

*Flies*  
*for*  
*Alberta*

*Selected flies proven  
for Alberta and  
surrounding areas*



**AN INTRODUCTION TO FLY PATTERNS FOR ALBERTA**

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*“I confess, no direction can be given to make a man of dull capacity able to make a Flie well; and yet I know, this with a little practice will help an ingenuous Angler in a good degree; but to see a Flie made by an Artist in that kind, is the best teaching to make it....”*

*—Izaak Walton*

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*Flies*  
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Flies for Alberta

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*Flies for Alberta*  
is published by

Denny's Fly Tying Specialties  
Edmonton, Alberta  
Canada

Printed and bound by Corporate Copy, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Canadian Cataloguing in Publication Data

ISBN 0-9683407-0-9

COVER : Abraham Lake and Cline River  
*Along the David Thompson Highway – Roy Ramdeen*

# Foreword

In all my years of involvement with fly tying and fly fishing; the most asked question regarding fishing-flies and fly-fishing is: “What’s good for Alberta”. It is still asked today. Most of these inquirers are the novice, neophyte, or converted fly tyers and fly anglers, a visiting angler or tourist and especially the new resident to Alberta. In fact when I first arrived in Alberta (1951), it was indeed my question. At that time the best I could come up was a set of six or so imported flies, basically one of each colour, and with a little brain-picking, I was off to nearly a half century of fly fishing in Alberta and elsewhere. All this quickly led to becoming an amateur streamside and lakeside entomologist, an examiner of fish stomach contents and eventually a developer of my own concoctions I dared to call flies. It was not long before I discovered that other Alberta fly-anglers were doing likewise. There was an underground development of homegrown fishing flies, which were very hard to come by. Many of these anglers had hotshot fly patterns of their own creation, which they took to their graves.

Back to the opening question! You could satisfy most with an oral rendition of what you thought might help. But I always sensed a disappointment when the best publications available were from Montana, Northwestern United States, British Columbia and other far-flung reaches of North America and Britain. While most of these publications contained multitudes of fly patterns that would certainly work for Alberta trout, it was extremely difficult to select a reasonable number with which to get started. It has always been an ambition of mine to offer a pared down list of the available patterns that were known to be consistent fish-catchers; and further, to make available some of the Alberta patterns of the past and present. The former is a reasonably easy task; the latter is like pulling hen’s teeth, so to speak.

Unbeknown to me, my son Ian, and an acquaintance of his, Mr. Roy Ramdeen also saw the need for such an undertaking and they approached me in late 1996 and asked if I would be interested in such a venture. Inwardly, I was thrilled and honoured; outwardly, I appeared apprehensive but finally agreed. Little did they know what they were in for.

Finally “Flies for Alberta” became the nucleus of our attention as we set out to compile a selection of fly patterns expressly for angling in Alberta and its surrounding areas. Initially, the objective was one hundred patterns, of which fifty would be specifically Alberta patterns; contributed by fly-tyers and fly-anglers throughout the province; the remainder would be selected from the tried and true so called universal patterns. The response of the Alberta contributors was such that approximately seventy-five patterns were received. This somewhat reduced the number of selected universals. The final selection was one hundred and five patterns. All Alberta patterns submitted, but one, were accepted.

This publication was produced on a shoe-string budget and may be somewhat novitious in nature; for this we offer no apologies; recalling renown George F. Grant’s first publication “Montana Trout Flies” was a typewriter produced stencil, mimeographed, and stapled together. And likewise,

Flies for Alberta

Roy Patrick's "Flies of the Pacific Northwest" which has been for many years, and still is, the coveted fly-tyer's bible of the Pacific Northwest. Our objective was to compile a concise list of fishing flies for Alberta and mostly by Albertans, and that, I think, has been accomplished. But was only possible with the courteous input of many obliging Alberta fly-tyers and fly-anglers at large.

Reg. G. Denny  
Edmonton, Alberta  
March, 1998

# Acknowledgements

A special acknowledgement to the following Alberta fly-tyers and anglers, who willingly gave of their time, effort and patterns; without which, the concept of this book would not have become a reality:

AINSLEY, George	St. Albert	RAMDEEN, Roy	Edmonton
BERGMAN, Vic	Bellevue	ROOP, Mike	Calgary
BURGHARDT, Charles	Edmonton	RUPPRECHT, Norman	Edmonton
CAMPBELL, Larry	Edmonton	RUSSELL, Ian	Edmonton
CARLSON, Gary	Residence Unknown	SCAMMELL, Robert (Bob) H.	Red Deer
DENNY, Bernice J.	Edmonton	SCHARABUN, Roman	St. Albert
DENNY, Deborah	Edmonton	SCHAUPMEYER, Clive A.	Brooks
DENNY, Ian	Edmonton	SCHWABE, Shirley Ann	Vauxhall
DENNY, Reg. G.	Edmonton	SCHWABE, Rolf	Vauxhall
DEL DEGAN, Mark	Edmonton	SHEA, Lloyd	Edmonton
FORTIER, Fern	Edmonton	SMALL, Fred	Sherwood Park
FROHN, Kara	Edmonton	SOHNLE, Ron	Edmonton
GOLKO, Gary	Edmonton	THORNBERRY, Russel	Caroline
HEEMSKERK, Michael	Edmonton	TODD, David	Ft. McMurray
KURE, Kelsey	Innisfail	WHITE, Barry	Edmonton
LABRENZ, John	Edmonton	ZANDER, Martin	Edmonton
LAWSON, Walter L.	Redcliff	ZINCK, (Mrs.) Ruth	Calgary
LEFEBVRE, Ed	Sherwood Park		
LUTZ, Wally	Edson		
MAKAR, Gregg	Edmonton		
MAPPLEBECK, Peter	Stony Plain	*ALEXANDER, J. A. Bruce	Edmonton
MATTHEWS, John	Sherwood Park	*BAKER, Albert	Edmonton
MacINTYRE, Harvey	Lacombe	*BON, John Paul (Frenchy)	Calgary
McKENZIE, Bruce	Calgary	*GRAHAM, Arthur	SV Edmonton Beach
McLENNAN, Jim	Okotoks	*KEYS, Clarence (Cal)	Edmonton
MIKULAK, Arthur (Mitch)	Calgary	*KILBURN, Doug	Edmonton
MITCHELL, (Mrs.) Joan E.	Carvel	*NELSON, James	Devon
NORRIS, Thomas (Tom) G.	Didsbury	*SABOURIN, Roger S.	Spruce Grove
PHILLIPS, Barry	Edmonton	*SCULLY, Gene	Lethbridge
POSYLUZNY, Wayne	Edmonton	*SOHNLE, Eric	Edmonton
RENAUD, Patrick (Pat)	Edmonton	*TURNBULL, Fred	Stony Plain

\* Denotes deceased

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Flies for Alberta

# Dedication

To Alberta Anglers and Fly Tyers  
of the  
Past, Present and Future

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# Introduction

First off, this book is not a fly tying manual but rather what is generally classed as a fly pattern book which systematically portrays a picture of the fly, followed by a list of materials required for its construction and a few pointers on tying procedures. Further information is given as tying notes, fishing notes, comments or history and lastly an effective period. Most tyers with a good basic grounding in the art of fly-tying could handle the making of these flies.

The book is divided into five sections: Dry fly, Nymph, Streamer, Wet fly and Et Cætera; each containing twenty-one flies. Preceding each section is a colour plate of the flies contained in that section. Facing each colour plate is an index for the section; following the index are pages allotted to each pattern. Each fly has an alphanumeric designation, which appears in the colour plate; section index, the corresponding page and the general fly index at the back of the book.

The colour plates are from life-size photographs giving an approximate colour rendition of the fly as well as its relative size. The grey-scale pictures on each page are from macro-photographs; giving from times half (.5) to times one (1) magnification, which in most cases enhances the detail. A few of the larger flies were reduced to conform to the template format of the page; in which case, the colour plate will give better details.

On each page the pattern is named; then categorized in common terms as to type, style, and class (e.g. Dry fly, Mayfly, Suggestive). This is followed by the originator (or contributor) and place of residence. The bracketed year at the end of the statement indicates the approximate time the fly was developed, released, became known, or published.

Pattern information; lists concisely the tying steps and the materials needed for the construction of the fly. Most steps and materials are listed in order of the tying sequence and may appear a little confusing to the uninitiated fly tyer but very helpful to others. Also included here, are brief pointers on tying the fly.

Tying notes; usually expounds on some pertinent tying procedure; may give options or alternatives in respect to colours and material substitutions etc.

Fishing notes; consists of general information on water type, presentation, retrieval, types of fish, location, and maybe a fishing incident or two.

History or comments; are based on editorial research in the case of deceased originators; otherwise the comments are those of the current originators or contributors; with interspersions of the editors italicized.

Effective period; is usually a personal opinion (based on experience) of when the fly is productive and may include a peak activity period.

*FLIES for ALBERTA*



D2



D3



D4



D5



D6



D7



D8



D9



D10



D11



D12



D13



D14



D15



D16



D17



D18



D19



D20



D21



D22

*PLATE #1 - DRY FLIES*

# Section I - Dry Flies

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# Poly Humpy



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. Submitted by Ed Lefebvre, Sherwood Park, Alberta (1995).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, 1X-Fine, Sizes 8 to 20. (Mustad 94840).  
**THREAD:** Same colour as body.  
**TAIL:** Dark Moose Body Hair.  
**WINGCASE:** Cream, Grey, Olive or White Poly. Twice shank length. Tie in atop hook, covering slightly less than half shank.  
**BODY:** Floss or Thread in Green, Red or Yellow. Wound over poly-tie-down (slightly less than half shank).  
**WING:** Bring poly over body and tie down and stand upright to form the wing. Leave space between body and wing.  
**HACKLE:** One Brown and One Grizzly. Tie in behind wing. Wind a few turns behind and in front of wing.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

After fly is completed trim wing to correct height. Wing may be split if desired.

## Fishing Note

Fish as a standard dryfly.

## Comment

For those having trouble with hair, this is a simple way to tie humpies.

## Effective Period

May through September. (*Excels during a caddis hatch- Ed.*)

## S.G. Caddis



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Gary D. Golko, Edmonton, Alberta (1977).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 6 to 14. (Mustad 94840).  
**THREAD:** Black, Prewaxed, 6/0  
**BODY:** Clipped Olive Deer Hair, tapered to rear.  
**WING:** Tan Deer Body Hair, two and a half times shank length.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly Neck.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Appropriate colours may be used to match various hatches.

### Fishing Note

Although originally developed for lake fishing; this fly is excellent for rivers and streams, especially in riffles, due to its excellent floating capabilities.

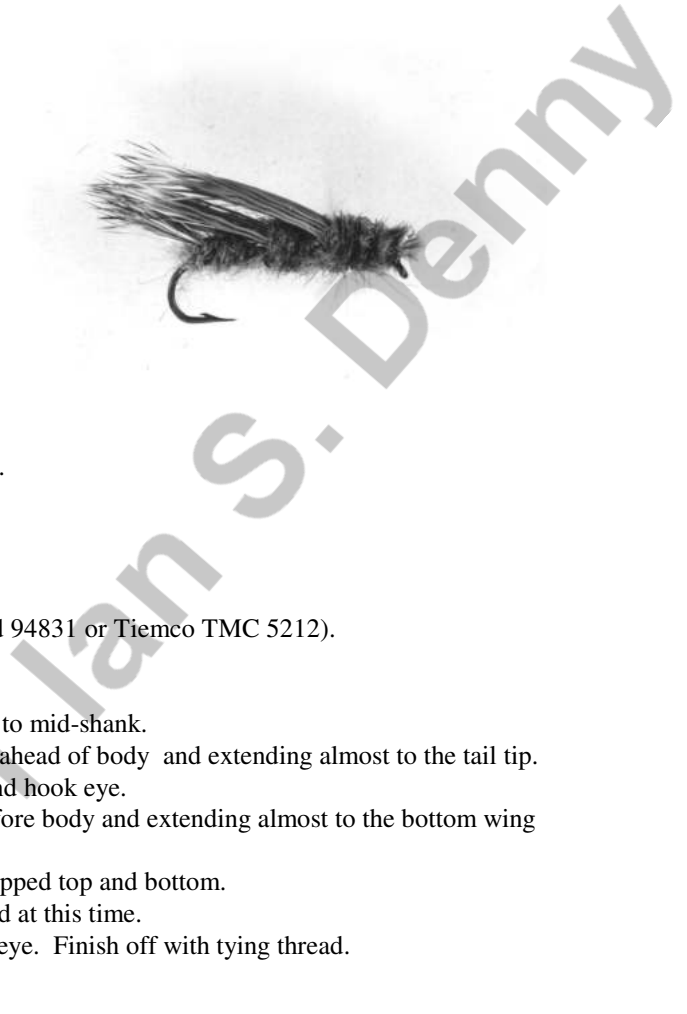
### Comment

Named for my late father Steve Golko. Fly was originally developed to imitate the large caddis flies at Goldeye Lake (Rocky Mountain House).

### Effective Period

Late April through September.

# Mikulak Sedge



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Caddis (Sedge)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Arthur Mikulak (Mitch), Calgary, Alberta (1975).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, 2X-Long, 2X-Fine, Sizes 6 to 12. (Mustad 94831 or Tiemco TMC 5212).  
**THREAD:** Olive.  
**TAIL:** Elk Hair, 6 to 12 strands. One-third shank length.  
**AFT BODY:** Tightly dubbed Olive Seal Fur (use dubbing loop), to mid-shank.  
**WING:** Bottom Wing: 15 to 20 strands of Elk Hair, tied in ahead of body and extending almost to the tail tip.  
**FORE BODY:** Same as aft body, to mid-point between aft body and hook eye.  
**WING:** Top Wing: Same as bottom wing, tied in ahead of fore body and extending almost to the bottom wing tips. Do not trim butts yet.  
**HACKLE:** Dark Brown. wound over thorax, about 3 turns. Clipped top and bottom.  
**THORAX:** Same dubbing; almost to hook eye. Do hackle wind at this time.  
**HEAD:** Trim top wing butts to protrude just over the hook eye. Finish off with tying thread.

## Tying Note

Elk hair is of the light colour and stacked (tips evened). On the smaller sizes the top wing is omitted. Proper placement of the tail and wings will give a realistic sedge silhouette.

## Fishing Note

Use when the sedge hatch is evident. Known as the "Travelling Sedge" hatch.

## Comment

Due to the natural of seal fur, this fly will float for hours. In 1975 dubbing was not the norm for the making of fly bodies, especially seal's fur which made tying difficult. (*Pattern outline is comprised of excerpts from information supplied by the Originator and Mr. Bruce G. McKenzie of Calgary. Actual Originator's fly provided by collector Mr. Mike Roop, Calagry.- Ed.*)

## Effective Period

June through September.

# Adams



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly/Caddis  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Leonard Halliday (1872 - ??), Mayfield, MI (1922).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 10 to 16.  
**THREAD:** White.  
**WING:** Grizzly hackle tips tied spent.  
**TAIL:** Grizzly and Brown hackle fibres; mixed.  
**BODY:** Muskrat fur dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Brown Neck and Grizzly Neck.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

The original pattern calls for semi-spent style wings but most tyers opt for upright wings. The tail was two Golden Pheasant tippet fibres, and a body of grey wool. Hackling is easier if one is wound on first and then over-wound with the other.

## Fishing Note

One of the best dry flies, world-wide. When using, try to imitate the actions of various adult insects; such as caddis, mayfly, stonefly etc.

## History

The fly is named for Charles F. Adams, Lorain, Ohio; the first customer to buy it from Len Halliday.

## Effective Period

May through August.

# Pale Morning Dun



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**CLASS:** Mayfly  
**STYLE:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 14 to 20.  
**THREAD:** Olive.  
**WING:** Light Grey Quill slips.  
**TAIL:** Blue Dun Hackle fibres.  
**BODY:** Olive-Yellow dubbing (ratio 2:1).  
**HACKLE:** Light Blue Dun Hackle.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

In some localities the body of this mayfly is a brighter colour. In such a case reverse the dubbing mix ratio.

## Fishing Note

Often called the "Sulphur Duns". Spinner falls occur in the evening. A good substitute for the Blue-winged Olive.

## Comment

Pale Morning Dun is the common name usually applied to the smaller species of the Genus Ephemera of the Rocky Mountains. Sizes range from 8 (Green Drake) to 20.

## Effective Period

Mid-May through mid-August.

