

Damselfly Nymphs

With a one-year nymphal cycle damsel flies are a stillwater constant. These slender predators live an active life, constantly placing them at risk of becoming trout food. Damsel nymphs are an excellent searching pattern as they often scull in and around weed beds and across open water expanses. By fall, dense weed columns tower toward the surface. Trout cruise the perimeters and channels within these weedy columns pouncing on damsels attempting to traverse from one weed clump to another. Use a slow hand twist retrieve with numerous pauses to suggest the snake-like swimming motion of the natural nymphs. Also during the fall season immature damsel nymphs are abundant. Immature nymphs are sluggish swimmers. They tire quickly falling through the water column as they rest, legs outstretched. Use a slow retrieve with exaggerated pauses.

Dragonfly Nymphs

Robust and aggressive, dragon nymphs are popular pattern choices for stillwater fly fishers. Capable of reaching large sizes during their multi-year nymphal cycle, dragon nymphs are always around.

There are two families within the stillwater dragon fly clan, darners and sprawlers. Darners are slender hourglass shaped predators. Driven by an insatiable quest for food they prowl the underwater jungle. Sprawlers are squat, spider-like sedentary ambush predators.

Dragon patterns are excellent choices during summer, late fall, around weed beds and along drop offs. Full sinking lines are my presentation tools of choice. I try to strike a balance between retrieve pace and sink rate, placing the fly in the strike zone for as long as possible. Dragon nymphs inhabit places that tax both presentation and fly box. I prefer buoyant patterns designed to creep and crawl above the bottom. Fast sinking lines are ideal for dragging these patterns down. A short 4 to 6 foot leader ensures the pattern skims the weed tops. A slow hand twist with the odd quick strip is my preferred retrieve. Dragon nymphs are capable of absorbing water and expelling it through their posteriors, driving them forward in four to six inch bursts.

Leeches

Despite their tarnished reputation leeches are one of the most productive stillwater patterns. Slender and ribbon-like, leeches are competent swimmers. Leeches traversing open water are seldom ignored by opportunistic trout. When plying unfamiliar waters or unsure of what might be on the menu leech patterns are an excellent starting point. Use a slow sinking line in conjunction with a steady hand twist or four to six inch strip retrieve to locate active fish. Nocturnal in nature, leeches are ideal pattern choices for morning or evening fishing. In low light conditions dark bushy patterns provide a visible silhouette and acoustic foot print for trout to home in on. Suspending leech patterns beneath an indicator can be lethal. It is nearly impossible to fish them incorrectly.

Forage Fish

Just about every lake is home to a variety of forage fish, dace, sculpin, perch, shiners, and stickleback to name a few. Early in life trout and char soon realize the caloric importance of fish in their diets.

The Tree River watershed drains an area over 5,200 km². Yet most of the angling pressure is concentrated in its last 6 miles before it empties into the Arctic Ocean. Despite its name, most of the watershed is situated above tree line and flows through the Arctic Tundra, a region which is affectionately referred to as “the barrens.” Even though the Tree is located in “the barrens” and is visited by less than 100 anglers every summer, there is no shortage of life along its banks.

The Tree valley meanders across the tundra like a ribbon of green in an otherwise grey and seemingly barren landscape. A vegetated mixture of willows, birch, heather and Labrador tea extends from the river banks up to the edges of towering cliffs and menacing ramparts. Hiding behind the rolling hills and willow thickets there are musk ox, caribou, moose, bears, wolves and foxes. Flying overhead there are swans, arctic loons, golden eagles and peregrine falcons. From early July until the middle of August, the hillsides are a rich mosaic of blues, pinks, yellows and whites from the numerous wildflowers that grow in the Arctic Tundra.

One night this summer I lay awake in my cabin listening to the Tree roar past the camp and asked myself “how did I end up here?” Since that first time I set my tired, sleepless eyes on the Tree some 12 years ago, I never in a million years thought I’d be calling it home for seven summers of my life. Chummy Plummer likes to call me “Mr. Tree River”, I like that. I have a deep love and respect for the place and I’m honored that he thinks of me as Mr. Tree River. Since 2007, my wife Erin comes up to the Tree to help me in the summer. Maybe some day Chummy will call her “Mrs. Tree River”, we should be so lucky!



