

Bug Eyed Hornberg

By Robert LeClerc



Hook: TMC 5262, (2x long)

Thread: Black 6/0

Abdomen: Flat or oval silver tinsel

Underwing: Yellow Hackle

Overwing: Mallard Duck, natural or dyed wood duck.

Superglue

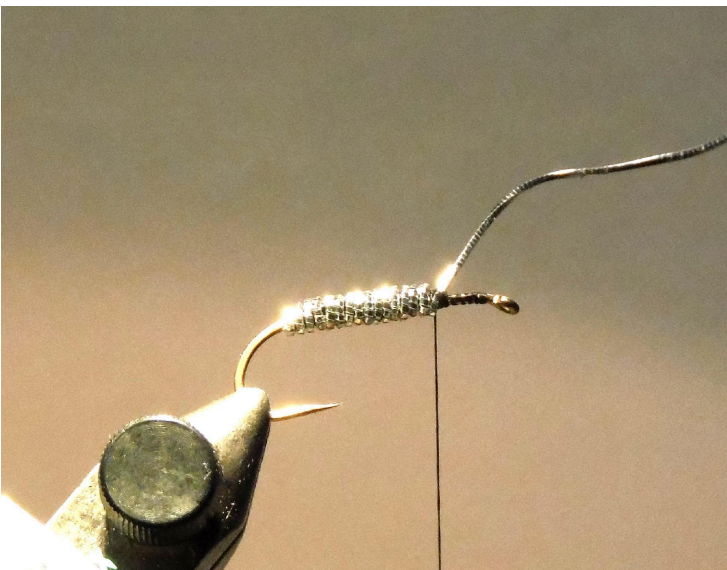
Eyes: 3/16 dia.

Glue: Loon UV thin resin.

Directions:

Debarb hook, mount in vise and tie in thread, run thread to the back of the hook.

Tie in tinsel, run thread to about $\frac{1}{4}$ shank length behind the eye, wrap tinsel forward and tie down.



Tie in a bundle of yellow hackle fibers, length should be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ shaft lengths long.



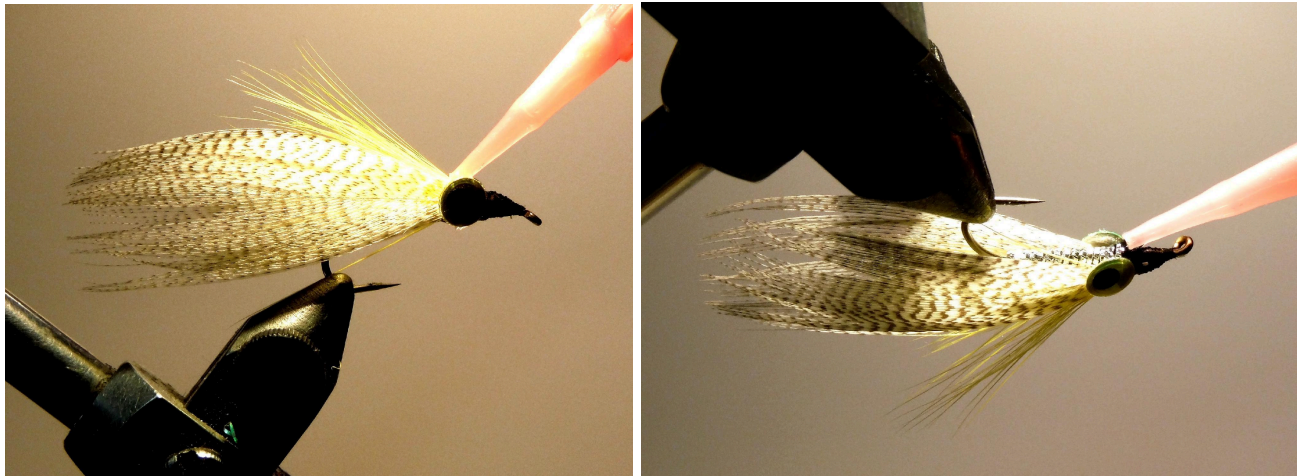
Select two mallard duck feathers, match them together concave sides together, should be about 2 shank lengths long, strip butts and tie in, one each side of the hook. Build a thread head, whip finish and trim off thread.



Apply a small drop of superglue at the butt of the hackles.
Apply eyes to super glue area.



Apply UV resin into the gap between the eyes and run resin forward onto thread head, set with UV light, (apply resin to both top and bottom gaps between the eyes).



Fishing Notes: This pattern is a version of the Hornberg, I don't remember what the actual name was, so I call it a Bug Eye. At one fly shop I stopped at, a fisherman came in and asked one of the guides about a small tan baitfish about 1 ½ to 2 inches long that was spit out of the mouth of a large trout he caught. He matched a Hornberg to the size, color and shape of the baitfish and proceeded to land several large trout on it. The guide stated the bait fish was a carp fry.

Fishing this fly is interesting. I use a direct line Euro rig, run the fly through the riffles and main run on a tight line, at the end of run, throw a big mend to add line, then let it swing through the tail out of the pool. Once it is hanging downstream, slowly strip it upstream working it as a streamer. Fish hit it on the drift, on the swing and being worked upstream. Landed a good number of brown trout using this fly on the East Walker River using the above methods.