

Fly Tying Bench *by Paul Sequira*

Spiders and Beetles continued from page 7

2. Fold a spider body over the hook shank at the tie-in point and take several thread wraps around the foam and

hook. Make them tight but not too tight or you'll cut the foam.

3. Now take a piece of rubber leg material about 2" long and fold at the center point around your thread. Take two thread wraps around the leg and body on the near side of the hook. Repeat this step with another piece of rubber leg material on the other side of the hook. Pull all four legs straight up over the Spider and trim them off evenly about 1" long.

4. Take a couple more thread wraps around everything and tie off with a whip finish at the body/leg wrap position. Put a little head cement on the thread wraps and your Spider is ready to be fished.....*ps*



Clockwise from left: Beetle, Beetle with tail, Spider with tail, basic Spider—no tail or underbody.

Flies & photo— Paul Sequira

Options:

You can add a tail about 1½ the length of the hook shank with a small bunch of yellow marabou. This is a very effective modification (thanks Ken Doty) which I use it on all my Spiders; yellow is the only color recommended. I also wrap an underbody of yellow ultra chenille primarily to give the body a little more substance.

Beetles:

1. These are even simpler and work just as well as the Spiders. Cut a strip of 1/8" closed cell foam about ½" wide and as long as you like. Cut one end of the foam into a shallow point by slicing off an angled sliver of foam from each side of the strip. Tie in thread with a jam knot and spiral the thread down to the hook bend.

2. Tie in a small bunch of yellow marabou for a tail as in the spider. Tie in the pointed end of the foam at the bend of the hook on top of the marabou. Now tie in a piece of ultra chenille (or other material, color your choice) and wrap forward to about ¼ of the length of the hook shank from the eye and tie off. Cut away the excess chenille.

3. Fold the foam over the chenille and tie in at the chenille tie-off point slightly behind the hook eye. Cut the foam straight across so that it extends just over the hook eye. Leave the cut straight or nip off the corners.

4. Take a 2" piece of rubber leg material and fold it over the thread at the center point and take two wraps of thread around the legs and the foam. Repeat this step on the other side of the foam body with a second set of legs. Pull all four legs straight up over the Beetle and cut them off evenly about 1" long.

5. Now take several thread wraps around the center point of both sets of legs and the foam body and finish with a whip finish. Coat the wraps with head cement and your Beetle is ready for fishing.....*ps*