Swinging for Steel

By Mike Verhoef

Even with the number of times I have seen a steelhead almost pull the rod out of a persons hand it still always reminds me of the favorite saying I heard a number of years back....."the swing is the thing but the tug is the drug"! Once this saying is passed on to the person who just experienced this memorable occasion it always puts a smile on their face, and then with a nod of their head in agreement, this saying is then etched in their memory for a life time. This scenario usually starts when I recommend putting on 12lb tippet immediately after they have pulled out their spool of 6 or 8lb. That is when the question is always asked, "why would we need that heavy of tippet for steelhead", and then my usual response with a cautious smirk is "well let's just hope you find out why"! Then the coaching session starts along with the setting of expectations which usually goes something like this. "Well you see, when we swing a fly like this we are pursuing the active fish and when they decide to go after it they want to kill it and do so with extreme aggression and this is the reason for the 12 lb tippet!"

The set up one may use for swinging would ultimately depend on the size, depth and speed of the river system they intend to fish. That being said, usually a couple different set ups are preferred for the different situations one would encounter while pursuing steelhead around the great lakes. For single hand rods a 10' 7 or 8 wt is ideal with a sink tip line or sinking poly leaders to go on the end of a wf line. Personally I have 3 set ups that easily cover any situation I may find myself in throughout the season. These set ups include an 11' 7wt, a 12'6" 7/8 and a 13'9" 8/9 all with the appropriate matching shooting heads along with a variety of matching sink tips. If I was to choose one rod "to do it all" it would probably be my Gloomis 12'6" 7/8wt Stinger loaded with a 480 grn compact scandi shooting head and a few 14' sink tips of different densities to go with it. Off the end of the sink tip is a 4-5' length of 12 lb fluorocarbon with my fly of choice tied to it.



Stillwater Staples

By Phil Rowley

Matching the hatch is the essence of fly fishing. Mayflies and caddis seem to get all the attention. While there is no denying the enjoyment of matching the hatch all too often our timing is off and we miss the hatch. When fly fishing stillwaters it is more productive and consistent to ignore most hatches and work the depths and imitate a staple such as a scud, damsel nymph, dragon nymph, leech, forage fish or chironomid larva.

Scuds

Scuds are arguably the most important stillwater food source. Rich in protein, trout feasting on scuds pack on the pounds in short order. Scuds swim in an extended manner darting, crawling and gliding in a random and erratic manner. Successful retrieves must match this behaviour. Varied combinations of hand twist and strip retrieves blended with random pauses work best. Be patient. Let your pattern sink just above the bottom. Use slow sinking lines as they allow for a slow random approach with minimal risk of the line overpowering the presentation.

Try scud patterns throughout the open water season. In the fall, trout prefer scuds, gorging themselves as they stock up for winter. Reclusive in nature, scuds shy away from bright light by hiding amongst the rocks and woody debris. Under the low light conditions scuds become active. Try a scud during or immediately after windy conditions have scoured rocky shorelines. Trout prowl these margins feasting on all manner of prey. Owing to their abundance scud patterns cast within an arm's reach of shore often yields amazing results.



After three years of military service and four years of university studies, I constantly found myself farther and farther away from my cold blooded finned friends. Ironically, each move that I made was farther from a great trout stream, but closer to lake or large river. While I longed for great trout water, a silent message was constantly being sent to me. In short, I needed to utilize the great resources at hand, open up a new chapter, and start to fish these unique bodies of water.

Over the course of the next ten years I pursued virtually every corner of the warm water fly fish fishing spectrum. My new teaching position landed me within a roll cast from the shores of Western New York's famed Chautauqua Lake! Within fifteen meters of my front door I had casting rights to a myriad of warm water species, everything from bluegill to muskie!

While the nearest "good" trout water was in extent of an hours drive, I would incorporate my wet fly tactics on panfish. Evenings I would don my chest waders, grab my trusty 6-weight and I was off to cast the shoreline. By varying by fly patterns, I caught a unique array of fish without changing flies or "matching the hatch". Bluegills, yellow perch, calico bass(crappie), and the occasional bass made for some great fishing. Needless to say, my once melancholy state of troutness was starting to dissipate. Moreover, my education to fishing for variety of species was growing by leaps and bounds. In addition to some incredible fishing experiences, I was enjoying a whole new journey at my flying vice.

While I continued to trout fish when time was available, I began substituting adventures. For years I couldn't wait for the great Sulfur hatch on Pennsylvania's Oil Creek! Swarms of flies littered the air and a once silent pool was now teeming with trout! But the irony came into play when I was able to walk to the lake and cast to schools of White Bass.