## Dipti - Midge



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Diptera (Midge)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Gary D. Golko, Edmonton, Alberta (1978).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 18 to 28. (Mustad 94840).  
**THREAD:** Grey, Prewaxed, 8/0 for larger sizes and Spider Web (Danville 18/0 available in white only) for smaller sizes.  
**TAIL:** Grizzly Hackle Fibres.  
**BODY:** Emu Plume Herl.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly Neck.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Fishing Note

Excellent producer on selective fish, especially, in the evenings. Used on all waters.

### Comment

Originally developed for evening fishing on Fairfax Lake (Edson area). Represents many of the tiny midges of the Diptera order. (*Fly shown on colour plate is size 14 and was tied by Gary for illustration purposes only- Ed.*)

### Effective Period

Late April through mid-October.

# Gossamer Cahill



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Mark Del Degan, Edmonton, Alberta (1975).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, Sizes 18 - 20. (Tiemco TMC 100).  
**THREAD:** Cream, Size 8/0.  
**TAIL:** Cream Hackle fibres.  
**BODY:** Cream Dubbing.  
**WING:** Ethafoam, a two inch strip, 1/16 inch thick by 3/32 inch wide.  
**HACKLE:** Cream to Light Ginger. Tied parachute style.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

When tying in the wing, fold the foam in half and tie in by the loose ends. Clip to desired shape after the entire fly is completed.

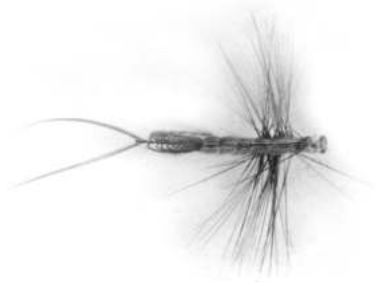
## Comment

The foam allows the fly to float extremely well and the light colour makes it easy to see.

## Effective Period

June through August.

## Smoky May



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly Emerger X Spent Wing  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Wally Lutz, Edson, Alberta (1996).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 8 to 18. (Mustad 94840).  
**THREAD:** Black, or match body colour.  
**TAIL:** Mallard Drake Brown Breast feather.  
**RIB:** Optional. Monofilament or tying thread.  
**BODY:** Two slips of Light Brown Pheasant Flank feather. Above the barb position, attach one slip atop shank and one under.  
**HACKLE:** Brown.  
**WING:** Formed by pulling body slips down and up through the hackle; creating a pair of spent wings. Tie off body slips and form head.

### Tying Note

For the tail: Starting at the dark brown point of the breast feather, remove barbules from both sides of stem down to the feather base. From the feather tip at a point equal to hook shank length preen backwards (tightly) the barbules and tie in at the rear of shank. The extended preened portion should equal hook gap length. On the remaining "V" section snip out the center stem taking care to leave one barbule on each side, thus forming the tail.

### Fishing Note

I have used this fly as a search pattern, with no evidence of a hatch. It brings them up from the depths and you will also take the active feeders.

### History

The "Smoky May" was inspired by the "Stillborn" patterns of Swisher and Richards and the "Unfinished Fly" pattern by Vincent Marinaro. The combination has the unique buoyant tail of a "Stillborn" with a wing that duplicates the "Unfinished Fly" by creating "light condensers" for a natural surface view.

### Effective Period

Due to the short fishing season of the Edson area; I have fished it from June through August.

# Easy Beetle



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Terrestrial (Beetle)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Greg Makar, Edmonton, Alberta (1994).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, Sizes 12 to 16. (Mustad 94840 or Tiemco TMC 101).  
**THREAD:** Colour to match foam body, Size 6/0 or 8/0.  
**BODY:** Black Closed Cell Foam.  
**LEGS:** Black Moose Mane, Deer Hair, or Hackle.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

When tying in foam, start 1/4 of shank length back from hook eye. This will allow you to build up the body. Try brown, olive, and tan foam.

## Fishing Note

When you are in a "can't match the hatch" situation, try a beetle, the results may surprise you. Will also pass for a Water Boatman in a pinch.

## Effective Period

June through September.

# Rat Creek Special



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Chironomid  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** George Ainsley, St. Albert, Alberta (1990).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, Wide Gap, Size 13. (TMC 102Y).  
**THREAD:** Black 6/0.  
**BACK:** Four strands of Peacock Eye Herl. Tied in as a wing-case.  
**BODY:** Silver Doctor Blue Floss.  
**HACKLE:** Black Neck.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Fishing Note

Excellent Grayling Fly.

## Comment

First used on Rat Creek followed by many streams in the Edson area.

## Effective Period

August through October.

# Grey Elk Hair Caddis



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Caddis (Sedge)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Walter L. Lawson, Redcliff, Alberta (1996).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, 1X-fine, Size 14 or 16. (Mustad 94840).  
**THREAD:** Brown.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire.  
**BODY:** Ligas Dubbing #27 (Beaver Belly).  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly, palmered over body.  
**WING:** Elk Hair, Dyed Dun colour.  
**HEAD:** Elk Hair Butts (part of wing).

## Fishing Note

Good fly for the Bow and Crowsnest Rivers.

## Effective Period

July through September.

# The Red Quill



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Thomas Rishworth, Lincoln, England (1803).  
**CONTRIBUTOR:** Martin Zander, Edmonton, Alberta. An updated version.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, Sizes 14, 16. (Mustad 94840).  
**THREAD:** Black, Waxed, 6/0.  
**WING:** Black Hackle Tips. Tied divided.  
**TAIL:** Light Blue Dun Hackle fibres.  
**BODY:** Red-Brown Hackle Stem (stripped of hackle fibres).  
**HACKLE:** Blue Dun and Black (two hackles).  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Soak Red-Brown hackle stems at least overnight to prevent stem from splitting while wrapping.

## Fishing Note

For streams and rivers, present in the typical dryfly fashion "up-and-across".

## History

*(Long considered a sheet-anchor (when nothing else works) fly by European and North American anglers- Ed.).*

## Effective Period

Late August through September.

# Royal Coachman



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly (Attractor)  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** John Haily, New York, NY, USA (1878).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 10 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**WING:** White Duck primary wing quill slips.  
**TAIL:** Golden Pheasant Tippet fibres.  
**BUTT:** Peacock Herl.  
**BODY:** Scarlet Floss.  
**THORAX:** Peacock Herl.  
**HACKLE:** Chocolate Brown Neck hackle.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Wet fly and streamer renditions are also popular. Bodies of yellow (California Coachman), orange, grey, and tinsel exist under various-Coachman names.

## Fishing Note

Surviving over a century says something for this fly. It is still the top seller in the attractor fly category. One of the best search-fly patterns.

## History

The original Royal Coachman was of wet fly design with a tail of Black/White Tipped Barred Lemon Woodduck flank feather fibres. The Golden Pheasant Tippet tail came later (circa 1885) after a legal encounter which Haily lost.

## Effective Period

Mid-April through mid-September.

## Crystal Green Drake



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Jim McLennan, Okotoks, Alberta (1995).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, Size 8, 10. (Mustad 94840 or Teck Twin DF100).  
**THREAD:** Olive, 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Dark Moose Body Hair.  
**RIB:** One strand of Pearl Flashabou.  
**BODY:** Fine Olive Dubbing over Moose Hair (including part of tail). Tied as an extended body.  
**WING:** Blue-Grey Crystal Flash.  
**THORAX:** Same as body. Dub behind and forward of wing.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly Dyed Olive. Tied parachute style.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Comment

Crystal Flash wing is translucent and fairly visible. Parachute style flies land upright consistently.

### Effective Period

Mid-June through mid August, depending on elevation.

# Bullet Head Hopper



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Terrestrial (Grasshopper)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Ed Lefebvre, Sherwood Park, Alberta (1988).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, 2X-Long, 2X-Fine, Sizes 4 to 12. (Mustad 94831).  
**THREAD:** Yellow, Heavy Duty.  
**RIB:** Brown Saddle Hackle, clipped from 1/16 to 1/8 inch wide.  
**BODY:** Yellow Closed Cell Foam, 1/16 inch thick by 1/16 inch wide.  
**TAIL:** Small loop of Yellow Closed Cell Foam. (part of body foam).  
**WING:** Underwing: Olive Deer or Elk Hair.  
Overwing: Mottled Hen Saddle, tied flat.  
**HEAD:** Dark Deer or Elk Hair. Bullet type.  
**COLLAR:** Tips of bullet head hair, to hook point.

## Tying Note

At 1/3 shank length from eye tie in foam; spiral thread over foam to start of hook bend. Form foam loop (tail) on top of shank. Attach clipped hackle (rib) by the tip. Spiral foam to tie point. Spiral clipped hackle to tie point. Tie in underwing. Tie in overwing. Tie in bullet hair with tips facing forward; let spin around shank; pull back to form head and tie down. Finally, trim collar on bottom, 180 degrees.

## Fishing Note

*(Present in a hopper fashion, such as plopping and drifting close to grassy banks.- Ed.)*

## Comment

An Adaptation of several hopper patterns to simplify tying.

## Effective Period

August through late fall.



## Blue-Winged Olive (Western)

**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly (Dun)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. Traditional English name for Ephemera, *ignita*.

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, up eye, Sizes 14 to 22.  
**THREAD:** Brown.  
**WING:** Slips from Mallard Satinet (under wing) feathers.  
**TAIL:** Blue Dun Hackle fibres.  
**BODY:** Brownish Olive dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Blue Dun Neck hackle.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

### Tying Note

Insect size diminishes as season progresses. (Baetis only).

### Fishing Note

The Baetis is a multi-brooded mayfly, which means several generations throughout the season, thus making it a good all-season fly. Larger sizes (10 - 12) make excellent Western Green Drake patterns.

### History

The name Blue Winged Olive is of English origin and is used as a catch-all for naming North American mayfly species of similar appearance. The above pattern is for genera Baetis, Pseudocloeon and Ephemera (*flavilinea*).

### Effective Period

Mid-April through September.

# Western March Brown

**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Preston Jennings, USA.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, 3X-Fine, Sizes 12 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Tan, yellow, or orange.  
**WING:** Bronze Barred Mallard Flank.  
**TAIL:** Bronze Barred Mallard.  
**RIB:** Tying thread.  
**BODY:** Tan or Light Brown dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly and Brown mixed, or Cree (tri-colour).  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

This pattern is a current rendition of Mr. Jennings'. The insect has very large head. Consider a dubbed head instead of just tying thread (as shown).

## Fishing Note

Of the clinger group (Rhithrogena), thus fast flowing streams and rivers are the norm. Also prevalent at high altitudes. Highly susceptible to environmental pollution.

## History

The Preston Jennings pattern was fashioned after the "American March Brown (*Stenonema, vicarium*)" of eastern and mid-western states and provinces. However, it is a good imitation for the "Western March Brown" (*Rhithrogena, morrisoni*).

## Effective Period

April to early August.



## Dark Cahill



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly (Dun)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Daniel Cahill, Port Jervis, New York, USA (Circa 1880).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard wet fly, Sizes 8 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Off-yellow.  
**TAIL:** Brown Hackle fibres.  
**BODY:** Dark Grey Muskrat Fur dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Brown Hackle.  
**WING:** Wood Duck Flank Feather fibres.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

A body of Red Fox belly (cream) fur dubbing with a tail and beard of light ginger hackle transforms this pattern into the "Light Cahill" (spinner).

### Fishing Note

Both the Dark and Light Cahill patterns work quite well in Alberta (or throughout Canada) as a mid-season mayfly imitation of the clinger family (Heptageniidae). For most streams and rivers.

### History

Tied to imitate the *Stenonema ithca* of the East and Midwest. Passes as the *Cinygma* in Alberta.

### Effective Period

Mid-June through August.

# Three Hackle Fly



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly or Sedge  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Fern Fortier, Edmonton, Alberta (1990).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly, Sizes 12 to 16. (Tiemco TMC 900BL).  
**THREAD:** Black or Brown.  
**BASE:** Tying Thread from hook eye to mid-shank or hook point. Tail and Hackle attached at this point.  
**TAIL:** Barbs (fibres) of Brown, Cream, and Grizzly Hackle. Extending half shank length beyond the hook bend.  
**HACKLE:** Brown, Cream, and Grizzly attached at mid-shank and closely wound one-at-a-time towards hook eye.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Fishing Note

Can be fished dry or wet. Its ease of placement, high visibility, and mottled appearance suggests many natural insects.

## History

Original concept introduced circa 1980 by Jeff Mottern, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA for finicky Brown trout that feed on midges. Original pattern called for size 22 hook.

## Effective Period

Mid-May to early October.

## Gray Wulff



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Lee Wulff (1905-1991), New York, NY, USA (circa 1935).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly: Sizes 4 to 16.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**WING:** Brown Bucktail.  
**TAIL:** Brown Bucktail.  
**BODY:** Gray Angora (rabbit) yarn, or gray rabbit dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Blue-Gray.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Brown calf tail is often used for tail and wing. This is the second most popular pattern in the series of "Wulff Flies". Consult "Lee Wulff on Flies" by Lee Wulff (Stackpole Books) for more extensive coverage. For White Wulff use white bucktail for wing and tail, cream coloured dubbing and a hackle of light badger.

### Fishing Note

Most useful sizes for Alberta are 10 to 16. An excellent imitation for the March Brown and some caddis (sedge) species. The White Wulff imitates the Eastern Green Drake male spinner (coffin fly).

### History

Mr. Wulff claimed to be the first (in the USA.) to use animal hair on dry flies.

### Effective Period

Mid-April through September.

# SA Hopper



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Terrestrial (Grasshopper)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Roman Scharabun, St. Alberta, Alberta (1995).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Continuous curve, 3X-Long, Sizes 8 to 18. (Tiemco TMC 200R or Talon 163C).  
**THREAD:** Fire Orange, 8/0.  
**TAIL:** Red Deer Belly Hair. Hook Gap length.  
**RIB:** Brown Hackle (5 to 6 turns). Bottom trimmed equal to hook point after fly is completed.  
**BUTT:** Yellow Fun Foam, tail length, trimmed to a point; part of body foam strip.  
**BODY:** Yellow Fun Foam wound 2/3 of hook shank. Do not wind too tight (lessens floating qualities).  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly, wound over thorax, 2 to 3 turns.  
**THORAX:** Pale Olive Antron Dubbing.  
**WING:** Underwing: 6 to 8 fibres of Pearlescent Krystal Flash.  
Overwing: Natural Elk Hair.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Both wings should extend slightly past tip of tail.

## Fishing Note

Presented up or up-and-across stream and then dead-drifted. But a short stripping motion often provokes the lethargic.

## Comment

Actually a hybrid of the "Stimulator" and various hopper patterns; to accommodate high water conditions. Christened Southern Alberta (SA) Hopper by my fishing partner Bill Robertson (Edmonton) while drifting the Old Man River in the Autumn of 1995.

## Effective Period

July through October.

# *Flies for Alberta*



A Selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(Dry Fly Section)

# Poly Humpy



Flies for Alberta - Poly Humpy (Lefebvre)

D2

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# S.G. Caddis



Flies for Alberta - S. G. Caddis (Golko)

D3

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# Mikulak Sedge



Flies for Alberta - Mikulak Sedge (Mikulak) D4

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# Spent Adams



Flies for Alberta - Spent Adams (Halliday)

D5

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# Pale Morning Dun



Flies for Alberta - Pale Morning Dun

D6

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# Dipti - Midge



Flies for Alberta - Dipti - Midge (Golko)

D7

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Gossamer Cahill



Flies for Alberta - Gossamer Cahill (Del Dagen)

D8

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Smoky May



Flies for Alberta - Smoky May (Lutz)

D9

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Easy Beetle



Flies for Alberta - Easy Beetle (Makar)

D10

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# Rat Creek Special



Flies for Alberta - Rat Creek Special (Ainsley)

D11

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# Grey Elk Hair Caddis



Flies for Alberta - Grey Elk Hair Caddis (Lawson)

D12

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# The Red Quill



Flies for Alberta - The Red Quill (Zander)

D13

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Royal Coachman



Flies for Alberta - Royal Coachman (Haily) D14

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# Crystal Green Drake



Flies for Alberta - Crystal Green Drake (McLennan) D15

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# Bullet Head Hopper



Flies for Alberta - Bullet Head Hopper (Lefebvre)

D16

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# Blue-Winged Olive

(Western)



Flies for Alberta - Blue-Winged Olive (Western)

D17

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# Western March Brown



Flies for Alberta - Western March Brown (Jennings) D18

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# Dark Cahill



Flies for Alberta - Dark Cahill (Cahill)

D19

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# Three Hackle Fly



Flies for Alberta - Three Hackle Fly (Fortier)

D20

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# Gray Wulff



Flies for Alberta - Gray Wulff (Wulff)

D21

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# SA Hopper



Flies for Alberta - SA Hopper (Scharabun)

D22

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# *Flies for Alberta*



A selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(End of Dry Fly Section)

*FLIES for ALBERTA*



N2



N3



N4



N5



N6



N7



N8



N9



N12



N10



N11



N13



N14



N15



N16



N17



N18



N19



N20



N21



N22

*PLATE #2 - NYMPHS*

## Section II - Nymphs

Light Alberta Stone Nymph .....	N2
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Walt's Damsel .....	N14
Water Boatman .....	N15
Frenchy's Zygo .....	N16
Bakers Blue Nymph .....	N17
Green and Gold .....	N18
'52 Buick .....	N19
Alexander Special .....	N20
Foam Nymph .....	N21
Sulphur Dragon .....	N22

# Light Alberta Stone Nymph



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Jim McLennan, Okotoks, Alberta (1991).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, Sizes 4 to 8. (Mustad 9672 or Teck Twin NFC 300).  
**THREAD:** Brown, 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Brown Goose Biots.  
**RIB:** Copper Wire.  
**BODY:** Pale Gold, Rabbit or Antron Dubbing. Overbody (dorsal) of Mottled -Turkey (see wingcase).  
**HACKLE:** Brown Hen Saddle, tied in as legs.  
**WINGCASE:** Mottled Turkey, an extension of overbody.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Treat the turkey feather with "Flexament" to stiffen it and make it more durable. If weighting, apply lead wire before tying.

