

Fly of the Month

By Mike Ott

Y2K Bug

I cannot believe that we have not had this as fly-of-the-month yet, but there it is... An outcast among flies, and one step up from a glowball, this is one of the best winter fly patterns ever. The Y2K is easier to tie, sinks better, and gets much better hook sets than the much-maligned glowball. While some people refuse to fish any egg patterns, no one can argue their effectiveness. Some of our fishermen even use these as attractor flies year round. This winter in particular we are dealing with unusually high and off-color water making depth control and visibility vitally important to success. Of all the egg patterns, this is one of the most effective and easiest to tie.



Hook: TMC 2499SP/BL (preferred) or Dai-Riki 125 Size 12-14
Bead: Gold Tungsten of appropriate size
Thread: 6/0 Pink, White, Orange, etc.
Body: 2 colors of Glow Bug Yarn
Glue: Zap-A-Gap or some other industrial strength super glue

- 1) Place bead on hook and secure in vise. Start thread behind bead and secure with super glue.
- 2) Cut about a 1½" piece of both colors of glow bug yarn. Pull off about 1/3rd of the bunch to use for each fly. You can adjust a bit for different sizes.
- 3) On one side of the hook, tie in one color of the yarn at the middle directly behind the bead just as tight to it as possible with a couple of tight thread wraps.
- 4) On the other side of the hook, tie in the other color yarn, again, as tight to the bead as possible with not too many thread wraps.
- 5) You should have half the yarn out the back and the other out the front.
- 6) Pull all the yarn back toward the rear of the fly and make one or two thread wraps behind the bead.
- 7) Super glue about 1" of thread and wrap behind bead before whip finishing.
- 8) Pull the yarn tight and trim to length at the end of the hook bend, then trim the front half to a nice taper.

Most tiers prefer the 2499SP/BL hook because the hook gap and needle-sharp point add up to consistently more hook-ups. Vary the colors, but most use a lighter side and a darker side. Some days he fish like one color combination; other days they like the other. .

Don't make them too fluffy, and don't be afraid to tie them small. Either way, this has been a great pattern. There are several good YouTube videos out there as well.