Over time I became restless with my Fishing. I would try various avenues of angling, revert back to old methods and enjoy the time tested traditions. Nonetheless I was still looking for the ultimate freshwater challenge. One that would challenge me both mentally and physically and at the same time would bring my heart to racing warp speed.

Sometimes in life our riches are right in front of us but we are to blind to see them. Such was the case with the challenge I so feverishly sought. Chautauqua Lake and other bodies of water in Western New York were home to the king of freshwater – the Muskie!

For the past twelve years I have pursued the Muskie with a fly with a "NASCAR" mentality! I've travelled many miles, made countless cast and have had exhilarating moments.

While I have had hundreds of encounters with old esox over the last decade, I can honestly say that each is a unique experience of it's own. Not all encounters require a hook up! A "follow up" from charging Muskie is almost as noteworthy as one in the net!

So the next time your looking for a different twist in your angling domain, try the warm water spectrum. It's close to home and offers some unique challenges.

In the past few seasons my fly box has become a lot more compact. Actually I carry very little anymore when I head out for a day on the river. Once you have become comfortable with just swinging flies to pursue steelhead you need nothing more then a spool of tippet, nippers, a few sink tips and a fly box with a couple dozen flies. The fly box is broken down into 4 or 5 of my favorite patterns each in a couple different sizes, colours and weights. I have found having a pattern with just a little bit of weight on it can make the difference. This can be anything from a bead, a cone, a set of dumbbell eyes or simply some lead tied in around the shank. An example of this would be one of my favorite searching patterns, the purple marabou leech. When tying this pattern on a #2 streamer hook with just a 1/4 inch hot orange bead for weight you can then simply wrap some lead around the shank immediately behind the bead and now have the exact same looking fly. Another example of this is with my most consistent pattern, a cone headed golden olive sculpin. By simply changing from steel to a tungsten cone you can have the identical pattern in looks but now it is just a little heavier. This extra little bit of weight in certain situations will allow the fly to get into and stay in the zone a little longer without taking away from its look and action.

A few of my other "go to" fly patterns would include a black egg sucking rabbit leech, a dark olive zuddler, and a variation of a full motion hex.

I have always liked to believe that steelhead are relatively easy to catch and will readily take a swung fly but the challenge is simply to find them and then even more importantly be able to properly present that swung fly in front of them. This is where and when your rod choice, sink tip selection, and your

chosen fly all have to come together for success. If you are fortunate enough to have years of experience fishing a body of water then your set up selection is relatively easy as the number of outings with some trial and error have got you now to the point of simply yearning 'the tug'! If this is not the case and you are in water that has never been blessed with your presence then some careful evaluation needs to happen before you even take the first cast. Once you have chosen what you think is the appropriate sink tip for the flow and depth of the water, the next and most important thing to consider is where you are located in the run. You then want to methodically plan out how you are going to work yourself through the entire section of water starting at the top end and literally "swinging" your way down through to the tail out. One of the most valuable things I have come to appreciate is that there is a fine line between having too



heavy of a tip or too light. Taking the time to stop and put on the right tip for the specific situation can make all the difference between having a day on the water practicing your cast to satisfying your addiction to “the tug”.

I'm always surprised with the number of people I meet each year that have never spent much time swinging a fly for steelhead. This is usually because they were first introduced to nymphing and then found some success so they stuck with what had worked for them. They maybe had tried swinging a few times but after losing a fly or three and having no success they simply diverted back to their comfort of confidence. There is no doubt that swinging for steelhead can seem a little challenging and maybe even intimidating but actually when it is broken down and thought through it is a very simple and productive way to fish. Give it try the next time you are on the water chasing some steel and when that 8lb native chrome bullet decides to take your swung fly I guarantee that the tug you feel will turn into the drug you need the next time you hit the water!!

Tight lines!
Mike



The Warm Water Spectrum Transitioning from trout to muskie..

By Steven C. Wascher

For as long as I can remember, trout fishing was the norm for my family. My father grew up in Central Pennsylvania and was only limited by time in regards to fishing the great freestone streams such as Slate and Cedar Run, Big Pine Creek, and “The Sock” (Loyalsock Creek) to name a few. In addition to having great stream surrounding him, he was surrounded by family of fishers that included his parents, a brother and several aunts and uncles. This made for a great family outings, good fishing, and for me, personally, some truly great stories that were told in later years.

