

September Fly

Pattern: Matt's Hi-Vis Spinner

Family Matched: Mayflies

Species Matched: Trico Mayfly

Life Cycle Matched: Spawnd Out Spinner



The tiny moving water mayfly family of *Tricorythodes* or more commonly known as Tricos make up what for what they lack in size (generally sizes 18-22) with their almost plague-like numbers. Creating swarms that can shadow the river, the expiring Trico spinners will cause even the most seasoned lunkers rise from the depth to feed, making this last form of the adult mayfly one of the most productive. By incorporating a small tuft of fluorescent material above the wings of our Matt's Hi Vis Trico Spinner pattern, you can better track your fly as it drifts among the naturals.

The best way to a fisherman's heart is through his fly. ~Author Unknown



Fishing Reports

By: Weston Niep

Summer fishing will be gone as soon as it came. However, we still have a few weeks to say our goodbyes. I highly recommend getting out over the coming weeks as the dry fly depression will kick in before you think. Flows across the state have dropped significantly causing fish to accumulate in certain holes. Now is your last good chance to hammer the freestones before winter sends us all to the midge rich tail-waters. Get out there and drown some flies!

Cache la Poudre- 147 cfs at Canyon Mouth

Flows have dropped significantly over the past month. This in combination with the unseasonably warm weather has led to some unbelievable fishing. Fish are looking up over the entire course of the river. Size 12-16 stimulators are the most effective right now. Don't waste your time with droppers because the fish are exclusively feeding off the surface. Chubby Chernobyls, Chew Toys, and brown hopper will produce fish at every hole. Look for fish in any section of slack water behind boulders or on the bank.

Arkansas River ~350 cfs (Middle Basin)

The Arkansas is having no problem holding true to its glory of gold medal waters. Bwo's, Hoppers, Caddis, and the occasional stonefly are the primary focus of these feeding fish. Big Horn Canyon is a prime choice right now, flows and temps couldn't be any better for hot late season dry-dropper action. Early mornings are the best bet to slay some nice browns and bows. For the best fishing, start at the most down river section you plan to fish. Wade out 10 to 15 feet and start casting at a 45° angle upstream towards shore. Take a few steps, cast, then repeat. Make sure you are high-sticking and peeling back excess line to maintain better line control which should result in your stimulator drifting perfectly into a trout's mouth.

September 2015 Fly Of the Month

During a recent visit to Grand Junction, I made a detour into Montrose to visit the offices of Ross Reels. I had the pleasure of meeting the team and touring the plant where the fly reels are manufactured. These reels have been recognized as one of the most innovative, dependable and best performing in the world. It was a pleasure to spend time with these folks and see their engineering processes. If you find yourself fishing the waters of the western slope, you should stop by Ross Reels for a visit.

—Greg Wambolt

www.rossreels.com



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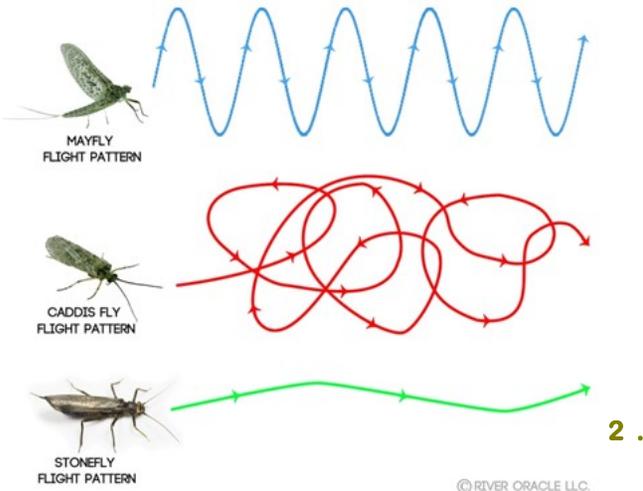
3 Tips for a Faster Dry Fly ID

By: Peter Stitchee

Ask any fly fisherman and they will tell you that the season to fish dry flies is never long enough. As the bugs start to fly over the water and the trout rise to meet them, the fly angler needs to be able to quickly identify the family of invertebrate and choose the best fly pattern to match the hatch before it passes them by. Here are three tips that will enable you to - at a glance and from a distance - identify which bugs are on the water and the best dry fly pattern to tie on in order to catch more fish.