## Comment

Imitates the various Golden Stonefly Nymphs.

## Effective Period

All season. Use sizes 4 and 6 in early summer; sizes 6 and 8 later.

## Charlie's Drifter



**TYPE:** Nymph (Larvae)  
**STYLE:** Caddis (Cased)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Charles Burghardt, Edmonton, Alberta (1975).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, TDE, Size 8. (Mustad 9672).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** A 3/8-inch section of Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Mottled Side Tail.  
**BODY:** Variegated (speckled) Black and Tan Chenille.  
**HACKLE:** Black.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Tail section tied in on edge. Chenille should give an irregular pattern when wound around hook shank. Originally tied with a peacock herl head without the black hackle.

### Fishing Note

In lakes, fish by rowing or drifting with an occasional stripping action. In streams, drift through deep pools and slow stretches. Successful in most prairie, foothill and mountain lakes or streams. Effective throughout the day but more so as dusk approaches.

### Comment

Originally meant to imitate the multi-pebbled case of caddis found in the North Ram River. (*Also an excellent pattern during damselfly nymph pre-hatch activity- Ed.*)

### Effective Period

May through October.

# Montana Stone



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** (Unknown), Montana, USA.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long or 3X-Long, Sizes 4-10.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Two Black Hackle Tips. Veed.  
**BODY:** Black Chenille.  
**WINGCASE:** Two strands of Black Chenille.  
**HACKLE:** Black hackle wrapped over thorax (legs). About 3 turns.  
**THORAX:** Yellow Chenille.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Brown hackle-tips or hackle may be substituted for tail and legs. Bodies of brown, light or dark olive and thoraxes of orange, lime-green, and red are often used. However the most common one is as given above.

## Fishing Note

Ties in the smaller sizes suggest "willow flies"; the larger "salmon flies".

## Effective Period

Late March through late August.

# Idaho Nymph



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Clarence (Cal) Keys (1903-1980), Edmonton, Alberta.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Size 10, 3 or 4 X-Long.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Black Hackle, 10 to 12 fibres.  
**BODY:** Black floss ribbed with clipped black hackle. Body should be 2/3 of hook shank.  
**WINGCASE:** Section of mallard wing primary. Tie in ahead of body and leave pointing rearward over body until thorax is completed.  
**THORAX:** Peacock herl, 2 or 3 strands, over-wound with 2 turns of black hackle. Bring wing case forward over thorax and tie off.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.  
**GILLS:** Trim body hackle to 1/16 of an inch.

## Tying Note

The tying method is that of the originator.

## Fishing Note

Prevalent throughout Alberta, Idaho and Montana and possibly other eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains. Designed for flowing waters but in lakes, it is also a "killer".

## History

The late Mr. Cal Keys often angled in the state of Idaho where he first encountered a super hatch of this big black mayfly. A prototype nymph was concocted on-the-spot and was an instant success. He called it the "Idaho Nymph". Tying refinements and changes are always on-going but the above is Cal's pattern.

## Effective Period

Mid-April through October.

# Sparkle Pheasant



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Mark Del Degan, Edmonton, Alberta (1996).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long, Size 10 or 12. (Mustad 9671).  
**THREAD:** Black, Size 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire.  
**BODY:** Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres.  
**WINGCASE:** Iridescent Green/Blue Mylar.  
**LEGS:** Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres.  
**THORAX:** Peacock Herl.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

For added sparkle green/blue mylar may be applied atop the entire length of body (dorsal) before rib is wound.

## Fishing Note

A good swimming mayfly nymph searching pattern.

## Effective Period

June through September.

# Hot Wired Whole Squirrel Hide



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Robert (Bob) H. Scammell, Red Deer, Alberta (1980).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, Ringed Eye, Sizes 8 to 14. Tiemco TMC 5262 (straight shank) or TMC 200R (curved shank).  
**THREAD:** Grey, pre-waxed (Danville or Mono-Cord).  
**TAIL:** A Tuft of hair from top of Red Squirrel Tail.  
**RIB:** Medium Copper wire.  
**BODY:** Blue-Grey Red Squirrel Belly dubbed over a medium Lead Wire base.  
**THORAX:** Dark hair with guard hairs from back of Red Squirrel dubbed over the lead wire base.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Fly should be heavy and rough (fuzzy).

## Fishing Note

Devastated the fish for me in England in 1987 but only in practice sessions, since weighted flies were not allowed in the World Fly Fishing Tournament. A good "searching" fly whenever nothing seems to be happening.

## Effective Period

All season.

# Pheasant Tail



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly/Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Frank Sawyer, Wiltshire, England (1952).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard wet or 2X-Long Nymph, Sizes 10 - 16.  
**THREAD:** Fine Red Copper Wire.  
**UNDERBODY:** Red Copper Wire.  
**THORAX:** Build-up of Red Copper Wire.  
**TAIL:** Tips of 3 Pheasant Tail Fibres.  
**OVERBODY:** Red Copper Wire twisted with 3 Pheasant Tail Fibres and wound from tail to hook eye. (Continuance of tail application).  
**WINGCASE:** A double lap of Pheasant Tail Fibres (butts).  
**HEAD:** Red Copper Wire.

## Tying Note

Original tying wire was the fine copper wire recovered from electrical toy transformers. Tarnished, fine fly tying copper wire is a good substitute.

## Fishing Note

Excellent nymph for fast or deep water fishing. For near-surface presentation; use floating line and short leader (about 6 feet).

## History

The "Pheasant Tail Nymph" of Frank Sawyer is renowned worldwide but there are many departures from the original dressing.

## Effective Period

Mid-February through mid-October.

## McLeod Dragon



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Dragonfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Wayne Posyluzny, Edmonton, Alberta (1992).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X or 3X Long, Sizes 8 - 14. (Tiemco TMC 200).  
**THREAD:** Olive.  
**TAIL:** Olive Goose Biots.  
**RIB:** Gold Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Olive Seal Dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Olive Ring Neck Pheasant Rump; tied Carey style.  
**THORAX:** Pheasant Filo Plume, 3 or 4 wraps.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

### Fishing Note

Produces best at the end of the drift using a twitch, twitch, pause sequence for the retrieve.

### Comment

Based on stomach analysis of McLeod River Rocky Mountain Whitefish.

### Effective Period

Anytime, Summer through Fall.

# Zinck Mink



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** (Mrs.) Ruth J. Zinck, Calgary, Alberta (1978).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long, TDE Sizes 10 to 14. (Mustad 9671).  
**THREAD:** Black, 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Mink Tail Guard Hairs (Mahogany coloured mink best).  
**BODY:** Dubbing of Mink Tail underfluff (under fur). Two-thirds of shank.  
**THORAX:** Dubbing of Mink Tail Guard Hair and underfluff (mixed).  
**HEAD:** Small size, using tying thread.

## Tying Note

Body should taper towards the tail and be rough looking, even more so, the thorax. This will make it look alive in the water. May be weighted. Mink tail in used for the entire fly.

## Fishing Note

May be fished in the surface film, just under the surface, on the bottom, or trolled. It has taken rainbows, browns, brookies, and whitefish in rivers, streams, and lakes.

## Comment

This fly is more of a style than a pattern. Don Moore tied it with muskrat and called "Moore's Muskrat" but it could also be called Reg's Rabbit or Bob's Beaver, depending on the fur used and the tyer involved. Also grouped as a 360 degree (any side is up) fly.

## Effective Period

I have used it all season but it seems to be more effective in the Spring.

## Black Mink



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Various  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Clive A. Schaupmeyer, Brooks, Alberta (1994).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Caddis/Grub, 30 degree down eye, Wide Gap, Sizes 10 to 14. (Tiemco 2457).  
**THREAD:** Brown.  
**HEAD:** Brass Bead; attach first. If bead hole is tapered put small diameter of hole forward towards eye; this avoids leader cutting.  
**BASE:** Take base-wrap 1/3 down the hook bend. Tie in rib on the way.  
**RIB:** Gutermann W331 Metallic Gold Thread, 5 to 7 wraps.  
**BODY:** Dubbing of Dark Mink, guard hairs included. Wound reversed-taper towards bead-head.  
**TIE-OFF:** Whip finish behind bead-head and apply head cement.

### Tying Note

A few clippings (1/4 inch lengths) of Pearl Flash may be incorporated in the body dubbing. Try sewing shops for metallic gold thread.

### Fishing Note

Extensively field tested on all types of water from central to southern Alberta and Montana. Mountain whitefish just love it which is probably it's only weakness. Usually fished with a floating line and one or two shots one foot ahead of fly. Rivers: Drift with a 3 to 5 inch strip every second or so. Lakes: Do a count-down followed by a stripping sequence.

### Effective Period

All season for lakes, October through June for rivers (southern Alberta).

# Mirror Ball Caddis Larva



**TYPE:** Nymph (Larva)  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Michael Heemskerk, Edmonton, Alberta (1995).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Ringed Eye, Sizes 14 to 18. (Tiemco 200R).  
**THREAD:** Black, 8/0.  
**RIB:** Fine Red Wire.  
**BODY:** Red-Brown Crystal Seal dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Barred Partridge, tied beard style.  
**THORAX:** Lite-Brite Yarn, colour Fire Fox Peacock.  
**HEAD:** Brass bead, diameter 1/8 or 3/32 of an inch.

## Fishing Note

Most Streams and rivers.

## Comment

See pattern Holy!! Heemskerk in Wet Fly section for editors' comment.

## Effective Period

June through September.

# Backswimmer



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**CLASS:** Water Bug  
**STYLE:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. As taught by the late Eric Sohnle, Edmonton, Alberta, circa 1955. Submitted by his son, Ron Sohnle.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard Sproat, TDE, Sizes 8, 10. (Mustad 3906).  
**THREAD:** Black  
**BODY:** Wool, various dark colours, typically Grey or Black.  
**PADDLES:** Fibres from Ringed-Neck Cock Pheasant Center Tail.  
**WING:** Two Mallard Hen Breast feathers, selected to match curvature of hook; cemented together, one atop the other; allowed to dry, then attached over body.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

There are many variations, using backs of various materials, including foam and reflective materials; rubber and Flex Floss for the legs (paddles); peacock herl or dubbing for the bodies. Many patterns have a full-length wing case, tied in at the rear of body and brought forward after body, paddles, etc. have been completed.

## Fishing Note

Can be trolled, but best results occur when fished by casting and stripping to imitate backswimmer or boatman action. Backswimmers are overlooked for river and stream angling but the slower stretches abound with this insect. During peak activity, dry-lining produces some exciting moments.

## Effective Period

All season; peaking from mid-August to late September.

# Walt's Damsel



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Damselfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Walter L. Lawson, Redcliff, Alberta.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, Size 10. (Mustad 9671).  
**THREAD:** Olive, 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Barred Mallard dyed Yellow.  
**RIB:** Green Wire.  
**BODY:** Light Olive Antron Dubbing with Crystal Flash on top (dorsal).  
**LEGS:** Barred Mallard dyed Yellow.  
**EYES:** Green Glass Beads.  
**HEAD:** Olive Antron Dubbing. Wound ahead of body and through eyes.  
**WINGCASE:** Olive Swiss Straw.

## Fishing Note

Works well for lake or stream fishing.

## Effective Period

Mid-June to mid-September.

# Water Boatman



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Water Boatman  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Greg Makar, Edmonton, Alberta (1995).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, Sizes 10 to 14. (Mustad 9672 or Daiichi 1710).  
**THREAD:** Colour to match foam wingcase, size 6/0 or 8/0.  
**WINGCASE:** Black Closed Cell Foam.  
**RIB:** Pearl Flashabou.  
**BODY:** Red-Brown Ultra Chenille.

## Tying Note

Try changing the colour combinations of foam and chenille to suit the specimens found in your favourite lakes.

## Fishing Note

Try fishing on the surface or sub-surface, depending on the fish. Fishing "dry" can be very productive.

## Comment

This is an all-around good searching pattern that produces at most lakes throughout the year.

## Effective Period

May through October.

# Frenchy's Zygo



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Damselfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** John Paul Bon (Frenchy), 1882-1990, Calgary, Alberta (Circa 1960).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 4 to 16.  
**THREAD:** Light Green.  
**TAIL:** Mottled R/N Pheasant Side Tail fibres.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire.  
**BODY:** Light Green Thread or Floss.  
**WINGCASE:** A Section from Grey Goose (Canada) Wing Feather (Primary).  
**THORAX:** Dark Olive Yarn (with a golden sparkle) or Dubbing over-wound with 3 turns of Gold Wire.  
**HACKLE:** Dark Ginger, wound as a collar ahead of wingcase.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Pattern information supplied by Reginald Denny (Edmonton) as derived from his "Frenchy" collection.

## Fishing Note

Use a floating or sink-tip line during peak damselfly activity; otherwise, a sinking line.

## History

*(This is but one of the many flies developed by Frenchy (Mr. Bon), a very well known Calgary business man (Frenchys Sporting Goods). He never gave his flies specific names; consequently, this one was named posthumously. Thanks goes out to Mr. Bruce G. McKenzie of Calgary for supplying biographical information on Mr. Bon.- Ed.)*

## Effective Period

June through September (peak July-August).

## Baker's Blue Nymph



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Albert Baker (1909-1966), Edmonton, Alberta (1956).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, Size 10, 4 X-Long.

**THREAD:** Black.

**TAIL:** Teal or Mallard Flank Fibres.

**BODY:** Silver Doctor Blue floss ribbed with 6 turns of Grizzly hackle. Body should comprise 2/3 of shank. Retain surplus floss and hackle until wing case is attached.

**WINGCASE:** Section of Grey Goose Secondary Flight Quill, rolled and tied in ahead of body. Leave lying rear-ward over body.

**THORAX:** Continue with floss and build up a thorax. Continue with hackle for about 2 turns, then bring wingcase forward over thorax and tie off.

**TRIMMING:** Closely clip the hackle ribbing the body. Thin out the hackle around the thorax, thus forming the legs.

### Tying Note

The above pattern is as Mr. Baker tied it; now-a-days we clip the hackle rib before tying it in and tie on the leg hackle as a separate step.

### Fishing Note

Works well in any lake, river, or stream that harbours the Western Grey Drake or similar mayfly nymphs.

### Effective Period

May through September.

# Green and Gold



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly/Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** John Labrenz, Edmonton, Alberta (1993).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, TDE, Size 8. (Mustad 9672).  
**THREAD:** Black, 6/0.  
**WEIGHT:** Fine Lead Wire, 8 to 10 wraps.  
**TAIL:** Black Hackle Fibres (10 to 12). Half shank length.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Tinsel, 4 to 5 wraps.  
**BODY:** Olive Rabbit Dubbing.  
**WINGCASE:** Ringed Neck Pheasant Body feather. Tie in only at this stage.  
**HACKLE:** Black Hackle, Palmered over thorax, 3 wraps.  
**THORAX:** Same as body.  
**WINGCASE:** Bring wingcase forward over thorax and tie down.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Use black hackle one size larger than typical for hook size. Trim or fold down any hackle protruding upwards.

## Fishing Note

Best fished using the "dead drift" technique. Strikes generally occur on the up-swing.

## Comment

First used on the North Saskatchewan River (1993). An excellent Goldeye pattern.

## Effective Period

Mid-June through mid-September.