My first fishing experience first happend during a family outing. My father grabbed his Wright & McGill Granger, his vest, and placed me in the family rowboat. We paddled across Big Pine Creek in Lycoming Country, PA and he began to fish the mouth of Trout Run in the village Cammal. At one point in the outing I was asked to hold the fly rod while Dad tended to another rod. Suddenly a large splash beneath the Size 12 Adams dry fly and a jolt of electricity shot through the bamboo fly rod into my hands. I grasped the button to the Shakespeare Automatic fly reel and moments later a beautiful twelve inch Brown trout was placed in dad's wicker creel!

My first fish at age three and a half on a dry fly no less! This set the stage for what would become a lifetime of great angling experiences! Throughout my early youth, my father and I were “trout fisherman”. We rarely pursued other species of fish. Near out home in Western New York we were had the pleasure of being able to fish in a neighbors farm pond that was loaded with Rainbow Trout. It didn't matter to me whether my catch came on a Fan Winged Royal Coachmen or a wreathing mass of garden hackle. The bottom line was simple, I was fishing with Dad, the trout were beautiful, and the environs in which we fished were as beautiful as the trout itself!

Throughout my early years I took advantage of every opportunity to fish. The memories are locked in my mind in a rich fashion. Granted, not every trout came on a fly. But then again, to a ten year old boy the price of a good grizzly cape compared to free garden hackle...well the choice was generally obvious, at least for a few years.

As a teenager, I progressed through the fishing hierarchy one cast at a time. I loved to swing a series of two or three wet flies at a time.

Usually this was a rewarding practice and it also allowed for some experimentation at both the vise as well as on the stream. I experimented in almost every venue of the art, relishing each moment on the stream and without saying, they were almost always with the company of my father.

While my cold water fly fishing knowledge was growing with each outing, I occasionally dabbled in the warm water arena. Friends and relatives owned several farm ponds which provided me with great easel in which to create a new found picture in life. I dabbled with deer hair bugs and rubber legged spiders, all of which were greeted with a zealous gulp by a hungry largemouth or bluegill. While each of these outing presented a unique angling alternative, my heart always yurned for the hemlock shrouded mountain streams of Central Pennsylvania or the meandering freestone streams of Western New York.



like krystal flash, holographic tinsels, silver and/or gold ribbing, One of the key ingredients in making a pattern work is the addition and placement of eyes. This makes an unbelievable difference. Another thing that we do which does two things is to coat a pattern or materials with clear jig enamel. This not only adds a shine but makes the fly more durable also. We have also used fingernail polish for a shine or glitter when designing.

Movement

Movement is not just how the fly as a whole moves, darting, etc, but how the material itself moves. This can be also done with a variety of materials. Marabou is one of my favorites and provides lots of motion when it is wet. Another is extending the wing on a pattern to give it motion. The feathers from a saddle hackle can be used for motion when tying large salt or fresh water patterns. Using Krystal Flash can serve a twofold purpose here: Motion and flash, both being extremely important when trying to attract fish.

Innovative Materials

You may well laugh at some of these, however, they have proven successful. Vinyl twine, unwind the twine and it makes a very fine ribbing, or a tight bodied fly. Shrink Wrapping for spent wings or if folded over a pressed flat makes other durable wings. Sandwich bags can be made into wings. Natural Cotton which makes unbelievable bodies for dry flies. Shoe laces for certain stone flies or other patterns. Nylon paint brush bristles for tails. Cat or dog hair. Dental floss. Ribbon of various colors and types. Foam matting. Sparkly yarn. Plastic bags in various colors. Foam ear plugs and fake fingernails. Reusable cloth wipes. The only thing limiting you in this pursuit is your own imagination. Be bold and daring and the results may be a truly smashing pattern.



Eastern Stream Of Pennsylvania

DESIGNING FLYS , INCLUDING INNOVATIVE MATERIALS AND METHODS

by Dave Shenk

Eastern Pennsylvania Streams

Embrace nature's tranquility and become a stream-walker with me. We will visit some Eastern Pennsylvania streams which are just a day's drive away from Burlington, Ontario. Boiling Springs, Pa. is approximately 403 miles or 648.5 km and home to the Yellow Breeches Stream. Coburn, Pa. is 277 miles or 445.77 km and the location of Penns Creek. McClure, Pa. is 361 miles or 487 km and the location of many streams. There are many other amenities that attract fly fishermen and others from all across the United States.

