

The Fly Box by Will Wright “Maroon Chironomid”

Hook: Tiemco 2457, size 8 – 16
Thread: Various
Rib: Copper wire (*I like to tie some in at the rear on bigger sizes*)
Gills: White Antron
Body: Maroon Super Floss or Frostbite
Thorax: Peacock Herl
Head: Copper or Black Bead

(Doug tied the fly shown using olive thread and frostbite coated with Sally Hansen's Hard as Nails.)



This section of the newsletter does not belong to Will Wright, it belongs to all of us, the whole club. I'm asking you all for patterns to share with other members, if each of us were to submit just one pattern, we'd have enough for five years worth of newsletters! When nothing comes up or I have no ideas of my own, I'll be rehashing some old patterns from years gone by, like last month's Squamish Streaker.

This month's pattern is one that I've had good luck within the last few years, going back to the first Kidz fish out at Island Lake in '97. We were fishing the drop off by the old pump house; Doug already had his 27-inch monster on a brown floss bead head chironomid. We continued to get a few nice fish on this pattern but as the day wore on the length of time between fish got longer and longer. There was two guys fishing the edge of the same shoal who were having considerably more success than us, catching fish consistently

all through the afternoon. We started talking and we found out the guy in the back of the boat was well known Kamloops fishing guide and author Gord Honey. (Gord's just released a book he wrote with his Lac Le Jeune neighbor, Ken Strand, entitled "Flyfishing Small Lakes for Trout, A Guide for Beginners," check it out.)

When Gord originally showed me the pattern he tied it with maroon frostbite. Since then he's started using maroon super floss for the body and a copper or black bead. He gets subtle colour variations by changing the colour of the thread underbody with black or maroon thread. Gord recommends a size 12 Tiemco 2457 but I've had success with sizes 8 – 16.

Gord says, "Fish as all God's little chironomids, slow and slower. The reason I like it so much is that it covers 3 colour spectrums black, brown and maroon, depending on depth and light conditions."



Five year old Cameron proudly displays this 3 1/2 lb. Rainbow caught on his first cast with the maroon chironomid at Roche a few years ago. It was quite a battle, the little Shakespeare's drag screaming for all it's (\$4.95) worth. Cam had the rod resting on the gunnel and was cranking away, when the fish got to the boat the little 4-foot rod with 2 guides and the tip was bent into an inverted U, Phil and I were howling. Thanks for the picture Phil!