## '52 Buick



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Damselfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATORS:** Gary Carlson/Russel Thornberry, Edmonton, Alberta (Circa 1975).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 4X-Long, Size 8 or 10.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Barred Mallard Flank, dyed Lemon (imitation Wood duck flank).  
**BODY:** Dubbing of Muskrat Fur, dyed Olive; ribbed with Medium Oval Gold Tinsel.  
**COLLAR:** 3 Peacock Herl fibres.  
**BEARD:** Same as Tail. Tied in front of collar.

### Tying Note

Of course the real Wood duck flank may be used.

### Fishing Note

Works anywhere damselfly nymphs exist. During on-shore migration (pre-hatch) use a floating line; otherwise use a sinking or sink-tip line. Use a slow steady retrieve with the occasional pause. (*Designed for lakes but is equally effective on streams and rivers.- Ed.*).

### Comment

Anyone having owned or driven a 1952 Buick automobile is quite familiar with the phrase "there's no stopping it" which aptly describes this pattern. Mr. Carlson and Mr. Thornberry were two of the three original owners of Edmonton's "The Fish'n Hole".

### Effective Period

May through October, peaking July and August.

# Alexander Special



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Dragonfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** J. A. Bruce Alexander (1929-1979), Edmonton, Alberta (1971).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 6X-Long, Sizes 6, 8, 10.  
**THREAD:** Size 3/0 Black.  
**TAIL:** R/N Cock Pheasant Tail fibres, 1/2 inch long (#6 hook).  
**BODY:** Medium Olive Seal dubbing, 1/2 to 5/8 shank length.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly, two turns, in front of body.  
**WING:** R/N Cock Pheasant Tail fibres, tied on in front of hackle and extending to tip of tail. Clip butts of wing to eye-length behind the eye. This acts as a base for the thorax.  
**THORAX:** Peacock Herl 6 to 10 strands, wound over wing butts.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Wing placement is critical for proper representation.

## Fishing Note

During peak activity, use floating line and long leader (15 to 20 feet, non tapered, 5x to 3x diameter). Otherwise, use sinking or sink-tip lines.

## Effective Period

All season, peaking during July and August.

## Foam Nymph



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Dragonfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Harvey MacIntyre, Lacombe, Alberta (1995).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long, TDE, Size 6. (Mustad 9671).  
**THREAD:** Grey, 6/0.  
**BODY:** White Furry Foam Strip.  
**HACKLE:** A few fibres from a Ringed Neck Pheasant Rump Feather. Tied as a beard.  
**HEAD:** Aftershaft (gimp) Feather from a Ringed Neck Pheasant Rump. Tied as a collar.  
**EYES:** Small Black Plastic Bead Chain.

### Tying Note

Body is coloured with permanent marker; dark back with lighter belly. I use Dark Green and Rusty-Orange. Weighting is optional, if used, apply to shank, before constructing fly.

### Fishing Note

Has proven to be a useful dragonfly nymph imitation.

### Comment

An easy fly to tie but very effective.

### Effective Period

All season, peaking in July and August.

# Sulphur Dragon



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Dragonfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Ian S. Denny, Edmonton, Alberta (1997).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Sizes 6, 8. (Mustad 9674).  
**THREAD:** Olive 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Peacock sword fibers. (short).  
**BODY:** Round wooden toothpicks as side pieces, over-wound with medium size peacock olive chenille.  
**EYES:** Black plastic bead chain.  
**LEGS:** Dyed olive Chinese hen back hackle, 3 turns. (clip top and bottom leaving sides as legs).  
**THORAX:** Medium Peacock olive chenille.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread. Tied small.

## Tying Note

For the body I lash two pieces (2/3 shank length) of round wooden toothpicks, one each side of hook, with the tapered points towards the eye of the hook. Then glue with head cement or Zap-a-Gap. This provides the tapered affect for the body.

## Fishing Note

For lakes, use a sinking line with 10 to 18 foot leader. Also works well trolling.

## Comment

Named after a lake in northern Alberta.

## Effective Period

May through October.

# *Flies for Alberta*



A Selection of flies for Alberta and  
surrounding areas

(Nymph Section)

# Light Alberta Stone Nymph



Flies for Alberta - Light Alberta Stone Nymph (McLennan)

N2

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Charlie's Drifter



Flies for Alberta - Charlie's Drifter (Burghardt)

N3

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# Montana Stone



Flies for Alberta - Montana Stone

N4

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# Idaho Nymph



Flies for Alberta - Idaho Nymph (Keys)

N5

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# Sparkle Pheasant



Flies for Alberta - Sparkle Pheasant (Del Degan)

N6

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# Hot Wired Whole Squirrel Hide



Flies for Alberta - Hot Wired Whole Squirrel Hide (Scammell)

N7

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# Pheasant Tail



Flies for Alberta - Pheasant Tail (Sawyer)

N8

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# McLeod Dragon



Flies for Alberta - McLeod Dragon (Posyluzny)

N9

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# Zinck Mink



Flies for Alberta - Zinck Mink (Zinck)

N10

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# Black Mink



Flies for Alberta - Black Mink (Schaupmeyer)

N11

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# Mirror Ball Caddis Larva



Flies for Alberta - Mirror Ball Caddis Larva (Heemskerck)

N12

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# Backswimmer



Flies for Alberta - Backswimmer (Sohnle)

N13

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Walt's Damsel



Flies for Alberta - Walt's Damsel (Lawson)

N14

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# Water Boatman



Flies for Alberta - Water Boatman (Makar)

N15

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# Frenchy's Zygo



Flies for Alberta - Frenchy's Zygo (Bon)

N16

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# Baker's Blue Nymph



Flies for Alberta - Baker's Blue Nymph (Baker)

N17

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# Green and Gold



Flies for Alberta - Green and Gold (Labrenz)

N18

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# '52 Buick



Flies for Alberta - '52 Buick (Carlson/Thornberry)

N19

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# Alexander Special



Flies for Alberta - Alexander Special (Alexander)

N20

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# Foam Nymph



Flies for Alberta - Foam Nymph (MacIntyre)

N21

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# Sulphur Dragon



Flies for Alberta - Sulphur Dragon (I. Denny)

N22

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# *Flies for Alberta*



A Selection of flies for Alberta and  
surrounding areas

(End of Nymph Section)

*FLIES for ALBERTA*



*PLATE #3 - STREAMERS*

## Section III - Streamers

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# Alexandra



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Uncertain: W.G. Turler, Newton Stacey, Stockbridge, England or Dr. John Brunton, Gresham, England (circa 1860).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 3X- or 4X-Long, Sizes 4 to 16.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Peacock Sword and a tail topping of Red Quill section (Goose or Duck). Length of tail equals hook gap length.  
**RIB:** Oval Silver Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Flat Silver Tinsel.  
**WING:** Peacock Sword to tip of tail.  
**SPLITS:** Thin sections of Red Quill, each side of wing.  
**HACKLE:** Soft Black Neck or Saddle.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

The most common mistake in this fly's construction is the over abundance of peacock sword fibres in the wing. Keep it sparse.

## Fishing Note

A very good pattern for both stream and river, in sizes 6 to 10. Good in lakes when sticklebacks are in mating colours (size 8). Very large sizes are used for salmon (bucktail) and steelhead angling .

## History

Originally named "Lady of the Lake" and later in honour of Princess (Queen) Alexandra. There was a time when this streamer, because of its effectiveness, was banned on some waters in the United Kingdom.

## Effective Period

April through August.

## Black-Nosed Dace



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** George Leonard Herter, USA (1928).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 3X- or 4X-Long, Sizes 6 to 12. (Mustad 9672, 79580).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BUTT:** Red Wool, very short.  
**RIB:** Fine Oval Silver Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Flat Silver Tinsel.  
**WING:** Three layers: Bottom-White Polar Bear Hair, twice hook shank length. Middle-Black Bear Hair, slightly shorter than bottom layer. Top-Natural Brown Bucktail, slightly longer than bottom layer.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Some renditions of this pattern call for a wing made of three colours of bucktail but use of polar and black bear hair definitely adds to its effectiveness. A dubbed collar is sometimes used (as shown).

### Fishing Note

Primarily designed for stream and river. Quarter down-stream and use a strip-strip-pause sequence of retrieve. Use larger sizes for lakes. Increasing size to #2 or larger works very well for shallow-feeding Lake Trout (Spring and Autumn).

### History

One of the few streamers achieving world-wide acceptance.

### Effective Period

Mid-March through September.

# PTC Muddler (Pheasant Tail-Copper)



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Norman Rupprecht, Edmonton, Alberta (1995).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, Sizes 4 - 10, 4X-Long, TDE. (Daiichi 2220, 1750).  
**THREAD:** Olive 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Side Tail (mottled portion).  
**BODY:** Copper Wire.  
**HACKLE:** Olive and Brown Deer Hair, mixed. Tied collar fashion.  
**UNDERWING:** Olive Bucktail, approximately 15 fibres.  
**WING:** Same as tail.  
**SPLITS:** Single strand of Olive Krystal Flash on both sides of wing.  
**HEAD:** A mix of Olive and Brown Deer Hair, spun and then clipped.

## Tying Note

Deer hair collar should be trimmed flat on the bottom, giving a more streamlined outline, typical of lake dwelling minnows. (stickleback). Head should be clipped to medium or small size for a more natural profile.

## Fishing Note

For lakes, use a uniform sinking line with 9 to 15 feet of leader and a small split-shot placed at the eye of the hook. In water depths of less than 5 feet, a floating line works exceptionally well.

## Comment

An adaptation of Don Gapen's Muddler Minnow for an improved imitation of most Alberta lake minnows.

## Effective Period

April through November.

## The Sword



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Reg. G. Denny, Edmonton, Alberta (1991).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 6X-Long, Ringed Eye, Sizes 4 to 6. (Mustad 33620)  
**THREAD:** Red.  
**TIP:** Medium Flat Gold Tinsel.  
**RIB:** Medium Flat Gold Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Royal Coachman Red Floss. Level.  
**WING:** The tip section of a narrow Peacock Sword Feather, 1-1/2 times length of shank.  
**SKIRT:** White Polar Bear Hair extending to tip of wing. Do not stack hair.  
**GILL:** Red Seal Dubbing.  
**HEAD:** Black Rabbit Dubbing, starting at eye and ending at gill. Tie off between head and gill.

### Tying Note

Wing may be bound to the body (Matuka style), using fine oval gold tinsel for the rib. A skirt is a 360 degree wing.

### Fishing Note

Designed for Brook Trout in the deeper lakes of Jasper National Park but it works well elsewhere. Rainbows are also quite accommodating. Use with very deep sinking (5 rate) line. Worth a try on Lake Trout when they are in shallower water (Spring and Fall).

### Effective Period

All season.

# Doctor Spratley



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Dragonfly/Caddis  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Richard Prankard, Mt. Vernon, WA, USA (1949).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Turned Down Eye. Sizes 6 to 12. (Mustad 79580).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Grizzly Hackle fibres.  
**RIB:** Medium Flat Gold Tinsel, 5 turns.  
**BODY:** Pure Wool dyed Black.  
**HACKLE:** Two turns of soft Grizzly.  
**WING:** Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres.  
**COLLAR:** Black Ostrich Herl.

## Tying Note

Present day variations in body colours are many; most popular being green, red, purple and olive. Silver rib is often used for evening presentations.

## Fishing Note

An exceptional all around streamer. "If all else fails try a Spratley".

## History

Named after Dr. Donald A. Spratley, Mt. Vernon, WA, USA, who used the pattern in the lakes of British Columbia.

## Effective Period

April through September.

# Mickey Finn



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow/Fish Fin  
**CLASS:** Attractor

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. USA. See history below.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X- or 6X-Long, Sizes 4 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**RIB:** Oval Silver Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Flat Silver Tinsel.  
**WING:** Three layers of bucktail: Bottom-Yellow, Middle-Red, Top-Yellow. Ratio, 1:1:2, bottom to top.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Try not to over-dress the wing. Progressively increase, slightly, the length of wing sections from bottom to top. Steelhead and salmon versions are tied using polar bear hair. Yellow or red dubbing is sometimes used to disguise the hair tie-in points (as shown).

## Fishing Note

Standard streamer presentation techniques will suffice. Excellent for most species of game fish especially the charrs.

## History

Introduced in 1932 by John Alden Knight, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, USA as the Red and Yellow Bucktail. Named the Assassin in 1936 by Canadian writer Gregory Clark, Toronto, Ontario, who within the same year renamed it the Mickey Finn.

## Effective Period

Mid-March through mid-October.

# Moss Zebra



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow (Forage Fish)  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATORS:** Rolf and Shirley Ann Schwabe, Vauxhall, Alberta (1992).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** O'Shaughnessy Salt Water, Ringed Eye, Size 4/0. (Mustad 34007).  
**THREAD:** Black, size "A" (Danville Plus-A Monocord).  
**WEEDGUARD:** Monofilament, 40 pound test, 5 inches, tied in at this time.  
**TIP:** Black Tying Thread.  
**BODY:** Monofilament, 60 pound test, Closely wound over Yellow Foil.  
**THROAT:** Red Calf Tail.  
**WING:** Fluorescent Day-Glo Yellow FisHair.  
**TOPPING:** Moss Green FisHair.  
**WEEDGUARD:** Bring around bend of hook and forward to eye and tie down.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread, painted black with Loon Hard Head Fly Finish.  
**EYES:** Painted black eyes on white. Using Loon Hard Head Fly Finish.  
**STRIPES:** Vertical, using black waterproof marker.

## Tying Note

Ensure you have a vise capable of securely holding large hooks. During the wrapping of the monofilament body a lot of force is placed on the hook and it will pull free from a poor vise. See colour plate for approximate size (about 4 inches).

## Fishing Note

Used for pike. Use a wire leader to prevent leader-cutting. Pinch down barb to facilitate releasing and to prolong streamer life.

## Comment

This is an adaptation, for Northern Pike, of the "Glass Minnow" style of streamer. It is extremely durable and will outlast most other pike patterns.

## Effective Period

Year round, but most fun in Spring when pike are in the shallows. Use a floating fly line.

# The Thief



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Dan Gapen, Gapen Fly Co., Anoka, Minnesota, USA (1940).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X- or 6X-Long, Sizes 6 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Red Duck Wing Quill slip. 1-1/2 times hook-gap length.  
**RIB:** Oval Silver Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Flat Silver Tinsel.  
**WING:** Under wing: Grey Squirrel Tail Hair, to mid-point of tail.  
Over wing: Mottled Brown Turkey Wing slips to tip of tail.  
**COLLAR:** Black Chenille.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Original did not have oval tinsel rib. A 3X-long, turned up eye, salmon hook lends itself to this pattern. The Black Thief uses black goose for wing.

## Fishing Note

A rainbow fly; use smaller size for stream and rivers. Larger size for lake trolling, drifting or stripping. A good late evening pattern.

## Comment

Dan Gapen is the son of Don Gapen of Muddler Minnow fame.

## Effective Period

Late April through Mid-October.

# Miles Special



**TYPE:** Streamer (Spey)  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Barry White, Edmonton, Alberta (1982).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Salmon, Extra Long, Sizes 2/0 to 8. (Mustad 9049).  
**THREAD:** Black, 8/0.  
**RIB:** Fine Silver Oval plus Fine Flat Red (side-by-side) plus Medium Oval Gold Reversed (crossed).  
**BODY:** Black Fuzzy Yarn.  
**HACKLE:** Large Black Neck, tied Palmer style and Speyed (doubled or V'd).  
**WING:** Golden Pheasant Red Flank feather, one or two as required.  
**COLLAR:** Burgundy Neck. (Red Neck may be substituted).  
**HEAD:** Small, with Tying Thread.

## Fishing Note

I use the turlie knot and fish the fly across-and-down (stream). Hesitate at the end of the swing. Mend during the drift and strip fly several times. Move position and repeat the cast. Used successfully on Rainbow and Brown Trout, Steelhead, Arctic Charr, and Atlantic Salmon.

## Comment

If using the turlie knot to attach fly to leader; dress fly slightly back from the eye to allow application of the knot.

## Effective Period

May through October.

## Carey Special



**TYPE:** Streamer (soft hackle)  
**STYLE:** Caddis/Dragonfly/Chironomid/Minnow  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Dr. Lloyd A. Day, Quesnel, BC (designer) and Col. Thomas Carey (tyer). (Circa 1925).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4 X-Long, Sizes 4 to 12. (Mustad 9674 or 79580).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Black Bear Hair.  
**BODY:** Twisted Black Bear Hair.  
**HACKLE:** Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Rust Rump feather. Tied as a skirt.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Some sources state that ground hog hair was originally used for tail and body. Today, bodies of many colours and materials exist; to the point where the patterns should be given some other name. Limit the rump hackle to one feather for best results.

