

Fly of the Month

Girdle Bug Nymph

By Jim Ferguson



Hook: Mustad 9672 #8 (2xl); TMC 5263 #8 (2xH,3xL); Daiichi 710 #8 (1xStrong, 3xL)
Weight: Non-lead fine wire
Legs: Brown Juicy Legs from Cascade Fly Supply LTD
Body: Variegated Chenille Medium, Black/Coffee

This fly is used successfully in Patagonia waters of Chile. When tied at the Northern Idaho show in Lewiston, many people said it would be a real producer as a stone imitation. It is just like one they tie for their waters (North Fork Snake, Clearwater, & several Montana waters around glacier or North of Yellowstone Park on the Madison.) The guides from North Fork Outfitters suggested orange and black legs as a variation. The Black/Coffee variegated chenille and the legs are darker than shown in the picture.

Step By Step Directions 1. Debarb the hook and mount it in the vise with the shank level. Wrap a thread on the front half. Wrap some non-lead wire to the front half. Secure the wraps with several layers of thread wraps. Wrap the tying thread to the rear to where the bend of the hook starts. Let the thread hang.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

2. Select two leg sections and tie them in on top of the hook shank at the rear at a position above the barb point. Make one or two wraps between the legs and the shank to prop them up a little. The legs should be about as long as the hook shank. Bind down the leg material on top of the hook shank to a position above the hook point. Make a figure eight around the legs to get them to stick out to the sides.

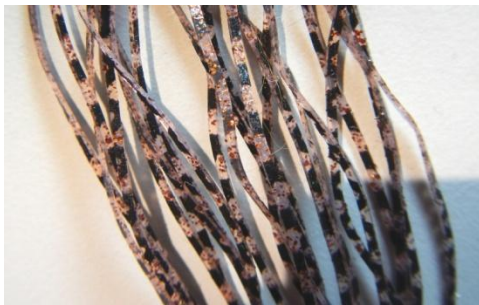


Fig. 3

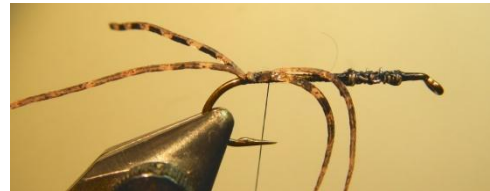


Fig. 4

3. Prepare the end of the chenille by pulling off the fibers from the end to reveal the core strings. Take the tying thread to the rear leg tie in position and tie in the chenille on top of the shank. Your first turn of chenille will pull the tie in position towards the back just a little so the first wrap will go all the way around the shank up against the rear tail/legs. Wrap the tying thread to the half shank position and attach another pair of legs. Bind the rubber leg waste down along the shank until it is up tight against the hook eye. Wrap the thread back and figure 8 the legs to get them to extend out from the body. Legs should be about the shank length and the rubber extensions out front should be the length of the shank as well. You might want to coat the shank with some head cement. Let the bobbin hank.



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

4.Wrap the chenille forward in tight turns. The first turn should pull the tie in position slightly to the rear so you will get a full turn around the shank holding the rear rubber extensions in place. Keep adjusting legs as you wrap to keep them extending outwards from the body. Wrap the chenille forward to behind the eye of the hook. Trap the chenille with the tying thread with two turns of thread. Keep tension on the bobbin while you trim the chenille leaving about a quarter of an inch of waste. Do not take tension off the bobbin. With tweezers, remove the fibers from the chenille core strings. Make several wraps of tying thread and then trim the chenille core waste. This procedure is used to keep from making a bump at the tie off position.



Fig.7



Fig. 8

5. Form a neat head, apply a whip finish (I like to make two sets of 3 whip wraps), and apply head cement. Fig. 10 shows a top view.



Fig.9

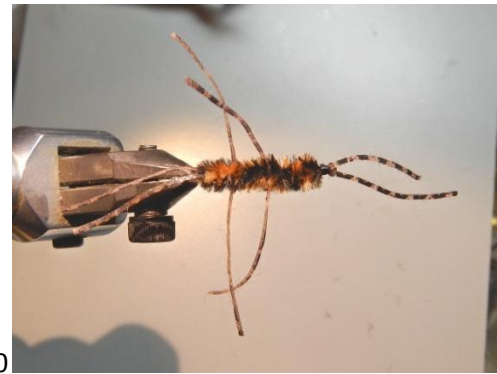


Fig 10