

OSPREY FLY BOX

FURLED ALEVIN

contributed by
Peter Caverhill

A New Twist on Fly Tying

I am disobeying Mr. Chatt. This "Fly of the Month" has nothing to do with my favorite or "go-to" flies. Actually, this is the first time that I have tied this pattern and I haven't a clue if it catches fish? However the technique rather intrigued me, so I thought I'd give it a try. How effective it is, will be left up to those of us who attempt the tying and who remember to give it a go on-water.

Ken Hanley has produced a book called "Tying Furled Flies" (2008; Headwater Books; soft cover;

excellent photography; about 20 bucks). Ken details the



technique of constructing extended body flies by twisting various yarns together. When the taut, twisted-together yarns are relaxed they will "furl" together to produce a tapered extended body that can then be tied onto the hook. The twisting and furling process takes a few moments of practice. The "Furled Alevin" is just one pattern that is described in the book and it is dead simple and quick to tie. Even if it doesn't catch fish, it is an interesting fly to look at.

MATERIALS



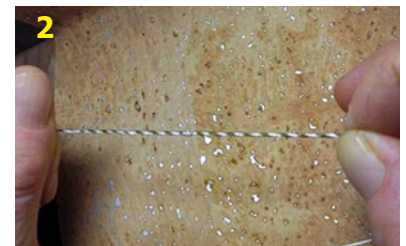
- Hook: Daiichi 1130 or Tiemco 2487 or equivalent
- Thread: Fine Mono
- Body: Furled Antron Yarn (Olive & White)
- Eyes: Small Plastic Bead Chain
- Egg Sac: Glo-bug (steelhead) yarn (alevin egg color ie. red/pink/yellow-tan)
- Glue: Zap-a-Gap (or super glue of your choice)

TYING INSTRUCTIONS



CREATING THE EXTENDED FURLED BODY

1. Hold the two strands between the thumb and forefinger of each hand and twist the two antron colors together.
2. Tightly twist by rolling the strands between the fingers of each hand as your hands are pulled apart.
3. Relax the twisted strands by bringing the hands slowly together so that the twisted strands furl together to produce a nicely tapered body.
4. Furled bodies can be 'stored' by sticking them into a small folded Post-it note so they won't unravel.



TYING INSTRUCTIONS



Debarb the hook.
 Create a thread base just behind the hook eye
 Tie in the extended body (1.5X hook length).
 Leave the excess body antron extending forward.



Tie in the plastic eyes (figure-eight the thread in the same location as the body tie-in).
 Add a small drop of super glue at this point.



Take a 3 inch piece of Glo-bug yarn (pencil diameter).
 Double it around the hanging thread and bobbin.
 Tie it in directly under the body tie-in point.



Pull the excess antron back between the eyes (to make a head) while at the same time pulling the Glo-bug yarn to the rear.
 Tie both in just behind the eyes. Whip-finish here and cut the thread.
 Trim the excess antron behind the eyes.



Pull tightly down on the Glo-bug yarn and trim it fairly close to the hook. The yard will flare into a rounded impression of an egg sac.
 Add a drop of super glue.

The Finished Fly



Furled Alevin

At this point, the fly is essentially finished.
 However, you have the option of treating the extended body in many different ways to create stiffness or glitter (e.g. coat all or part of it with Soft Body, fabric paint or sparkly nail polish).
 Fry time isn't far off and those cutthroat will be hunting for a juicy alevin.

Have fun adding a new technique to your fly tying armament!