1. ID Invertebrate Flight Patterns

The flight of the "Big Three" aquatic invertebrate families (Mayflies, Caddis Flies, & Stoneflies) is as defined and unique as a set of fingerprints. While each of these invertebrate families might be made up of hundreds or even thousands of individual species, these flight patterns will hold true to all within a given family, allowing the vigilant angler to quickly narrow down the dry fly to tie on from hundreds of patterns to just a score.



The Behavior of the Egg-Layer

Just as each of the major aquatic invertebrate families have a distinctive flight pattern, they are also equally recognizable to the attentive angler by how they return to the water

and lay their eggs.

Mayflies are the models of the "drag-free-drift" that the dry fly anglers are always seeking to imitate. The egg-laying mayfly alights gently on the water, wings held erect like little sails, and their behavior is neither flashy or extravagant as they simply go with the flow. After dipping their abdomens beneath the surface of the water to deposit their eggs, the mayfly quietly expires on the water.

Like a miniature, aquatic version of the film *Footloose*, Caddis flies are the Kevin Bacons of the invertebrate world! While the egg-laying caddis fly returns to the water in a number of ways, the overwhelming number of caddis species dive and bounce across the surface of the water in the same sporadic and spiraling flight that defined them in the air.

The largest of the "Big Three" aquatic invertebrate families, the Stoneflies make their presence known when they return to the water to lay their eggs. Hitting the water like a wounded helicopter, the legs of the egg-laying stonefly churn the water, allowing them to quickly skitter over the top of the water. Shaming an Ivy League crew team with the fervor of their strokes, the adult stoneflies almost run across the surface of the water in an egg-laying behavior unique to themselves.

3. Learn From The Masters

No matter how acrobatic my pursuit, or how vigorously I wave my bug seine in an attempt to capture a flying insect, there are masters of the river who surpass all of my bug collecting aspirations. Tirelessly sampling both night and day, these masters of entomology patiently chronicle and update a running log of the hatch, laying in lines and displaying their most recent captures. The Jedi-like masters that I elude to are not some PhD level bug geeks, but the countless species of spiders that inhabit stream banks and willow thickets along every trout water in the world. Held in the threads of their webs is an up-to-date catalog of family, species, and invertebrate life cycle hatching, hopping, and flying around that section of water. These time-lapse photos of the hatch found in streamside spider webs give the angler an unparalleled opportunity to crack open their fly box and accurately match the hatch.

Big Catfish in Colorado?

By: Weston Niep

Ok all you trout heads, this is my poke at all of you to remind you we live in a great state full of diverse sport fisheries. From wiper to walleye, to crappie and bass, fun is waiting at the next water body. So get out of the mountains for a change and come fish the North Eastern corner of the state. Would it help get you out here if I told you there is high potential to land a thirty pound channel catfish? I thought so.

How does a fly guy go about fishing for big cats? Start by putting down the fly rod, there's no place for it here. Get a heavy weight spin cast rod and load the reel with a minimum of 50lb test. Next get some 8/0 round hooks and ½ ounce egg weights. Go to your local super market and get a bucket of chicken livers. Head out to any of the reservoirs east of I-25 and North of I-70. If you have a buddy with a boat this would definitely be a trip worth inviting him on.

Once on the water, use your depth finder to map some areas where you have shallow shelves that rapidly drop into deep water. Anchor the boat in deep water and cast your chicken liver right up onto the edge of the shelf. Set your drag loose and hold on tight.



Did I convince you yet? I thought so, see you on the plains!

Do you have someone that you'd like to include in the Fly of the Month Club? Please sign up on our website www.wamboltwealth.com or send an email cindy.alvarez@wamboltandassoc.com