Yellow Breeches Stream

The Yellow Breeches is a limestone stream that is 49 miles in length. This stream is world famous and on any given day you can see vehicles from many states parked there. The stream has a mix of wild, stocked, and carryover fish. It is not uncommon to catch trout of 20" or larger. My personal best on this stream is a 23-1/2" rainbow. Currently there are 3 Pennsylvania State records taken from this stream, all over 10lbs. There is a prolific hatch of White Mayflies that occur on this stream from mid to late August to the point of it appearing as if it is snowing. Most of this occurs from dusk into the dark of the night. However, there are many large trout taken during that course of events. The "Run" as it is called is reserved for catch and release only and starts at the lake in Boiling Springs and continues for approximately 100yds and is crystal clear. There is a one mile stretch which includes the "Run" and is Catch and Release Only. The Yellow Breeches has waters that are ankle deep to pools that are over your head.

If you wish to be guided on this stream or many other spring creeks in the area, I would ask you to consider Mike Heck. Mike is an Orvis endorsed guide and a contributor to many publications including American Angler, Fly Fisherman. Mike can be contacted at his phone number of 717-816-7557 or the website of www.fallingsprings.com. Mike is also the author of "Spring Creek Strategies" published by headwaterbooks. Their website is www.headwaterbooks.com. There are many spring creeks in the same general area as the above mentioned Yellow Breeches. .

For those who want to combine fishing with pleasure may I suggest the Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse. The Yellow Breeches flows alongside the Resort and can be fished from the edges of the property. The main building was built in 1785. The stone buildings are built in the Sturdy Pennsylvania Dutch fashion. In addition to lodging and the dinner theatre there is also a small but interesting Pennsylvania Fly Fishing Museum in the main building. So, if you are so inclined, there is much for your spouse and or friend to do in the area even if their interest doesn't lie in flyfishing. If for any reason your desire is to visit a major city, Carlisle, lies within 15 minutes of Boiling Springs and the Yellow Breeches stream.

Letort Spring Run

Vince Marinaro and Charlie Fox shared the waters of this limestone creek and popularized it through out time. This stream is spring fed and will humble even the most skilled flyfishers. It averages 20 ft. in width and here is a place for long leaders, light tippets. Wild Brown Trout make this an angler's dream come true. Another famous stream and is only about 20 minutes from the Yellow Breeches. A professional guide friend of mine; Scott Weidner, related to me that he had caught four of the wily



browns on that stream in a single day and then never went back because he didn't want to leave there frustrated. Scott said, "I knew that I'd had an exceptional day, because if you catch two trout on the Letort in one day, you've had a good day. So if you enjoy a challenge and don't mind the possibility of being about to pull your hair out, visit the Letort.

Penn's Creek

Penn's Creek originates in a cave and flows outward from that source for approximately 35 miles.. A limestone stream with a freestone character. Each year thousands of anglers from a score of states and foreign countries enjoy this waterway. Penn's is home to the most famous "Green Drake" hatch in eastern Pennsylvania. A stream with a challenge it taunts, beckons, and can be a mystery on any given day. The best angler, on his/her best day, cannot brag of having conquered Penn's. Penn's is both a stocked and wild trout stream. Upon reaching the lower parts in summer, is considered bass water from the village of Glen Iron until it flows into the Susquehenna River. Penn's stream is home to many eastern mayflies in addition to which there are over 1,000 species of caddisflies, stoneflies, midges, crane flies, black flies, etc. There are also large and small crustaceans and baitfish and well as terrestrials. If you are looking for one of the toughest angling classrooms in existence spend some time on Penn's Creek. There are sections that are extremely slippery and the last time I fished this Penn's I slipped and fell even when being careful and wearing felt wading shoes.

Cherry Run

I wanted to take a minute and introduce you to this little trickle of a "run". Cherry Run is only a stone's throw from the area of Penn's I fished. This run houses my favorite fish in the trout family and that being "Native Brook Trout". This stream thrilled me with the fact that Scott, Jan, my wife, and I counted 15 native brookies in less than 20 yds. After I caught two of them, we spotted a trophy. Initially we only saw a tail poking out from under brush and debris. We were stunned. We stood and watched from behind a tree and waited and waited; eventually this brookie, resplendent in coloration, momentarily exposed himself and Jan gasped. She said, "That is the most beautiful trout I have ever seen". The reason we were stunned is that this brookie was probably 15" in length. The native had a perfect lie. The current kept from making the proper presentation to even drift a fly underneath the brush. He/she was almost completely hidden.

