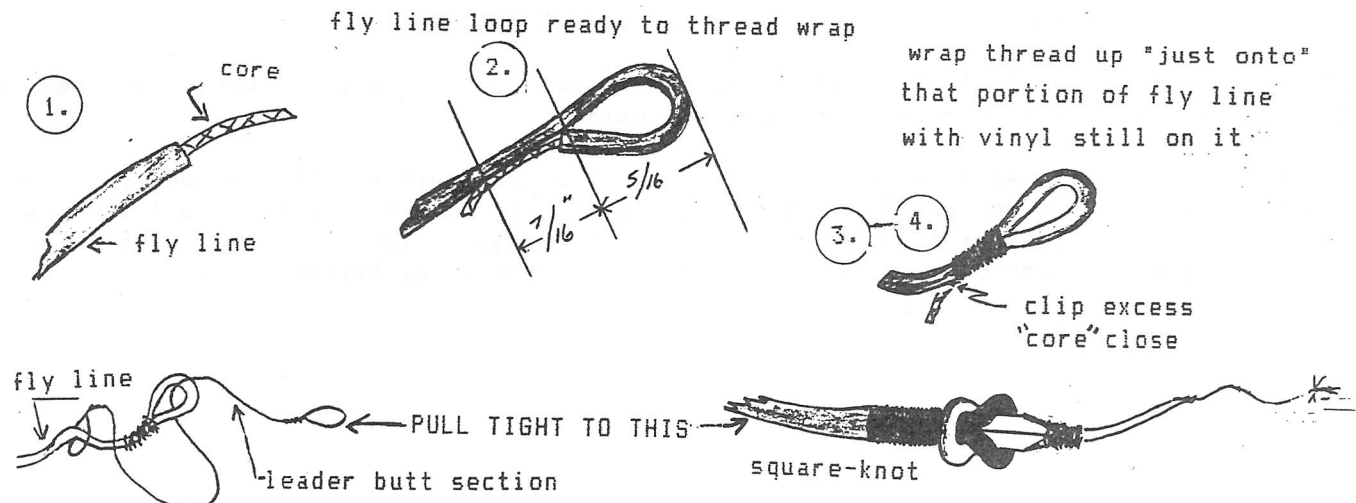
2. Lay the "core" of the fly line back over the fly line that still has the vinyl finish on it..forming a small loop (see Figure 2.) Our goal now is to tie the thread in anywhere on the "core and line", by simply wrapping the thread over itself a few times to lock it in. Then over-wrap a half to three quarters of an inch-long, both the "core" and "fly line" together..leaving a small loop. Wrap three layers of the 6/0 thread over the core and line. You can do this one wrap at a time, or you can spin the bobbin around the core and line like a propeller while a pal holds both ends of the loop. That's why we wrapped the thread around the leg of the bobbin. Its to keep the bobbin from flying out in space. And have you pal hold his head back..way back, so we dont knock his teeth out with the spinning bobbin.

3. We want three THREAD-WRAPINGS holding the half-inch or so of core and fly line together..(3-layers of thread, wrapped firm) Cut away excess "core" (see Figure 3-4).

4. Apply one application of penetrating head cement to the thread wraps. This application will penetrate to the "core". Therefore allow enough drying-time before applying additional coats of cement. We want enough applications of head cement to cover the thread-wraps.

I have never had a loop come out of a fly line when this method is used...

DIAGRAMS HAND DRAWN AND NOT TO ANY SCALE



YARN STRIKE-INDICATOR....by Scott Zieske

Scott Zieske is a South Dakota resident and a long time customer of ours. He wrote an article that you may have read regarding Strike-Indicators.. "DONT CALL EM BOBBERS". It was about the making and using of "yarn" strike-indicators to improve your nymph-fishing. Its such a good idea, and so simple to make..that we asked Scott for permission to use part of his article in this manual.

IN SCOTTS WORDS: When nymph fishing, it can be very difficult to detect the subtle "takes" of fish. Especially when using long light-tippets. In many cases by the time you see your fly line move..and react, the fish has already detected your fly as a fake, and spit the fly out.

The solution to this nymphing-problem is a bit of "bright-fluorescent" yarn attached to your leader. Here's how you do it....

