

### Fly of the Month

By Mike Ott

#### Andrew Grillo's Hippie Stomper

This time of year it's all about terrestrials. Mayflies are sparse at best; Caddis are not reliable: And the summer heat brings out hopper, ants, beetles, and every other bug in the woods. I found this pattern on a trip to the Driftless Area of southwestern Wisconsin over Labor Day Weekend. The water was low and clear, and the fields were absolutely abuzz with insect life. The local fly shop proprietor recommended a number of terrestrial patterns, and I thought the name was as appealing as the fly. It floats well, sits flat on the water, has good visibility, and just looks buggy.



Hook: TMC 3761, 10-16

Thread: 6/0 or 8/0 Black

Tail: Black Moose body hair

Overbody: 2 layers of foam, black 2mm on top, same color as underbody 1mm underneath

Body- Holographic Flashabou - Red, Chartreuse, Green, Purple...

Wing- White Floating Poly Yarn

Hackle-Grizzly

Legs- Barred Round Rubber Legs

- 1) Secure hook in vise, and lay down a tight thread base. Tie in moose body hair tail about equal to the hook length.
- 2) Cut two foam strips equal to or slightly wider than the hook gap. One will be the 2mm black over-body and one will be the 1mm colored underbody. To avoid creating a bulky tie-in cut the end of the strips into a point and then tie it in.
- 3) Tie in two strands of holographic Flashabou, doubled over your thread. Advance thread to midpoint of hook. Tightly wrap your Flashabou to the midpoint of the hook and tie off.
- 4) Pull your underbody foam forward and tie off at midpoint of hook. Put a tiny drop of superglue on the top of the underbody and then pull the overbody forward and tie off.
- 5) Advance thread to the end of the hook shank and tie off foam strips. Tie down the foam "thorax" and tie in poly yarn wing on top of front half of fly. Tie in hackle.
- 6) Tie in legs on either side of the hook shank. Stretching the rubber while tying in makes for a less bulky tie in.
- 7) Densely wrap your hackle forward and tie off. I like this fly to be very heavily hackled making this a buoyant fly.
- 8) Carefully pull the foam head and wing out of the way and tie off your thread at the eye of the hook. Glue the tie off. Trim the foam "head" so it's equal in length to the thorax.
- 9) Trim the rear portion of the wing so it's half the length of the foam over-body. Trim the front portion of the wing so it's a little bit longer than your hackle. Trim the legs so they're slightly shorter than the overall fly length.
- 10) Trim the underside of the hackle nearly flat on the bottom. This doesn't affect the fly's buoyancy and ensures that it will float upright on nearly every cast. Trimming the hackle also forces the fly to sit lower in the water, giving the fish a better look at their next meal. Apply a tiny drop of head cement to the Flashabou body, to make it more durable.

Fish this fly dead-drift with the occasional twitch. Don't be too timid about the delivery - Terrestrials tend to land with a plop often triggering reaction strikes. Try it in just about any color that Flashabou and foam come in. It was originally red, but we fished them in pink and chartreuse. It is also buoyant enough to fish as a dry-dropper rig.