I want to take a moment and introduce you to a unique and extremely knowledgeable individual. Frank Angelo, he is the owner and operator of Redtail Ridge where he operates a flyfishing and Outdoor Center. Frank is on the St. Croix Pro Casting Team and has been fishing and guiding for 35 yrs., plus. Frank teaches, entomology, fly tying, and casting, at his school. Frank can guide you on some of the streams we mentioned, along with Middle Creek, Lost Creek (which has native browns to 19"), Buffalo Creek, Swift Run, Susquehenna River, Honey creek, Cocalamus, Penn's Creek Etc. There is local lodging available, but Frank has made available for seminar attendees Only, a special "package" rate at Redtail Ridge. Frank may be reached at phone number 570-837-5104.

Designing and Creating Patterns

Designing and creating patterns is truly an exciting part of fly tying and fishing! Learn about colors that excite fish, what triggers them to strike, and innovative materials and techniques. There will be handouts and samples of materials. Along with "tricks" for tying flies; learn how to tie Shenk's

unique in-line dropper system. Currently we have 54 patterns on the market, been published in both hardback and softback publications all over the world. Learn the same basic concepts that I used to win a British Fly Tying Competetion, which will be taught to you at the seminar.

One of the major concepts; at least in my estimation, that people miss is, what will the pattern I create look like in the water. Leave me explain. Any of our patterns we create are tested in water because what they look like dry will definitely be different than what they look like wet. One of my most successful patterns, The Pearly Killer and the Canadian Blue Killer are a prime example of this. This pattern originated by my spending months studying minnows and what attracts fish, making them strike. I first constructed this fly using white antron sparkle dubbing since fish seemed to lock onto two major areas, the white belly and the eyes. I then added black fishhair for the tail and the lateral line. On top of that I used Pearlescent Krystal Flash for the wing to give it the sparkle or shine of a minnow. NOW, here is what I wanted to impart to you. I tried numerous feathers until I found what I wanted when it was made wet. It turned out to be mallard breast. This looks totally different when it's dry, but tapers back and forms the shape of a minnow when it is wet. This pattern became so successful it even converted two spin fishermen. I then had three Northern Pike and Lake Trout Fisherman come to me and ask me to design the same fly except with a blue body and gold eyes as there was a baitfish like that in Canada. Consequently, the Canadian Blue Killer was born and I did this by having the mallard breast specially dyed and using holographic gold eyes. This pattern has proven exceptionally deadly.

When you decide to design, you should initially decide if you are want to create an attractor fly, a wet fly, a fly that imitates an insect, a simulator fly, a fly that represents a form of aquatic life, a realistic fly, etc. All of this will influence your materials and colors. The three main ingredients that go into any of our patterns are the following: Movement, Color, and Attraction. Again, all of these are tested in a special tank we designed even before they are tested on the stream. If you create a dry fly, something as simple as a glass of water to drop your fly on will work. For a streamer or wet, some people have used a bathtub or sink to see what it looks like wet. The tank that we designed allows you not only to see what a pattern looks like wet, but also what the fish see in the water.

Colors

One of the most overlooked colors we feel is blue. Charlie Meck, a well known author and fly fisher in the states did a study of the color that fish respond to most and it was "blue". For part of this experiment he tie flies with different colors and filed off the points of the hooks and with blue he had 7 fish chase the fly at one time. The other colors they responded to most were red, yellow, black. I've asked three guides if they use blue in any of their flies that they guide with and all three responded, "Blue", not really. My son, Bryan, is proof of this also. He has used my other flies, but when I introduced him to the Canadian Blue Killer in trout size, his response was, "Really, Dad, you want me to try this. I said, "Yes, give it a try". Three months later, Bryan called and said, "Dad, can you please, please tie me a dozen Blue Killers"? I said, "Why"? Bryan responded, "Because I've lost the two you gave me and they are killing the Trout"! I just laughed. Basic colors that always work are Blacks, Browns, and Olives.

Attraction

Attraction takes many forms, but we find that adding any type of material that will draw attention or flash to the pattern, greatly increases the chances of you taking fish. Commonly we will use materials