### Fishing Note

This pattern is really a large "Soft Hackle" fly. And as such, should be presented in a similar manner. Excellent lake fly. Use smaller sizes for stream and river.

### History

Originally named "Monkey-Faced Louis"; later called Carey Special.

### Effective Period

April through October.

# The Killer



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow/Leech  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** John Matthews, Sherwood Park, Alberta (1990).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Ringed Eye, Size 6. (Mustad 9674).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BASE:** Black Thread  
**RIB:** Red Thread over black base.  
**BODY:** Small Pearlescent Braided Tubing, pulled over base and rib.  
**WING:** Place a Furnace and Grizzly saddle hackle on each side with Grizzly on the outside. Apply with shiny sides out (concave). Wings should extend 1 1/2 inches past hook bend.  
**HACKLE:** Stiff Grizzly and Dark Brown, one inch radius, wound on together ahead of wing.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

I have also tied this pattern with green hackles for the wing. And badger for the hackle (collar).

## Fishing Note

Fish with a jerking motion to imitate a darting minnow. This streamer has caught several large trout (13 pound rainbow in August of 1997) and many smaller sizes

## Comment

*(For many years, John Matthews raised Plymouth Barred Rock roosters, specifically for fly tying. - Ed.).*

## Effective Period

All season.

# Spruce Streamer



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Bert and Milo Godfrey, Seaside, Oregon, USA. (Circa 1930).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X- or 6X-long, Sizes 6 to 12.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Peacock Sword fibres, Hook gap length.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire, reverse wound over peacock herl fore-body (optional).  
**BODY:** Rear one-third Red Floss. Front two-thirds Peacock Herl, heavily dressed.  
**WING:** Two Silver Badger Hackle Tips, tied in back-to-back (shiny sides in), and extending to tip of tail.  
**HACKLE:** Silver Badger Hackle.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread, or black dubbing (as shown).

## Tying Note

Often tied using Golden Badger Hackle and is called "Dark Spruce Streamer".

## Fishing Note

Designed for coastal cutthroat trout but interior rainbows and browns do oblige. Go to a size 14 for grayling. Use the darker version for brook trout and other charr.

## History

Originally tied and used as a dry fly. Formerly called the "Godfrey Special". The streamer version has been around for some sixty years.

## Effective Period

April through August.

# Pat's Woolly Bugger



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Crane-fly/Leech  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Patrick Renaud, Edmonton, Alberta (1996).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Ringed Eye, Size 6. (Mustad 9674).  
**THREAD:** Black, 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Black Marabou and two strands of Crystal Flash. Hook length.  
**RIB:** Diamond Braid Tinsel (multi-coloured).  
**BODY:** Wide Chenille, Insect Green.  
**HACKLE:** Black Saddle, sparsely palmered over body.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Chenille bodies of various colours may be used; try dark red or olive.

## Fishing Note

Primarily for lake trolling.

## Effective Period

All season.

# Picket Pin



**TYPE:** Streamer (Dry)  
**STYLE:** Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Jack Boehme, Missoula, Montana, USA. (Circa 1915).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 3X-Long, Sizes 4 to 8.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Golden Pheasant Tippet.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire.  
**BODY:** Flat Gold Tinsel, over-wound with Brown Saddle, about six turns (sparse palmer).  
**WING:** Grey Squirrel Tail hair.  
**COLLAR:** Black Ostrich Herl.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Tie in a full length wing of grey squirrel tail hair; then tie in a short wing comprised of grey squirrel tail hair tips atop the full wing. This gives a white-black-white gopher tail affect. Patterns do exist with body variations of silver tinsel, and red or yellow floss.

## Fishing Note

Since this pattern is classed as a streamer (or wet); using a sinking line would be the norm, not so, use a floater and treat the pattern as a low-profile floater or sub-surface fly. Quite productive during Salmon Fly (Pteronarcy, californica) activity.

## History

The "Picket Pin" is a western term for the short tether stake used to hitch horses. The name was also applied to the gopher (ground squirrel) which it resembled in it's upright stance. The original fly pattern "Picket Pin" was tied using gopher tail hair. Hence the name.

## Effective Period

May through mid-July.

# Norris' Royal Purple



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Thomas G. Norris, Didsbury, Alberta (Circa 1975).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 6X-Long, TDE, Sizes 6 to 10. (Mustad 3665A).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Brown Hair, Light and Dark mixed. Shank length.  
**RIB:** Fine Flat Gold Tinsel. Five turns.  
**BODY:** Dark Purple Wool or Yarn.  
**HACKLE:** Furnace Hackle Fibres. Tied beard fashion, and extending to hook point.  
**WING:** Two Wide-Web Furnace Neck Hackles. Tied shiny sides out.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

The original hook was a long-shank carlisle with a kirbed (off-set) bend.

## Fishing Note

Successful throughout Alberta's foothills and Southeastern British Columbia.

## Effective Period

All season, peaking as Autumn approaches.

## Polar Glass Minnow



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Vic Bergman, Bellevue, Alberta (1997).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Salt Water Fly, Stainless Steel, 2X-Long, Ringed Eye, Sizes 2/0, 1/0. (Mustad 34011).  
**THREAD:** Black. (Danville Monocord Plus A).  
**BODY:** Aluminum Foil over-wrapped with 60 pound test monofilament.  
**THROAT:** Red Calf Tail.  
**UNDER WING:** White Polar Bear, or Polar Bear Substitute.  
**TOPPING:** Green Krystal Flash, 8 to 10 strands and further topped with 8 to 10 strands of peacock herl.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread coated with 5-minute Epoxy. Then top-coated with Loon Hard Head Cement (black) for a high gloss finish.  
**EYES:** Painted on head, using white and black lacquer.

### Fishing Note

An effective pattern to use in early Spring, immediately after ice-out, when Lake Trout are found in relatively shallow water.

### Comment

This streamer was designed for Lake Trout and was quite effective in Northern Alberta in June, 1997. It imitates small Whitefish, Cisco, and other baitfish, on which lakers feed.

### Effective Period

Early Spring (ice-out). (*Worth a try in the Autumn prior to freeze-up- Ed.*)

# Gordon's Special



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Larry Campbell, Edmonton, Alberta (1990).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Ringed Eye, Size 8. (Mustad 9674).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BODY:** Silver Diamond Braid.  
**WING:** Inner wing: Two Yellow Hackle Tips, one and a half shank length.  
Outer Wing: Two Dyed Olive Barred Mallard, twice shank length.  
**HACKLE:** Three wraps of Red Hackle behind four wraps of Grizzly Hackle.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Mallard outer-wing is applied with concave sides in. And the bottom fibres are removed from hook bend forward; thus exposing silver body.

## Fishing Note

This is one of my primary flies for still-water fishing. Works well trolling or fly casting. Can be fished on the surface or submerged. A good minnow imitation.

## Comment

Named after my late father Gordon Campbell. An adaptation of the "Hornberg Special" by Frank Hornberg, Michigan, USA. (prior to 1950)

## Effective Period

Ice-out to freeze-up.

## B. P. Ghost



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Baitfish  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Barry Phillips, Edmonton, Alberta (1987).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 6X-Long, Ringed Eye, Sizes 2 to 10. (Mustad 36620).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TIP:** Flat Fine Gold tinsel.  
**RIB:** Same as tip.  
**BODY:** Deep Orange Floss.  
**THROAT:** (Invert hook before attaching) 6 Peacock Herls, slightly shorter than wing; under White Polar Bear, as long as wing; under Golden Pheasant Crest, half shank length.  
**WING:** Inside: 2 Golden Olive Saddles, shiny sides out.  
Outside: 2 Light Blue Dun Saddles, shiny sides out.  
Length: One and half times the hook shank.  
**CHEEK:** Silver Pheasant Body feather, half shank length.  
**SHOULDER:** Jungle Cock Nail.  
**TOPPING:** Golden Pheasant Crest as long as the hook. Attach after wings are applied.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread; tied fairly large with a painted Yellow eye and Black pupil.

### Tying Note

Tie body first, complete with throat. Then assemble wing, cheek and shoulder by gluing base of feathers together with head cement and let dry. Attach wing assemblies one-at-time along sides of body. Do this and the streamer rides properly in the water.

### Fishing Note

Can be trolled or cast and stripped. As with most streamers the angler must impart some action to increase effectiveness.

### Comment

Do not hesitate to change wing colour combinations to match the baitfish of your locality.

### Effective Period

Effective all season but is best in autumn when large fish are actively feeding in the shallows, usually after lake turn-over.

# Charley Special



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. Submitted by Fred Small, Sherwood Park, Alberta.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 3X-Long, Curved Shank, Ringed Eye. Size 12. (Tiemco TMC200).  
**THREAD:** Red.  
**TAIL:** Golden Pheasant Tippets.  
**RIB:** Fine Oval Gold (or Silver) Tinsel. Five to seven wraps.  
**HACKLE:** Brown, palmered over body and clipped short (gap length).  
**BODY:** Red Floss.  
**WING:** White Calf Tail over Natural Deer Hair.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Originally used as a floating fly, so dress accordingly (sparse) for streamer application.

## Fishing Note

Used for Brook Trout in high mountain lakes and beaver dams of Central Alberta. Fish with a sinking fly line while imparting short irregular strips.

## History

Also a very popular fly in British Columbia where it is used as dry fly for sea-run cutthroat trout (harvest trout).

## Effective Period

June through September.

## Bead-Chain Leech



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Leech  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Norman Rupprecht, Edmonton, Alberta (1995).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, Sizes 2 - 8, 4X-Long, TDE. (Daiichi 2220, 1750).  
**THREAD:** Olive, 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Olive Marabou and Black Marabou. One strand of Krystal Flash on both sides of tail.  
**RIB:** Copper Wire.  
**BODY:** Olive Chenille.  
**WING:** Olive Marabou.  
**EYES:** Golden Bead-Chain (4mm diameter).  
**HEAD:** Olive Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Bead chain eyes are secured with figure-eight wraps of tying thread.

### Fishing Note

Crimping a size B or BB split-shot at eye of fly will give it a more enticing action. Excellent lake fly.

### Comment

Fly shape and style is similar to that of the Clouser Minnow series and of the saltwater style flies.

### Effective Period

April through October.

# Kilburn Killer



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow (Stickleback)  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Doug Kilburn (1901-1979), Edmonton, Alberta.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 6X-Long, Size 8. (Mustad 3665A).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BODY:** A 3-strand, 3-colour wool twist (one strand each of black grey and white). Use fine wool. Form a cigar-shaped body for about 3/4 of the hook shank. Reverse rib with 5 to 7 turns of medium flat gold tinsel.  
**WING:** About 40 fibres from a Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant rust rump feather. Extend to bend of hook.  
**BEARD:** Same as overwing but about 20 fibres. Extend to just slightly past hook point.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Fibres of the wing and beard should not obscure the sides of the body. Keep well above and below the body when tying in.

## Fishing Note

Primarily a stickleback imitation but is exceptional during dragonfly peak activity (June-July). Maybe used in streams, rivers, or lakes. Has been known to work on pike, walleye, and steelhead.

## Effective Period

June through October.

# *Flies for Alberta*



A selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(Streamer Section)

# Alexandra



Flies for Alberta - Alexandra (Turle/Gresham)

S2

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Black-Nosed Dace



Flies for Alberta - Black-Nosed Dace (Herter)

S3

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# P T C Muddler

(Pheasant Tail-Copper)



Flies for Alberta - P T C Muddler (Rupprecht)

S4

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# The Sword



Flies for Alberta - The Sword (R. Denny)

S5

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Doctor Spratley



Flies for Alberta - Doctor Spratley (Prankard)

S6

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Mickey Finn



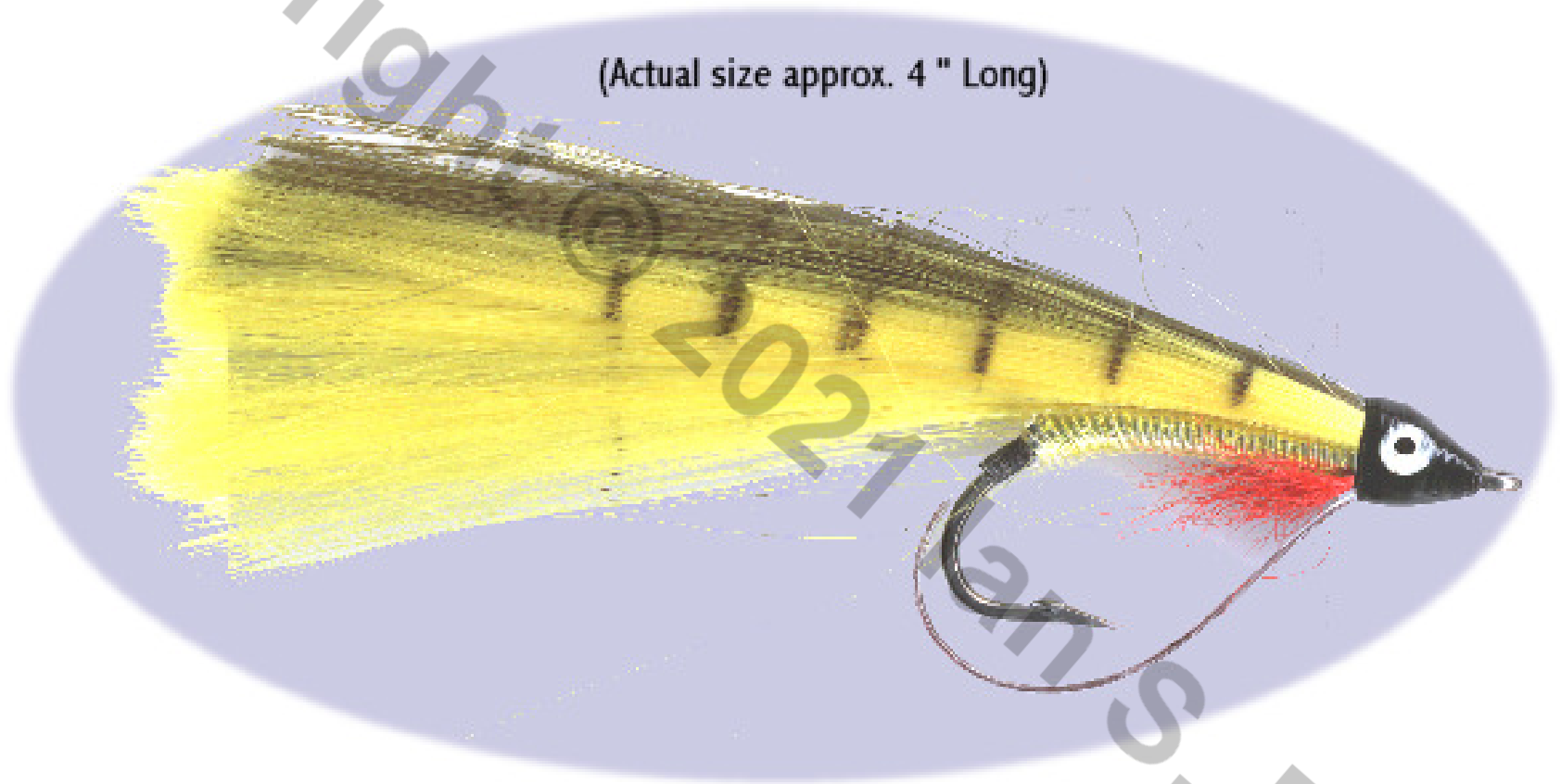
Flies for Alberta - Mickey Finn (Knight/Clark)

S7

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Moss Zebra

(Actual size approx. 4 " Long)



Flies for Alberta - Moss Zebra (Schwabe)

S8

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# The Thief



Flies for Alberta - The Thief (Dan Gapen)

S9

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Miles Special



Flies for Alberta - Miles Special (White)

S10

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Carey Special



Flies for Alberta - Carey Special (Day)

S11

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# The Killer

(Actual size 2-1/2 inches long)



Flies for Alberta - The Killer (Matthews)

S12

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S. Denny

# Spruce Streamer



Flies for Alberta - Spruce Streamer (Godfrey) S13

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# Pat's Woolly Bugger



Flies for Alberta - Pat's Woolly Bugger (Renaud)

S14

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# Picket Pin



Flies for Alberta - Picket Pin (Boehme)

S15

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# Norris' Royal Purple



Flies for Alberta - Norris' Royal Purple (Norris)

S16

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# Polar Glass Minnow



Flies for Alberta - Polar Glass Minnow (Bergman)

S17

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Gordon's Special



Flies for Alberta - Gordon's Special (Campbell)

S18

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# B. P. Ghost



Flies for Alberta - B. P. Ghost (Phillips)

S19

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# Charley Special



Flies for Alberta - Charley Special (Small)

S20

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# Bead-Chain Leech



Flies for Alberta - Bead Chain Leech (Rupprecht)

S21

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# Kilburn Killer



Flies for Alberta - Kilburn Killer (Kilburn)

S22

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# *Flies for Alberta*



A selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(End of Streamer Section)

*FLIES for ALBERTA*



W2

W3

W4

W5

W6

W7

W8

W9

W12

W10

W11

W13

W14

W15

W16

W17

W18

W19

W20

W21

W22

*PLATE #4 - WET FLIES*

## Section IV - Wet Flies

Mitchell Special .....	W2
Tom's Woolly Worm .....	W3
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Black Gnat .....	W8
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Light Cahill Wet .....	W13
Partridge and Orange .....	W14
Quill Gordon Wet .....	W15
Woolly Worm .....	W16
Brown Hackle Peacock .....	W17
The Burlap .....	W18
Green Brassie .....	W19
Holy!! Heemskerck .....	W20
Lucky Strike .....	W21
Swimming San Juan .....	W22

# Mitchell Special



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Chironomid  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** (Mrs.) Joan E. Mitchell, Carvel, Alberta (Circa 1960).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, TDE, Sizes 10, 12, or smaller. (Mustad 9672).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Black Hackle.  
**RIB:** Clipped Black Hackle.  
**BODY:** Black Thread, closely over wound with rib.  
**HACKLE:** Black.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Fishing Note

Very effective trolled, using a sinking line or trolled slowly with a floating line when fish are rising (late evening). Can be used with a spinning rod and float (spin-float). Good for all species of trout, charr (including Lake Trout), Rocky Mountain Whitefish, and Grayling.