1. Cut a 1/2-inch piece of bulky poly yarn (GLO-BUG yarn works great) use bright colors.
2. Tie a loose over-hand knot in your leader and position it about 30 to 36 inches from your fly. I (Scott) try to have the knot just above the tippet knot. The over-hand knot will not weaken your leader and can be easily picked-out when you want to remove the indicator and fish dry-flies for example.
3. Slip the piece of yarn into the over-hand knot and tighten the knot down on the yarn, making a little "bow-tye". SEE FIG. 1
4. Trim the BOW-TYE of yarn if necessary. It should be about 3/8-inch in width. See FIG. 2
5. Apply a paste-type Dry Fly Floatant like F-C TOP-FLY GEL to the yarn with your fingers, rolling the BOW-TYE into a pea-size ball. SEE FIG. 3

You will find the "yarn-indicator" will float like a cork and not effect your casting in any way. It is virtually weightless.

EDITORS NOTE: Jerry Clark, Ozark Fly Fisher Member...uses a Yarn-Indicator. He simply ties the over-hand knot with the yarn...around the fly-line. Then trim it close. Apply the "paste-floatant"...and with this rig, you can move the indicator up and down the fly line as you fish waters of different depths. Choose the method you like best.

Fig.2

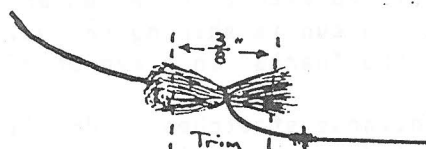


Fig.1

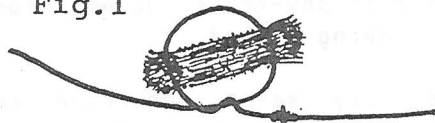


Fig.3



WHERE IS THE TROUT FISHING IN MISSOURI?

We are so pampered. We have four trout streams that are stocked daily with rainbow trout. These are the Trout-Parks. Three are owned by the state..the fourth is owned by the James Foundation. I started fishing the "parks" before I was old enough to drive, in the late 1940's. The price of a fishing tag was a buck..today its a buck and a half. And you can catch as many fish as your capable and keep five per day. Think about it, a fifty cent increase per day over the last 30-years. Beautiful..or ridiculous. Think about it. I dont know of a better buy(or waste)in American trout fishing. And we demand to to be entertained, amused and sheltered, all within the park grounds. More cabins, more camping area, swimming pools and even the enjoyment of fishing is giving away to competitive fishin-derby days, etc. When I started my trout fishing at Bennett Springs State Park, we "lodged" in the town of Lebanon. When we arrived to fish, there was a certain respect for both the wilds of the park and the stream itself. A certain courtesy prevailed among those fishing the fly-only waters. Today if I want courtesy, I should look it up in a dictionary. Yet, we all seem to find our nitch on the stream. I'd rather move out of your way than quarrel, and the trout dont worry about presentation and stealth. I've adjusted, and so many new-fishers never knew it any different anyway. So everybody gets along and has a great time. So be it, and more of it. And try this "courtesy" thing..like other fashions of the past, it might catch-on.

The states trophy-trout waters offer quiet stretches of water that remind me of stretches of certain western & eastern waters. You wont get away with a Bennett Springs "thrash-roll" cast on these waters. The trout are not wild by any means, however they are spooky, compared to "State-Park" fishing. You must approach a quiet pool with a degree of the "stealth" mentioned above if you are to have any success other than a few small browns. Most of my fishing is now on the states trophy-waters. Early spring can be touch & go with water levels, Hendrickson, Cahill, Olive's & Caddis hatches. Great nymph & streamer fishing also. After school begins in the fall, you can expect continued hatches of Blue-Winged Olives, Trico's, Caddis, Nymph & streamer fishing. During the summer, fish before ten in the morning and after four in the afternoon to avoid the canoe-hatch.

The book FLY FISHING FOR TROUT IN MISSOURI should be in your collection. I dont know authors Chuck & Sharon Tryon, while their book offers little on fly tying, its a fine primer for the novice fly fisher, and a great chapter on where to fish. I recommend it.

FOR MORE ON WHERE TO FISH AND UP TO DATE REGULATIONS..write HEADQUARTERS, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, Mo. 65102 for a WILDLIFE CODE OF MISSOURI book of regulations. And ask for information on the states trout-fishing. Some info available with permit-purchase.

