

Fly of the Month

By Mike Ott

Bobo's Magic Scud

Ok so what's so special about another scud? I already tie scuds in grey, tan, and olive, so why do I need another scud? Well this one was the only fly catching fish at Taneycomo when I met my brother-in-law there last month. He got there a day early and met a local fly fisher who shared his secret fly with him which he used to put on a trout catching clinic for us all. The secret is in the blended dubbing that includes hair from his pet cat... we called him Bobo.



Hook: Lightening Strike SE7 size 18-20 or other scud hook

Thread: 8/0 Red

Ribbing: 7X Tippet Material

Shell Back: Strip of clear plastic bag

Dubbing: Blended 60% Dark Sowbug dubbing, 20% Sowbug dubbing , and 20% Charcoal

Awesome Possum (Bobo substitute)

- 1) Secure hook in vise, start thread just behind hook eye and advance to hook bend.
- 2) At the hook bend, tie in a couple inches of 7X tippet material extending out the back.
- 3) Cut a narrow strip of plastic bag material about 2-times the anticipated fly width.
- 4) Taper on end a bit and secure on top of hook extending out the back.
- 5) Blend together the dubbing and dub a sparse body to just behind the hook eye.
- 6) Pull the plastic strip over the back and secure just behind the hook eye. Trim excess.
- 7) Wrap an evenly spaced rib forward to form body segments. Tie off and trim excess.
- 8) Form a neat red head and whip finish.
- 9) Using a dubbing needle, pick out legs and trim in line with hook point.

The combination of the two colors of Sow-Scud dubbing and the natural cat hair really gave this fly a great mottled look, and the natural hair softened the legs enough to let them undulate in the current. The sample fly handed to us was tied on the straight-eyed #20 SE7 and had no shellback – rather it was just a trimmed flush on the back. However, it got really trashed after a dozen fish or so. I just prefer the realistic look of the shellback version. We fished them deep in the riffles and runs as well as sight-fishing to fish on the flats between outlets #2 and #3.