## Comment

First tied and used at Wildhorse Lake (Hinton) around 1960, before we knew the meaning of the word "chironomid". Noticed them on the water and tied the fly to imitate. Early testing sites included Moab and Pyramid lakes of Jasper National Park.

## Effective Period

May through September.

## Tom's Woolly Worm



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Thomas G. Norris, Didsbury, Alberta (Circa 1973).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 4X-Long, Sizes 8, 10. (Mustad 79580).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BUTT:** Black Wool.  
**RIB:** Medium or dark coloured Ginger Hackle. About 5 turns.  
**BODY:** Cream Wool (not synthetic).  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Natural coloured wool is also effective.

### Fishing Note

Designed for Cutthroat Trout in Alberta and Southern British Columbia.

### Comment

"Just can't keep 'em off the hook".

### Effective Period

All season.

# Stauffer Special



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Water Beetle or Terrestrial  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Lloyd Shea, Edmonton, Alberta (1961).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Dry fly standard, 1X-Long or 2X-long, 2X-Fine; Sizes 10, 12. (Mustad 94840 or 94831).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Black Hackle Fibres.  
**BODY:** Medium Black Sparkle Chenille (silver tinsel core) or Peacock Herl.  
**HACKLE:** Black.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Simple and easily tied. If using peacock herl, the body should be backwound with 6X monofilament to give the fly a bit more longevity.

## Fishing Note

Present fly by roll-casting upstream, allow it to sink briefly, retrieve by carefully raising the rod tip. This causes: the fly to move slightly faster than the current; brings the fly back to just under the surface (less snags); keeps a tight line which improves strike detection. Dead-drifting or strip-retrieving will result in many takes going undetected. Repeat sequence when rod reaches the one-o'clock position, then change your streamside position (upstream).

## History

The fly was originally developed by cutting the wings off a Black Gnat. And the later changes of chenille or peacock herl body seemed to improve the fly's effectiveness. Stauffer Creek is also known as the North Raven River..

## Effective Period

May through September.

## Scud Missile



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Scud (Shrimp)  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** David Todd, Ft. McMurray, Alberta (1994).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** English bait hook, TDE, Sizes 8 to 12. (Mustad 37140).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BEADHEAD:** Brass Bead (attach first).  
**TAIL:** One Oversized Grizzly Hackle Tip (tip of body hackle).  
**BODY:** Golden Olive Chenille, medium diameter. Tied forward to bead-head.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly (part of hackle used for tail), palmered over body, 5 or 6 turns.  
**HEAD:** None. But tie off behind bead with tying thread.  
**LEGS:** Trim palmered hackle from back of fly. Hackle remaining underside now act as legs.

### Tying Note

The bead-head negates any need for further weighting.

### Fishing Note

The point of the hook should be tweaked slightly outward for better hooking. This fly can be fished with a long leader along weed-lines; or deep with a sinking line. It has proven very effective in all still-water situations in Alberta. Can be used (quite successfully) "Scottish Style" with a high floating fly such as the Tom Thumb as the "bob" fly.

### Comment

It was originated while experimenting with bead-heads and wide-gap hooks as an alternative to weighting.

### Effective Period

Ice-out to late Summer.

# Coachman



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Thomas Bosworth, England (1830).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard Wet Fly, Sizes 8 to 18.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TIP:** Gold Tinsel (A modern addition).  
**BODY:** Peacock Herl.  
**BEARD:** Natural Medium Brown Hackle.  
**WING:** Slips from White Duck Wing Quill.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Also tied as streamer, nymph, bucktail, and dry. Using grey mallard wing, for the wing, gives you the "Lead-Winged Coachman".

## Fishing Note

Good for all types of water and most species of game fish. It's greatest merit is having stood the test of time. If you encounter a "smutting rise" situation try the Coachman in sizes 14 to 18.

## History

Thomas Bosworth was coachman for Kings George IV, William IV, and Queen Victoria; hence the pattern name. Do not confuse with "Royal Coachman" which is a John Hailey creation (USA). See "Royal Coachman" Section I.

## Effective Period

Mid-April to mid-September.

# Roger's Wire Worm



**TYPE:** Wet (Larva/Pupa)  
**STYLE:** Chironomid/Caddis  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Roger S. Sabourin Jr. (1956-1974), Edmonton, Alberta.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly or wet fly, Size 10. (Mustad 3399).  
**THREAD:** Black. Used only as a base for the wire (optional).  
**BODY:** Bare Copper Wire, 24 to 26 gauge. Start wire at bend of hook and close wind forward to hook eye, then double back for four turns, forming the head. Paint completed head with Dark Brown or Caramel-coloured model paint. A touch of Red paint may be used at the front of the head.

## Tying Note

The above is the original pattern. Today, it is tied in many colour combinations to suit the whims of the finicky Lake Whitefish for which it was designed.

## Fishing Note

Usually fished using a spin-float method. Using a floating fly line is also quite successful. Use a leader of 6 to 8 feet and not heavier than 4X. Generally deployed during Spring and Fall when whitefish are in the shallows. Works quite well on the trout species.

## History

Imitation was designed from a lake whitefish stomach sample. See Alberta Fishing Guide 1984.

## Effective Period

All season, even through the ice, for which it was initially designed.

# Black Gnat



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. Old English Pattern.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard wet fly, Sizes 10 to 20.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BODY:** Black Chenille or Black Ostrich. Black dubbing for smaller sizes.  
**HACKLE:** Soft Black Neck or Saddle.  
**WING:** Mallard Wing Quill sections.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

The "Black Gnat Silver" has a silver tinsel body. The wing is often omitted on the very small sizes.

## Fishing Note

Larger sizes probably imitates an emerging black mayfly, while the smallest is used during black fly (Simulidae) activity; often referred to as the "smut" or "black curse". Primarily a moving-water pattern

## History

A very old English pattern that has stood the test of time. The earlier patterns were dressed as dry fly (adult) imitations.

## Effective Period

Mid-April through July.

# Bloody Butcher



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Jack Boehme, Missoula, Montana, USA. Circa 1930.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3x-Long, Sizes 2 to 6.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Scarlet and Yellow hackle fibres.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire.  
**BODY HACKLE:** Scarlet and Yellow saddle, folded, palmered.  
**BODY:** Peacock Herl.  
**WING:** Grey Squirrel Tail.  
**COLLAR:** Black Ostrich Herl.

## Tying Note

Peacock herl is often used for the collar. Do not confuse with the European fly of the same name.

## Fishing Note

A "hot" fly during the Salmon Fly Hatches (*Pteronarcy californica*). It is very good at other times especially during grasshopper activity.

## History

Most of Jack Boehme's flies from the early 1900's have slipped into oblivion. A couple such as, Boehme's Salmon Fly and Picket Pin are still popular today.

## Effective Period

Mid-May through mid-August.

# Grizzly King



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Prof. James Wilson, England (1840).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, 2X-Long, Sizes 4 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Duck Quill section, dyed red.  
**RIB:** Fine Flat Gold tinsel.  
**BODY:** Insect Green Floss.  
**HACKLE:** Soft Grizzly.  
**WING:** Barred Mallard or Barred Teal Flank.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Silver rib is sometimes a better option. This pattern is a North American adaptation of the original.

## Fishing Note

As with most classic wets, their original imitating intentions are somewhat obscure. The Grizzly King could suggest the underwater stages of a mayfly, stonefly or caddis and most certainly a damselfly nymph.

## History

The original Grizzly King had no tinsel rib but the body was palmered (ribbed) with grizzly hackle. The wing was comprised of two whole mallard flank feathers. Tied to imitate the large green drake mayfly of Britain. Current dressing leans towards the streamer style.

## Effective Period

Mid-April through August.

# Dusty Miller



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. English origin.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard Wet fly, Sizes 8 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Dark Brown Hackle fibres.  
**BODY:** Medium Grey Dubbing (Muskrat or Beaver).  
**HACKLE:** Light Grey or Grizzly.  
**WING:** Slate Grey Quill section (Mallard Duck Wing).  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Eastern US versions used grey wool for the body which is probably more effective. A gold tip is sometimes added (as shown).

## Fishing Note

One of the better search patterns where swimmer mayflies exist. Some anglers clip the wings short, thus transforming it to the nymph style.

## History

Although a very popular fly, its history is rather scant. Originally tied as a dry fly imitating the powdery-winged moth (miller).

## Effective Period

May through mid-July.

# R.A.F.



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Ian Russell, Edmonton, Alberta (1994).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, Wide Gap, Ringed Eye, Offset, Sizes 14 - 18. (Partridge Z2).  
**THREAD:** Black, 8/0.  
**TAG:** Red Depth Ray Nylon. (Tip).  
**RIB:** Grey Goose Quill fibre.  
**BODY:** Tying Thread.  
**THORAX:** Peacock Herl.  
**HACKLE:** Grouse (Marginal Coverts).  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Originally tied on standard Partridge wet fly hook, later changed to Z2, which is offset, giving a better hooking advantage.

## Fishing Note

This is top-notch fly for Grayling.

## Comment

*(For the want of an interpretation R.A.F. are the initials of "Red Aft Fly" -Ed).*

## Effective Period

July through September.

# Light Cahill Wet



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Daniel Cahill, Port Jervis, New York, USA. (Circa 1880).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard wet fly, Sizes 8 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Off-yellow.  
**TAIL:** Soft Light Ginger hackle fibres.  
**BODY:** Red Fox Belly Fur (cream) dubbing.  
**BEARD:** Soft Light Ginger Hackle.  
**WING:** Wood Duck Flank feather fibres.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

A body of muskrat fur dubbing with tail and beard of medium brown hackle transforms this pattern into the "Dark Cahill".

## Fishing Note

Both the Light and Dark Cahill patterns work quite well in Alberta (or throughout Canada) as a mid-season mayfly imitation of the clinger family (Heptageniidae). Treat as an emerger. Also a good lake pattern.

## History

Original patterns were dry-fly style but still used the same materials. Tied to imitate the *Stenonema ithca* of the East and Midwest. Passes as the *Cinygma* in the West.

## Effective Period

Mid-June through August.

# Partridge and Orange



**TYPE:** Wetfly (Soft Hackle)  
**STYLE:** Mayfly, Stonefly, etc.  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** T. E. Pritt, Leeds, England. "Yorkshire Trout Flies", 1885.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, Sizes 8 to 18.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**BODY:** Orange Silk.  
**HACKLE:** Partridge Back Feather.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Modern tyers use floss instead of silk. Doubling (folding) the hackle really improves this type of fly. Partridge hackle with green, red, and yellow bodies are worthy additions to the fly-box.

## Fishing Note

Soft-Hackle flies are quite effective in all methods of angling, at any season but are often overlooked.

## History

Soft-hackled flies have been around for about five centuries and still rank high as consistent fish catchers. These two-step patterns, old and new are numerous and wide-spread. The "effectiveness of simplicity" sure proves itself here.

## Effective Period

Mid-March through August.

# Quill Gordon Wet



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Theodore Gordon (1854 - 1915), USA.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Up eye, Sizes 12 to 16.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Barred Woodduck Flank fibres.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire.  
**BODY:** Stripped (fuzz removed) Peacock Herl from the eye portion of peacock's shoulder plume. Result is a bi-coloured slightly tapered quill.  
**HACKLE:** Medium Grey.  
**WING:** Woodduck Flank feather.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Some tyers use a dubbed body of brownish-grey fur.

## Fishing Note

This pattern suggests the emerging mayflies of the clinger group (Epeorus). Thus a very swift ascent to the surface is an effective manoeuvre.

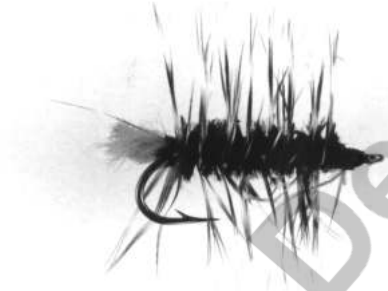
## History

The original Quill Gordon was of the dry fly style in both dun and spinner stages of *E. pleuralis*. In the Alberta Rockies *E. albertae* (Pale Evening Dun) is more common.

## Effective Period

April through July.

# Woolly Worm



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Various  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Donald S. Martinez, West Yellowstone, Montana, USA.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long, Sizes 4 to 16.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAG:** Scarlet Wool, short (hook gap). Sometimes looped (butt).  
**RIB:** Tying Thread; for over-winding hackle.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly Saddle wound five or six turns over entire body.  
**BODY:** Black Chenille wound shank length.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

This pattern is tied in various colour combinations of body, hackle and tag. However, the pattern (above) is still the all-around favorite.

## Fishing Note

Resembles a host of aquatic trout food which accounts for its popularity and effectiveness. Any manner of presentation usually produces well.

## History

Palmer type flies (both wet and dry) have been with us for centuries. Donald Martinez formerly of Chicago is credited with the chenille body type; introduced while residing in West Yellowstone, Montana.

## Effective Period

All season.

# Brown Hackle Peacock



**TYPE:** Wetfly (Soft Hackle)  
**STYLE:** Various  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. Early American introduction by J. C. Conroy, New York City, USA. (Circa 1830).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard wet fly, Sizes 8 to 16.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Short piece of red wool (butt).  
**BODY:** Peacock Eye Herl.  
**HACKLE:** Three turns of Soft Brown Neck or Saddle.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

A counter-wound rib of fine copper wire is sometimes used. There's also an excellent dryfly version. It has a tail of golden pheasant tippet and a full hackle of dryfly quality.

## Fishing Note

Very effective and widely used throughout North America; mostly as a search pattern. Being a soft-hackle fly, it is suggestive of various aquatics. Use a strip-pause drift for best results.

## History

Was often referred to as a "journal fly" (a fly that will take fish at any time). Often called just "The Brown Hackle".

## Effective Period

Mid-March through October.

# The Burlap



**TYPE:** Nymph (Larva/Pupa)  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** E.T. (Ted) Halvorsen, San Francisco, CA, USA. (pre 1945).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph hook, 2 or 3 X-Long, turned down or ringed eye. Sizes 6 to 12.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Fox squirrel tail fibres.  
**BODY:** Burlap Yarn (gunny sack strands).  
**HACKLE:** Soft Grizzly.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

The burlap body is usually "picked out" to give a fuzzy appearance.

## Fishing Note

Originally designed for west coast Steelhead but works exceptionally for interior Brook Trout and to a lesser degree Rainbows.

## History

The forerunner was called the "Barley Sack" by E.T. (Ted) Halvorsen, San Francisco, (pre 1945). It had a red tail. This was followed by the "Burlap" by Arnold Arana of, Dunsmuir CA, (1945), using natural brown bucktail for the tail.

## Effective Period

April through October.

## Green Brassie



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Roy Ramdeen, Edmonton, Alberta (1984).

