

Fly of the Month

by Earl Schenberg

SCUD: Tied by Malcolm Royce at O.F.F. meeting 10/22/2009

MATERIALS:

HOOK: 2457 or 200R, sizes 10-16

THREAD: To match body. Center picture uses red thread

BACK: Scud back or spotted thin skin.

(Option) put a strip of flashaboo under back.

RIB: Clear monofilament, sz.006 or 007 depending in the size of fly.

BODY: Muskrat or Ostrich. Can use many other materials as long as it is buggy looking. When done tying, pick out body fibers to look like legs, then trim to correct length. Color choices: olive-gray, tan, pink, orange.

HOW TO TIE:

Lay down a thread base, Wrap on some .002 lead wire. (6 to 8 turns is enough). Tie in the ribbing and back material. Dub body on thread and wrap to eye forming a tapered body on the thick side. Bring back material over the top and secure by counter wrapping the rib, evenly spaced, to eye. Finish head, whip finish and cement. Pick out the dubbing to form legs and trip to shape. Scuds should be lightly weighted either with lead under the body or with a bead head. Antenna and tails are optional; Marabou hen hackle fibers, or antron; See picture.

HOW TO FISH:

In Streams, tail water and rivers, present the fly with the shallow nymph or wet fly swing presentations; remember, scuds are present in weedy, slow-water stretches. In lakes, use an intermediate line and a slow retrieve. The 2457 hook is curved and represents a resting or drifting scud. The 200R hook is straight and is used for a swimming scud. Match your presentation to the hook style. Scuds are shrimp-like fresh-water crustaceans. They can occur in huge numbers in lakes and in slack water sections of rivers. When present, they offer trout a delicious morsel that is hard to resist.



Photos By: Earl Schenberg