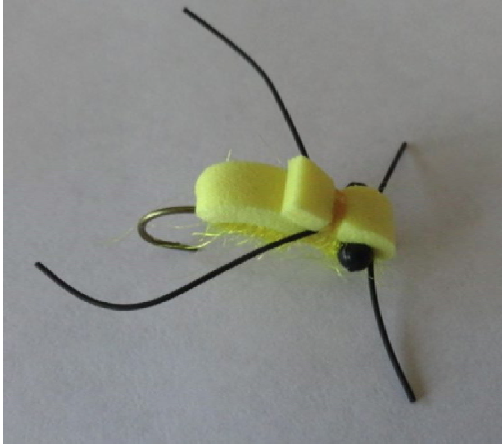


Tying Bench – The Predator *by Charlie Most*

This was the first fly I tied at last month's SFF meeting. This is an easy fly to tie and is effective on bluegills and similar sunfish.



Suggested colors are yellow with black eyes and legs, white with black eyes and legs, and black with either yellow or white eyes and legs. Yellow is my favorite color but color depends on light and water conditions. My rule of thumb is black for discolored water and overcast skies, white for clear water and clear days, and yellow for those in-between days.

Materials

Hook: Size 10 2X long hook such as the MUSTAD 3671

Foam: Narrow strip (1/4") of 2mm closed cell foam

Thread: (6/0 or 4/0) to match foam color

Flash: Estaz, ice chenille, or similar to match foam color

Eyes: Unweighted barbell eyes to contrast with foam color

Leg material: Contrasting rubber band color

Tying Instructions

1. Attach thread about 3/16ths an inch behind eye and holding foam strip over shank and tightly wrap over it to beginning of hook bend. Attach chenille and wrap closely towards eye to where foam ends. Tie off chenille. Pull foam forwards over chenille and lash it down, wrapping tightly over it to two eye widths back of eye, leaving at least an inch of foam projecting out over the hook eye
2. Tie in the eyes just as in tying a Clouser but on top of hook shank. These "eyes" are available at many fly shops and also at sewing shops where they are sold as trim or whatever for dresses, etc. Get the ones that are about 1/8th inch in diameter.
3. Add a touch of super glue to eye wraps, then pull the excess foam back over the eyes and use two wraps of thread to hold the foam in place, then tie in the legs, two on each side and about an inch and a half long. (You can always trim them back but long ones seem to produce better).
4. Trim the foam end to about 3/16th and inch long, and cement the thread wraps, and go catch a 10-inch bluegill.