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, sproat, Sizes 8 to 18. Mustad 3399.  
**THREAD:** Green, 8/0.  
**BODY:** Medium to Fine Green Copper Wire.  
**THORAX:** Grey "Hairline" dubbing.  
**HACKLE:** Black Hen.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

For ease of making the wire body, lay a base of tying thread along shank and tie wire to shank to form body. The copper wire body makes this an ideal fly for fishing fast and/or deep water.

### Fishing Note

This is one of my favourites when it comes to searching a riffle or run at a time when no insects are hatching and no trout are rising. As with most soft-hackles, they are easy to tie, and cover a wide spectrum of natural insects.

### Comment

This is a variation of the "brassie" type flies. It was created on the banks of the North Ram River.

### Effective Period

April through late November.

# Holy!! Heemskerk



**TYPE:** Wetfly/Streamer  
**STYLE:** Cranefly Larva  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Michael Heemskerk, Edmonton, Alberta (1995).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Ringed Eye, Sizes 6 to 10. (Mustad 79580 or Diachi 1750).  
**THREAD:** Olive or Black, 8/0.  
**TAIL:** Clump of Olive Rabbit Fur, mixed with 4 strands of Olive Crystal Hair.  
**LEGS:** White Rubber Hackle, 3 pairs, laid horizontally and perpendicular to hook shank.  
**HACKLE:** Webby Grizzly Saddle, sparsely palmered through body.  
**BODY:** Medium size Cowdung Olive Chenille.  
**EYES:** Nickel Plated Lead Eyes, tied on top of hook.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Fishing Note

Very effective on most streams and rivers.

## Comment

*(It is interesting to note that Michael is an accomplished commercial fly tyer and rookie fishing guide at age seventeen -Ed.).*

## Effective Period

All season, peaking mid-July to mid-August.

# Lucky Strike



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Patrick Renaud, Edmonton, Alberta. (1996).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Ringed Eye, Size 8. (Mustad 9674).  
**THREAD:** Black, 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Black Bear Hair. Shank length.  
**RIB:** Medium Gold Oval Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Royal Coachman Red Floss. Cigar shaped.  
**HACKLE:** Grizzly in front of body, followed by Brown in front of grizzly.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Grizzly hackle tips should extend to end of body and brown hackle tips to just past the end of tail. Try body colours of black and olive-green.

## Fishing Note

Favourite for Brookies in lakes.

## Effective Period

All season.

# Swimming San Juan



**TYPE:** Nymph (Larva)  
**STYLE:** Chironomid  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Mark Del Degan, Edmonton, Alberta (1996).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Swimming Nymph/Caddis, Size 6 or 8. (Mustad AC 80150BR).  
**THREAD:** Colour to match body, Size 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Floss, colour same as body.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Mylar Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Single Strand Floss. Red is the preferred colour.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Body: After tying in the floss, tightly twist it into a rope, then wrap it on to form a segmented body. This can be done in several layers until desired body thickness is achieved. Leave a portion of floss extending beyond the head (if desired).

## Fishing Note

In streams use the "dead-drift" method of presentation. In lakes a very, very slow retrieve.

## Comment

The different hook shape represents a more realistic chironomid larva-like, appearance. First tried and proven very successful on the Crowsnest River in 1996.

## Effective Period

April through October.

# *Flies for Alberta*



A selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(Wet Fly Section)

# Mitchell Special



Flies for Alberta - Mitchell Special (J. Mitchell)

W2

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# Tom's Woolly Worm



Flies for Alberta - Tom's Woolly Worm (Norris)

W3

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# Stauffer Special



Flies for Alberta - Stauffer Special (Shea)

W4

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# Scud Missile



Flies for Alberta - Scud Missile (Todd)

W5

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Coachman



Flies for Alberta - Coachman (Bosworth)

W6

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# Roger's Wire Worm



Flies for Alberta - Roger's Wire Worm (Sabourin Jr)

W7

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# Black Gnat



Flies for Alberta - Black Gnat

W8

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Bloody Butcher



Flies for Alberta - Bloody Butcher (Boehme)

W9

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Grizzly King



Flies for Alberta - Grizzly King (Wilson)

W10

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Dusty Miller



Flies for Alberta - Dusty Miller

W11

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

R. A. F.



Flies for Alberta - R, A. F. (Russell)

W12

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Light Cahill Wet



Flies for Alberta - Light Cahill (Cahill)

W13

Copyright © 2007 Reg. G. Denny

# Partridge and Orange



Flies for Alberta - Partridge and Orange (Pritt)

W14

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# Quill Gordon Wet



Flies for Alberta - Quill Gordon Wet (Gordon)

W15

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# Woolly Worm



Flies for Alberta - Woolly Worm (Martinez)

W16

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# Brown Hackle Peacock



Flies for Alberta - Brown Hackle Peacock (Conroy)

W17

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# The Burlap



Flies for Alberta - The Burlap (Halvorsen)

W18

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# Green Brassie



Flies for Alberta - Green Brassie (Ramdeen)

W19

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# Holy!! Heemskerk



Flies for Alberta - Holy!! Heemskerk (Heemskerk)

W20

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# Lucky Strike



Flies for Alberta - Lucky Strike (Renaud)

W21

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# Swimming San Juan



Flies for Alberta - Swimming San Juan (Del Degan)

W22

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# *Flies for Alberta*



A selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(End of Wet Fly Section)

*FLIES for ALBERTA*



Z2



Z3



Z4



Z5



Z6



Z7



Z8



Z9



Z12



Z10



Z11



Z13



Z14



Z15



Z16



Z17



Z18



Z19



Z20



Z21



Z22

*PLATE #5 - ET CÆTERA*

## Section V - Et Cætera

BJ's Folly .....	Z2
Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear .....	Z3
McLeod River Caddis .....	Z4
Zug Bug .....	Z5
Whitefish Jig Fly .....	Z6
Deb's Delight .....	Z7
Lady Caroline .....	Z8
Elk Hair Caddis .....	Z9
Scully's Halfback .....	Z10
Overbead Black Stone .....	Z11
Cobra .....	Z12
Redcliff Caddis .....	Z13
Kara Damsel .....	Z14
Turnbull's Terror .....	Z15
Ginger Hare's Ear .....	Z16
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Popeye .....	Z18
Kelsey's Kure .....	Z19
Tellico Nymph .....	Z20
Leech Streamer .....	Z21
Tom Thumb .....	Z22

# BJ's Folly



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly/Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** (Mrs.) Bernice J. Denny, Edmonton, Alberta. Circa 1985.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, TDE, Size 10. (Mustad 9672).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Barred Wood Duck Flank feather fibres.  
**BODY:** Yellow Silk Floss.  
**LEGS:** Same as tail.  
**WINGCASE:** Barred Mallard Flank fibres.  
**THORAX:** Dyed Yellow Ostrich Herl.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Yellow rayon floss may be used for the body but the dullness of true silk has a distinct advantage.

## Fishing Note

This is an excellent imitation for the small early spring yellow stonefly nymphs and later mayfly nymphs. Deadly in lakes during the mid-season, probably passing as the pale green damselfly nymph..

## Effective Period

April through September.

# Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** David Hemming, Redditch, England (1832).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long, Sizes 12 to 18.  
**THREAD:** Tan.  
**TAIL:** Guard hairs from English hare's ear.  
**RIB:** Fine gold wire.  
**BODY:** Dubbing of English Hare's Ear or Mask.  
**HACKLE:** Brown Barred Partridge, tied beard fashion and sparse.  
**THORAX:** Same as body but picked out.  
**WINGCASE:** Brown Mottled Pheasant Wing.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

There are numerous patterns for the Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear. This one is closest to the original wet fly pattern.

## Fishing Note

G.R.H.E. is used to imitate the mayfly nymphs of Callibaetis, Ephemerella, Leptophlebia, Epourus, Heptagenia, and Rhithrogenia. As well as some stonefly nymphs and caddis larvae. All this makes it one of the best all around nymphs.

## History

The original G.R.H.E. was a wet fly and the modern nymph imitations are but adaptations thereof.

## Effective Period

Mid-February through September.

# McLeod River Caddis



**TYPE:** Nymph (Lava/Pupa)  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Wayne Posyluzny, Edmonton, Alberta (1992).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X or 3X Long, Sizes 14 to 20. (Tiemco TMC 200).  
**THREAD:** Light Brown.  
**BODY:** Light Green Floss or Thread.  
**HACKLE:** Speckled Grouse Tail Fibres (4 or 5).  
**THORAX:** Brass Bead behind Golden Brown Fur dubbing.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Sometimes I cover the brass bead entirely with dubbing and leave off the hackle.

## Fishing Note

Fish "dead drift" but pay attention, as the fish subtly mouths and rejects without the angler knowing. Works well on bright sunny days.

## Comment

Developed specifically for Rocky Mountain Whitefish from stomach analysis taken on the McLeod River.

## Effective Period

Late Spring through Fall.

# Zug Bug



**TYPE:** Nymph (Larva)  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Cliff Zug, Eastern USA.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long, Sizes 8-14.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Three Peacock Herl Tips. Two-thirds of body length.  
**RIB:** Medium to Fine Oval Silver tinsel; seven to five turns.  
**BODY:** Peacock Herl.  
**BEARD:** Furnace Hackle.  
**WING:** Barred Lemon Woodduck fibres. One-third of body length.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Do not let the rib dominate the body.

## Fishing Note

Suggests the larvae of the Rhycofila. Choose the shallower riffles of streams and rivers. Also works quite well as a damselfly nymph in most lakes.

## History

Forerunners to this fly are the Davis Special and Kemp's Bug.

## Effective Period

Mid May through mid September.

# Whitefish Jig Fly



**TYPE:** Wetfly (Jig)  
**STYLE:** Attractor  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** The late James Nelson, Devon, Alberta. Circa 1955.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, TDE, Size 8. (Mustad 3399)  
**HEAD:** Molded Lead Head (1/8 or 1/16 ounce) painted Red.  
**THREAD:** Tan.  
**TAIL:** Golden Pheasant Tippetts.  
**BODY:** Tan Chenille.  
**BEARD:** (Optional) Same as tail.  
**EYES:** (Optional) Painted on head. White with Black Pupil.

## Tying Note

Original pattern used a crimped-on split-shot for the head. Present day variations are tied on small gold jig hooks (Mustad 32755 size 6) with molded lead heads. And are tied in numerous colour combinations.

## Fishing Note

Designed for catching lake whitefish. Attach to a leader of 6 to 8 feet using a clinch knot and position it so that the jig rides point up and at ninety degrees to the leader. Use the spin-float (spinning) or a floating fly line. Retrieve exceptionally slow. Originally was, and still is, used quite successfully as an ice-fishing artificial. Other fish species often oblige.

## History

Mr. Nelson was one of the earlier proponents of angling for lake whitefish in Alberta

## Effective Period

All season.

## Deb's Delight



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Dragonfly/Caddis  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**CONTRIBUTOR:** (Mrs.) Deborah D. Denny, Edmonton, Alberta.

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Sizes 8-12. (Mustad 9674).  
**THREAD:** Black 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Peacock Herl Tips.  
**BODY:** Black seal dubbing.  
**WING:** Pheasant Tail.  
**THORAX:** Black seal dubbing.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

### Tying Note

Body and thorax dubbed using dubbing noodle method.

### Fishing Note

Works quite well as a dragonfly in most lakes.

### Effective Period

May through October.

# Lady Caroline



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. Old English Atlantic Salmon Pattern.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 6X-Long, Sizes 6 to 12.  
**THREAD:** Black or Olive.  
**TAIL:** Golden Pheasant Brick-red Breast Feather fibres.  
**RIB:** Medium Oval Silver Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Dubbing mix of Dark Olive and Light Brown (ratio 1:2).  
**COLLAR:** One Golden Pheasant Brick-red Breast Feather.  
**WING:** Bronze Barred Mallard Flank or Widgeon Flank. Rolled.  
**CHEEK:** Barred Teal Flank (optional).  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Original salmon patterns were tied on up-eye, light-wire, low-water hooks and consisted of small patterns tied on larger hooks (e.g. size 8 pattern on size 6 hook).

## Fishing Note

Especially effective in our mountain parks and the Rocky Mountain eastern slopes; in both flowing and still waters; is good for all species of trout.

## Comment

The above pattern is an adaptation for trout.

## Effective Period

May through October.

## Elk Hair Caddis



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Caddis (Sedge)  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Alfred C. Troth, Muncy, PA (now Dillon, MT). Prior 1975.

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Sizes 8 to 18; Fine; 3X-Long.  
**THREAD:** Tan.  
**RIB:** Fine Gold Wire.  
**HACKLE:** Furnace Neck. palmered over body.  
**BODY:** Hare's Ear Dubbing.  
**WING:** Light Elk Hair.  
**HEAD:** Trimmed Butts of Wing.

### Tying Note

Dark elk hair is often used when imitating the darker caddis. Originally tied on standard dry fly hooks.

### Fishing Note

One of the more effective sedge patterns. Try to match the size of the active insect.

### Effective Period

May through September.

# Scully's Halfback



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Stonefly/Shrimp  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Gene Scully (?-1995), Lethbridge, Alberta. (Circa 1965).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 2X-Long, TDE, Sizes 8 to 12. (Mustad 9671)  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Ginger Hackle fibres. Tied in slightly down the hook bend.  
**BODY:** Three or Four Peacock Eye Herls.  
**WING CASE:** Ringed-Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres. Half shank length.  
**THORAX:** Peacock Eye Herl (not a continuation of body), overwound with Dark Ginger Hackle.  
**HACKLE:** Dark Ginger. Wound over thorax.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

May be weighted. Apply a base of lead or copper wire before dressing body and thorax.

## Fishing Note

Good just about anywhere for all species of trout and grayling. One of its earlier testing grounds was the St. Mary's Reservoir.

## History

Mr. Gene Scully was a prominent angler and fly-tyer from Lethbridge

## Effective Period

All Season.

# Overbead Black Stone



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Stonefly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** John Labrenz, Edmonton, Alberta (1995).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3X-Long, TDE, Size 10. (Mustad 9672).  
**THREAD:** Black, 6/0.  
**BEADHEAD:** Gold Bead, 5/32 of an inch diameter. (Attach first).  
**TAIL:** Grizzly Hackle Fibres, 10 to 12.  
**RIB:** Extra Fine Copper Wire.  
**BODY:** Black Rabbit Dubbing.  
**WINGCASE:** Grey Polypropylene.  
**THORAX:** Same as body.  
**LEGS:** Grizzly Hackle Fibres, 10 to 15 per side.  
**COLLAR:** Chestnut Antron (behind bead).

## Tying Note

When tying in the legs, ensure that when folded back, they extend back 3/4 of, the hook shank. Ideally, the legs should protrude at a 45 to 60 degree angle. The use of polypropylene for the wingcase and antron for the collar is optional, but I find these materials retain air bubbles and result in a more effective pattern. Bodies of Olive, Tan/Brown, or Dark Grey are excellent colour options.

## Fishing Note

Most effectively, fished in a "dead drift" manner or bounced along the bottom.

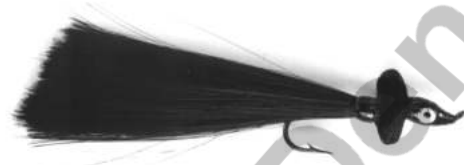
## Comment

Developed in 1995 as an early season pattern for the Crowsnest River. It has since proven itself as an effective stonefly nymph pattern throughout the season; depending on the colour option chosen.

## Effective Period

April through September.

# Cobra



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow (Forage Fish)  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATORS:** Shirley Ann and Rolf Schwabe, Vauxhall, Alberta (1996).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard Salmon, TUE, Size 1/0. (Mustad 36890).  
**THREAD:** Black, Size "A" (Danville Plus-A Monocord).  
**TAIL:** Black, FisHair.  
**BODY:** Black, FisHair.  
**COLLAR:** Black, FisHair.  
**HEAD:** Lacquered Tying Thread.  
**EYES:** Painted on head, black eye on white.

## Tying Note

The collar is achieved by sliding the FisHair along the hook shank and anchoring the front and rear tie-off points.

## Fishing Note

This is a diving style pattern that has proven very effective for Pike. Use a floating line. We recommend pinching the barb down to facilitate quick removal; therefore, hopefully, increasing the life of the fly and the fish (if being released). Use a wire leader to prevent losing your fish due to teeth shearing.

## Comment

Consult colour plate for approximate length (4 inches)

## Effective Period

Spring and Fall when pike are frequenting the shallows.