Mike Ott, mentioned elsewhere in this manual made up a set of topo-maps that we make available to you at our retail store. To start a file of your own TOPO-MAPS..make a note of the "county" interested in, and write Mo. Dept. Of Natural Resources at box 250, Rolla, Mo. 65401. Be very specific about the "place" & information needed.

The State Trout Parks are as follows with a phone number. I always call in advance about water conditions. While the sun is shining on you, it can be an "Indiana hog drownder" in the Ozarks. We list the "parks" in a manner of importance per "you".

BENNETT SPRINGS STATE PARK..continous stretches of dry fly and wet fly water, near Lebanon, Mo. with park camping & lodging. Or off-park motels, Ph.(417-532-4338)
The park waters create "trophy-trout" water fishing directly below the park in the Niangua River. A state TROUT STAMP is required to fish the trophy-trout waters for trout. Always check current regulations regarding the waters being fished.

MONTAUK STATE PARK..broken stretches of dry fly and wet fly water requiring an occasional short walk between "pools". Near Salem, Mo. with on park camping and lodging or motels in Salem. Ph.(314)548-2434 And the springs from this park create the trophy-trout water area below the park on Current River. Good rainbow & brown trout fishing.

ROARING RIVER STATE PARK near Cassville, Mo..a small beautiful stream in width, yet can provide some interesting fly fishing..both wet & dry. Camping & on-park lodging. Call them at (417)847-2539. An interesting place if you take the time to look around.

WHERE IS THE TROUT FISHING IN MISSOURI...continued.

MERAMEC SPRING PARK near St. James. Mo..is for much of the year "bait-fishing". The park really shines for the fly-rodder after the regular-season. Im speaking of the WINTER CATCH AND RELEASE SEASON. You will find some great fly rodders working these and and the other State Park waters during this very special winter "catch & Release" season. Meramec Spring Park has a small camp-ground. The spring-branch provides about 8-miles of trophy-trout water fishing on the Meramec River. This water is my regular hang-out. The park is owned by the James Foundation and operated in cooperation with the State Conservation Department. The park managers are fine people, and will give you information on both park and Meramec River "water" conditions. If you park on the "park grounds" to fish the river, you have but 30-minutes after the whistle blows to get from the river, to your car, and off the park grounds!! Ph. (314) 265-7387.

NORTH FORK RIVER ..get a free copy of the Missouri Official Highway Map at your auto license bureau and find the town of West Plains. With your finger head north out of town on "63" and east on "14" till your finger runs into this great trout fishing stream. Better yet, call Sunburst Ranch for camping and conoe service at 417-284-3443. To wade this river you must wear felts, and felt soles with cleats are even better. The slime on the bare rocks had to be imported from sections of the Yellowstone River in Montana. Very slick and dangerous. Fast water..big trout.

Roubidoux Creek..runs thru the town of Waynesville and I've fished it often. I have bought a lot of fur in that town from Clarence Hensley. Some days I would swear there never was a trout in that stream, other days would produce a lot of "stocker" trout.

Lane Spring on Hwy 63 south of Rolla..if your a serious fly rodder..forget it!!

Table Rock Dam "tail-water" fishing, which is upper Lake Taneycomo, just below the dam..wow, if you catch the water right. RIGHT is "low"..and you can wade it for big trout. For large fish, use heavy-tippets, big wooly's and woolybuggers.

The Eleven point River..below GREER SPRING. Beautiful water. Check with Don Woods at Alton, Mo., and see if he will float you thru the trout water section.

CRANE CREEK, near Crane, Mo..not far from Springfield. Maybe the best of the "small" "no-kill" waters.

BLUE SPRING CREEK near Bourbon, small creek that produces a few trout each trip if you use that "stealth" mentioned elsewhere. Short casts, small beautiful trout.

And there are a dozen or more other stretches of trout water including both public and or "pay by the pound". RAINBOW TROUT RANCH at Rockbridge, Mo..is the most popular of the pay by the pound(417)679-3619....Spring River Trout Farm at Verona, Mo.(417-498-6622) and we hear a lot about SPRING VALLEY TROUT RANCH at Thornfield, Mo.(417-265-3699)..many more commercial trout farms, but im running out of room. "Trout-Farms might be like shooting fish in a barrel, however you learn to handle fish on a fly rod fast.

