

Fly of the Month

By Mike Ott

Bob's Fly

Ed Story is most famous for his creation of the Crackle Back. No other fly pattern has been so popular, so copied, or so "adapted" to catch fish everywhere. A lesser known variation is Bob's Fly; created by its namesake Bob Story. A smaller and less-flashy pattern this is a great fly to fish everywhere – particularly on the Current River and inside Montauk State Park. This was my hot fly during this past FYAO, matching the little caddis coming off that brought all the fish to the top. Again, pheasant tail, copper wire, and ginger hackle are all those things that trout love.



Hook: Standard or Short-Shank Dry Fly Hook

Thread: 8/0 or 12/0 Brown

Hackle: Ginger Saddle

Ribbing: Fine Copper Wire

Body: Pheasant Tail Fibers.

- 1) Secure hook in vise, start thread just behind hook eye, and advance thread to hook bend.
- 2) Prepare hackle by stripping off hackle fibers from the base of the hackle feather leaving about 1/8" of bare shaft. Tie in at hook bend with dull-side toward you.
- 3) Tie in ribbing wire, and 5-6 pheasant tail fibers by the tips at the hook shank.
- 4) Advance thread to hook eye.
- 5) Wrap an even, thin body of the pheasant tail fibers to just behind hook eye. Tie off and trim excess.
- 6) Counter wrap the body with the wire rib to reinforce the body. Tie off and trim excess.
- 7) Wrap the hackle forward evenly-spaced to the hook eye. Tie off and trim excess.
- 8) Make a neat head with the thread, whip finish and trim thread.

I fish this all day long mainly as a dry fly. Depending on the fish, I will also strip it back like a Crackleback if the fish are chasing emerging flies.