

Fly Tying Bench — FLA Spoon Fly *by Bob Burns*

“Cast it right against the needle grass, I almost always get one there”. I told my partner. As the fly fluttered to the bottom, an ominous shadow surged forward and slammed the little spoon-fly. “FISH ON!” cried Ed Maurer, my newest convert to spoon flies. “I saw it hit the water, then WHAM!” he shouted as he bobbed and weaved, the red battling him through the grass and oysters. Right in the corner of the mouth...I’ve never seen flies on circle hooks before” he commented as he slipped the fly from the over slot red.

I was looking for a fly that imitated the small crustaceans that inhabit the edges, oysters, and mangroves. Enter the spoon-fly. While there were several styles in various books and articles, nothing quite met my needs. So I started experimenting with different materials and ended up with something that really worked!

Tight lines!*Bob Burns*

Materials:

Hook: #1 Owner light wire circle hook

Thread: Red

Tail: Craft Fur and black Krystal Flash

Eyes: 1/8” small lead

Body: Mylar material and 30 minute epoxy

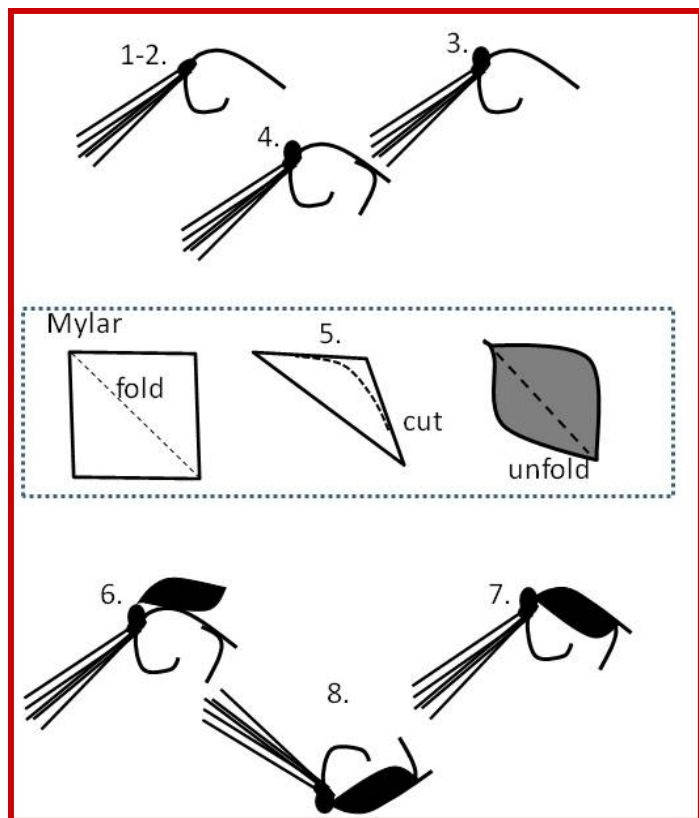
Weed guard: #20 Mason hard mono

Tying Instructions:

1. With circle hook inverted in vise, tie thread one eye length back to the middle of the bend.
2. At the bend, tie in a clump of craft fur and Krystal flash.
3. Tie in the lead eyes.
4. Tie in the weed guard.
5. Cut the material. For mylar, it is best to cut into small squares and fold in half...corner to corner. Measure from the lead eyes to the eye of the hook. Cut off the tips of the “wings” to form the body of the spoon.
6. In front of the eyes, tie in one corner of the material, wrap thread forward and tie in front of tip of material.



FLA Spoon Fly: Text, photo and drawings by Bob Burns



7. Whip finish.

8. Coat body and eyes with 30 minute epoxy and turn until set.