Again, check the state regulations at the above mentioned State-Managed streams. Some are "no-kill"..some have a kill "length-limit"...check & obey the law on it.

I dont know Spencer Turner(state trout biologist)..he's called our office on business matters, yet we've never met. However, because of his efforts..I've never known the trout fishing on the TROPHY-TROUT WATERS any better than it is now. Our state conservation guys are doing everything they can to keep "us all" happy. As trout fishers, we can help. Its a matter of educating those that might not understand just how precious these few "unique" miles of "cold water" are, and important to all, that they be preserved. You and I would like to see more laws regarding this or that..as it favors us. Yet another law that cannot be enforced, or worse yet..not understood, wont help. A continuing program of educating "the why"...might be the best method of improvement and preservation over the long pull. New and sound reasoning, for a new generation of fishers..and others, rather than another law might be worth a try.

AND FINALLY...lets close this edition.

We tried in our commentary to blend some of the past with today, we'll look at the future in the next edition. We better close before we have so many pages that it'll cost us an arm and a leg to print this issue. To save on printing costs, we will print right from these computer print-out pages. And "arm and leg" is well known pro tyer Polly Rosborough's favorite remark when ordering material. We name-dropped a number of well known fly tyers as we made our way to completion of this edition of the manual. Do we really know all of these luminaries in the business. Naww, after being a supplier of materials for so many years it seems that sooner or later everyone will need that special something from our inventories. So we meet at the warehouse, the store, by phone, letter or in person at a trade show. For years I knocked on doors across the country with our product catalog under my arm. And because we are all in the same "business", we know each other to that degree, if you can call that knowing anyone at all. We have proof-read pages for publication where it had to do with careful feather and or fur identification, and furnished selected materials for the photography work used in a number of books in the past as mentioned and, another to be published next year. About the time a book is to be published, we receive a copy with a note and request to name-drop it in our national bulletins. And if the work warrants a name-drop..we do it. And we do the same for pro tyers and their work nation-wide. Others that you read or meet at trade shows or meetings, we know very well. They put our F-C products to the test, and show no mercy till we get it right. Lefty Kreh is that way with us, and "in touch" on a regular basis. Some of "you" infact represent us to others by our request in your travels. We ask local fly tyer and engineer Dave Barron to meet with the SIMMS people in our behalf, at their place of business..and Dave gave us some "insight" after the visit. Others have represented us as they travel foreign lands. And we are always asking you to test products for us sent in by manufacturers. Our only business is fly tying and fly fishing, no shoes or sweaters. We have to be right. Often, from your report a product makes it into our national bulletin-catalogs, or will miss by a mile! And we name-drop "you" every chance we get. Your our most important name-drop. Sometimes a mix of fun and business. The only place I wont talk your business or mine is at the FFF or T.U. meetings we attend. This is not the time or place for personal gain. I avoid meetings where this has happened in respect for what should be taking place. So much can be learned at these meetings. This is where you will find the real experts..at your local FFF or T.U. meeting. Again, ask me about the one in your area. If we can help you with your casting, fishing, or fly tying methods..thats something else. Stop-by, call, write or ask anytime, anywhere. And thank you in advance for thinking of us.

And this little manual of fly tying patterns and equipment-rigging was never ment to be a conclusion. For many, we hope its a beginning. If fly tying and fly rodding is new to you..we hope this manual gets you off to a fast start. We want you tying and fishing with flys and methods that will produce results now! We tried not to write in generalities. We suggest rods and other equipment by name..from every day expierence, to get you started quickly. Later, as you develop your skills from hands-on expierence, you should investigate other methods and equipment. Keep in mind as you read these pages..that for every method discussed in fly-tying and equipment-rigging in this manual..there is another method or technique that will allow you to reach the same end result. We choose the methods used in our bulletins, pattern-sheets and manuals to be of instant value to the beginner, or advanced novice. After seeing just how easy this fly tying and fly rodding is..he's on his way. With these sure-thing methods under his belt(or to fall back on)..nothing should stop him now. Read, listen, test and explore. And share your findings with us. Good luck till next time..