## Redcliff Caddis



**TYPE:** Larva/Pupa  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Walter L. Lawson, Redcliff, Alberta.

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, Sproat Bend, Sizes 8 to 10. (Mustad 3906).  
**THREAD:** Dark Olive or Dark Green.  
**BODY:** A woven two-colour body of Antron. Back of Dark Olive; Belly of Yellow.  
**BEARD:** Barred Woodduck Flank fibres. Or dyed Mallard substitute.  
**THORAX:** Dark Brown Dubbing.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Tyers should have some knowledge of weaving before attempting this pattern. Body shape (taper) usually achieved by constructing an under body of light coloured floss or thread.

### Fishing Note

Primarily used for drifting streams and rivers. Can be used in lakes with a floating line and an emerging caddis retrieve (a repeating, let sink-fast strip sequence).

### Comment

For in-depth information on weaving trout flies, consult George F. Grant's "The Master Fly Weaver".

### Effective Period

Mid-June through mid-September.

# Kara Damsel



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Damselfly  
**CLASS:** Realistic

**CONTRIBUTOR:** (Mrs.) Kara Frohn, Edmonton, Alberta.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Size 8,10,12; 4XL; Ringed Eye.  
**THREAD:** Green or olive.  
**TAIL:** Amheerst Pheasant Crest, Length of hook shank.  
**BODY:** Moss Green or Insect Green Floss.  
**RIB:** Clipped Grizzly Saddle twisted with fine gold wire. Five turns.  
**WING CASE 1:** Barred Mallard Flank dyed olive. Tie in ahead of body and leave lying back over body until thorax and legs are completed.  
**THORAX:** Bronzed Peacock Herl (sun bleached).  
**LEGS:** Three turns of Grizzly Hackle, wound over thorax.  
**WING CASE 2:** Bring wing case forward over thorax and legs and tie off.  
**COLLAR:** About four turns of Peacock herl ahead of wing case.  
**HEAD:** Tying thread.

## Tying Note

Body colours of olive, brown or amber may be used but medium green is the most consistent. Dyed red golden pheasant tippet maybe used for the tail.

## Fishing Note

Quite effective wherever damselflies are present, especially during peak hatching periods when there is a mass migration of the nymphs towards the reeds etc.

## History

Kara Frohn does not tie flies but this pattern was tied by her father in commemoration of her birth (1960).

## Effective Period

June through September; peaking July - August

## Turnbull's Terror



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** The late Mr. Fred Turnbull, Edmonton, Alberta.  
Submitted by Mr. Peter Mapplebeck, Stony Plain, Alberta.

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, TDE, Size 8. (Mustad 33960).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Dyed Red Duck Wing Quill fibres.  
**BODY:** Medium Brown Wool.  
**BEARD:** Ringed-Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres, to point of hook.  
**WING:** Ringed-Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres, to two-thirds of tail.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

Various shades of brown wool may be used for the body. And, of course, pheasant tail markings being seldom consistent, makes this an excellent search pattern.

### Fishing Note

Primarily, a trout pattern for lakes but the smaller sizes are very productive on streams or rivers, especially during high water conditions.

### Comment

Mr. Turnbull was an active promoter of fly-fishing and fly-tying in the Edmonton area.

### Effective Period

June through October.

# Ginger Hare's Ear



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Walter L. Lawson, Redcliff, Alberta (1996).

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, Sproat Bend, Size 8. (Mustad 3906).  
**THREAD:** Brown 6/0.  
**TAIL:** Brown Rabbit Guard Hairs.  
**RIB:** Small Oval Gold Tinsel.  
**BODY:** Dubbing, Golden Stone Blend (Kaufmann).  
**WINGCASE:** Pheasant Tail fibres.  
**THORAX:** Same as body; picked or brushed out.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

*(If Kaufmann dubbing is unavailable, try a dark ginger dubbing- Ed.).*

## Fishing Note

For stream, river, or lake.

## Effective Period

April through September.

# Long Green Shrimp



**TYPE:** Wetfly  
**STYLE:** Scud/Shrimp  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown (1966). Submitted by Ron Sohnle, Edmonton, Alberta.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Nymph, 3 or 4 X-Long, Size 8. (Mustad 9672 or 79580).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** R/N Pheasant Centre Tail Fibres (15-20). Tie in securely, at start of hook bend. Do not clip off butts, they are to be used as the full-back later.  
**PALMER:** Reddish Brown Hackle wound from tail to head around body (7-9 turns).  
**BODY:** Several Peacock herls closely wrapped from tail to head.  
**BACK:** Butts from tail material brought forward full length of body.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Use a dark wool underbody if a thicker body is desired.

## Fishing Note

This fly works in a wide variety of circumstances on both lakes and streams. It seems suggestive of various aquatics throughout the season. Most effectively fished by casting, letting sink, then stripping. Also effective if just trolled.

## Comment

Although listed as originator unknown; this fly existed in the late 1950's and was published in the B.C. Sportsman, by an Albertan as the "Nymph Albertan" in 1967.

## Effective Period

All season.

# Popeye



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Minnow  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** John Matthews, Sherwood Park, Alberta. Circa 1985.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, 4X-Long, Ringed Eye, Size 6.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Small amount of Fine Black Hair from Whitetail Deer Tail.  
**BASE:** Black tying thread.  
**RIB:** Red tying thread, wound over black base.  
**BODY:** Small Pearlescent Braided Tubing, applied over the red ribbing, then over-wound with 3 turns (full length of body) of black thread.  
**WING:** Fine Black or Brown Hair from a Whitetail Deer Tail.  
**EYES:** Small Gold or Silver Bead Chain. Tied securely atop hook shank.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Make sure the hair on the top of the hook is kept thin. Before using, try it in the water to make sure it rides level. If it tips to the side it becomes less effective. You may have too much hair on the top.

## Fishing Note

Work with quite a fast jerking motion. I have had terrific results with this streamer on brookies, rainbows and splake.

## Effective Period

Anytime.

## Kelsey's Kure



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Stonefly/Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Impressionistic

**ORIGINATOR:** Kelsey Kure, Innisfail, Alberta. Circa 1984.

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Wet fly, Sproat Bend, Turned Down Eye, Size 8 or 10.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Two Black Goose Biots, shank length.  
**RIB:** Black Ostrich Herl.  
**BODY:** Black Floss.  
**HACKLE:** Black Neck, wound over thorax, two turns.  
**THORAX:** Red Wool.  
**WING:** Two Black Goose Biots, tied low, atop body, and extending to end of body.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Fishing Note

*(Probably imitates the many medium black stonefly nymphs that range throughout Alberta but could well pass as a black mayfly nymph. A very consistent producer in any water harbouring trout and grayling.- Ed.).*

### History

*(This fly is from Reg Denny's fly collection. It was presented (mailed) to Reg by Kelsey in 1985 who was then age eleven. In seeking current contributors we were unable to contact Mr. Kure; so Reg decided to submit it on his behalf - Ed.).*

### Effective Period

Mid-May through mid-September.

# Tellico Nymph



**TYPE:** Nymph  
**STYLE:** Mayfly  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Rev. Edwin T. Dalhouse, Tennessee, USA.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard wet fly, Sproat bend, Sizes 10 to 14.  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Guinea Hen Body Feather fibres.  
**WINGCASE:** Ringed Neck Cock Pheasant Tail fibres, tied full-back.  
**RIB:** Peacock Eye Herl.  
**BODY:** Yellow Wool. Tapered but rather stout.  
**HACKLE:** Medium Natural Brown Hackle tied folded fashion.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

Use pure wool if available, although many variations of yarns and dubbings are used. Tie herl ribbing in by the butt for a more durable rib. Original body was natural unwashed wool.

## Fishing Note

In Alberta this nymph probably represents some of the smaller pale yellow (or cream) stonefly nymphs.

## History

This nymph takes its name from the once famous Tellico River in south eastern Tennessee, USA.

## Effective Period

Mid-March through Late August.

## Leech Streamer



**TYPE:** Streamer  
**STYLE:** Baitfish  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Mr. Arthur Graham (1908-1995), SV Edmonton Beach, Alberta.  
Submitted by Mr. Peter Mapplebeck, Stony Plain, Alberta.

### Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Streamer, Sproat Bend, 4X-Long, Size 6. (Mustad 33960).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**RIB:** Medium Oval Silver tinsel.  
**BODY:** Black Wool (not synthetic).  
**BEARD:** Dyed Red Duck Pointer Quill fibres. One-quarter inch long.  
**WING:** Black Marabou. Twice shank length.  
**OVER WING:** A stub of Peacock Eye Herls. One-half inch long.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

### Tying Note

A gold tinsel rib is a good alternative.

### Fishing Note

Quite effective in all methods of lake fishing.

### Comment

Mr. Graham was an ardent fly-fisher and very involved in associated activities.

### Effective Period

All season.

# Tom Thumb



**TYPE:** Dryfly  
**STYLE:** Caddis  
**CLASS:** Suggestive

**ORIGINATOR:** Unknown. Western Canada.

## Pattern Information

**HOOK:** Standard dry fly, Sizes 8 to 14. (Mustad 94840/42).  
**THREAD:** Black.  
**TAIL:** Natural Deer Body Hair. Shank length.  
**BODY, BACK,**  
**COLLAR:** Starting at a predetermined (two eye-lengths back from eye) body Point, tie in a clump of deer hair, 3/16" in diameter and three times the shank length. Now bind down well to start of tail and bring forward over body (back) and spin the deer hair tips to form the collar.  
**HEAD:** Tying Thread.

## Tying Note

It is a relatively easy fly to tie but you will have to tie a few to get the hang of it.

## Fishing Note

This is one of the better caddis imitations for all modes of water. The best presentation is quartering down stream; takes most often occur during the crosscurrent swing. Deer hair being rather fragile, does not stand up well to continuous or rough use, so have a few on hand.

## Effective Period

June through September.

# *Flies for Alberta*



A selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(Et Cætera Section)

# BJ's Folly



Flies for Alberta - BJ's Folly (B. Denny)

Z2

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# Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear



Flies for Alberta - Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear (Hemming)

Z3

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# McLeod River Caddis



Flies for Alberta - McLeod River Caddis (Posyluzny)

Z4

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# Zug Bug



Flies for Alberta - Zug Bug (Zug)

Z5

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# Whitefish Jig Fly



Flies for Alberta - Whitefish Jig Fly (Nelson)  
Z6

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# Deb's Delight



Flies for Alberta - Deb's Delight (O'Neil)

Z7

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# Lady Caroline



Flies for Alberta - Lady Caroline

Z8

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# Elk Hair Caddis



Flies for Alberta - Elk Hair Caddis (Troth)

Z9

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# Scully's Halfback



Flies for Alberta - Scully's Halfback (Scully)

Z10

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# Overbead Black Stone

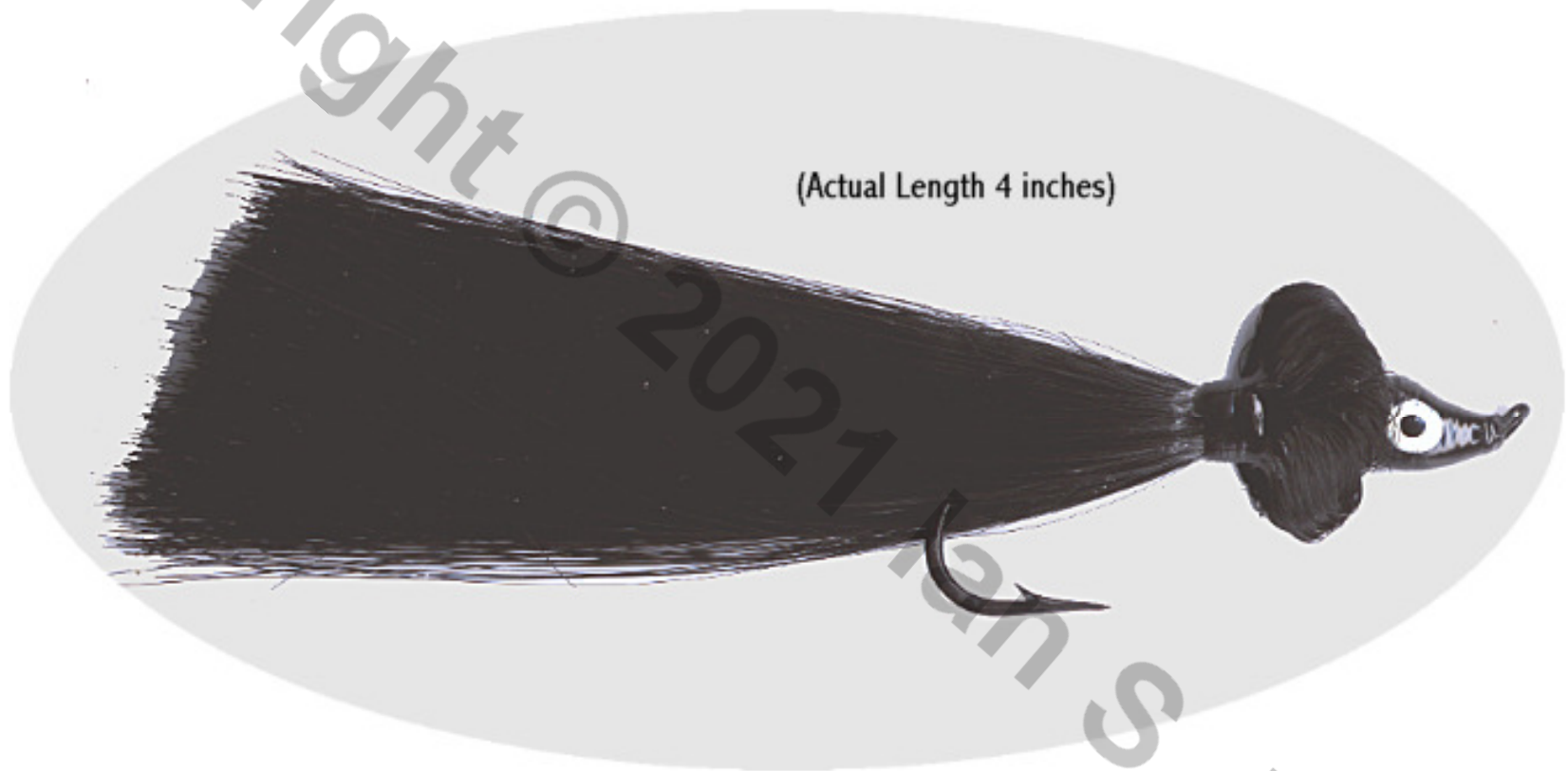


Flies for Alberta - Overbead Black Stone (Labrenz)

Z11

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# Cobra



Flies for Alberta - Cobra (Schwabe)

Z12

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# Redcliff Caddis



Flies for Alberta - Redcliff Caddis (Lawson)

Z13

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# Kara Damsel



Flies for Alberta - Kara Damsel (Frohn)

Z14

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# Turnbull's Terror



Flies for Alberta - Turnbull's Terror (Turnbull)

Z15

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# Ginger Hare's Ear



Flies for Alberta - Ginger Hare's Ear (Lawson)

Z16

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# Long Green Shrimp



Flies for Alberta - Long Green Shrimp (Sohnle)

Z17

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# Popeye



Flies for Alberta - Popeye (Matthews)

Z18

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# Kelsey's Kure



Flies for Alberta - Kelsey's Kure (Kure)

Z19

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# Tellico Nymph



Flies for Alberta - Tellico Nymph (Dalhouse)

Z20

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# Leech Streamer



Flies for Alberta - Leech Streamer (Graham)

Z21

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# Tom Thumb



Flies for Alberta - Tom Thumb

Z22

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# *Flies for Alberta*



A selection of flies for Alberta  
and surrounding areas

(End of Et Cætera Section)

# Conclusion

Of course there are hundreds of fly patterns, old and new, that work quite effectively in Alberta and surely many more will follow as the angling future unfolds. The attempt here is to provide a good starting point for fly tyers or anglers; who for whatever reason are new to the aspects of fly fishing in the province of Alberta and its surrounding areas. Most of the fly patterns in this volume are of Alberta origin or recommended by Albertans; that alone, suggests there is something of interest to everyone.

It is only fair to state that many of the contributed flies herein are not readily available, especially from commercial sources. This poses no problem if you are a tyer, if you are not, then maybe you can ask a fly tyer friend to oblige, or seek the services of a custom tyer. Direct contact with the contributors is another possibility but would require some delving on your part; since, for various reasons, their specific addresses are not given. The publisher, although a vendor of flies, does not take responsibility for supplying any of the contributors patterns, except those that are currently on the market. Commercial aspects would have to be taken up directly with the contributors.

This undertaking has really been a pleasurable experience and again we sincerely thank all those who gave their valuable input.

The Editors

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