

FLY OF THE MONTH: *Black Foam Beetle*

It is late summer and early fall and the foam beetle is the perfect terrestrial fly pattern. Over my many years of fly tying I have tied many different forms of the foam beetle and most all are effective but the pattern described here has become one of my favorites. And most importantly it is quick and east to tie.

Recipe:

Hook: Dai-Riki 300 size #14 (preferred) or Tiemco 100, size #12 - #14

Thread: 6/0 black

Underbody: Peacock herl

Body: Black 2mm foam

Legs: Fine black rubber legs, Montana Mini Legs or BRF Legs

Indicator: Narrow strip of bright foam or cylindrical foam post trimmed



Tying Instructions:

1. Crush down hook barb .
2. At the hook eye, tie-in the tying thread.
3. Cut a piece of the leg material and make a loop extending over the eye and extending rearward a hook length longer than the hook forming two rear legs.
4. Tie in at eye and wrap tying down the leg material on top of the hook shank and wrap back up to behind the eye and trim off front loop.
4. Cut a piece of foam 1/4 inch in width and snip end in a dart profile and tie in behind the eye. Wrap the tying thread rearward over the foam and slightly down the hook bend. Then, wrap the tying thread forward up to behind the eye tying down the foam.
5. Select 5 or 6 peacock herls and trim off about 1 inch. Tie in and wrap the tying thread to the bend covering the herl. Do not trim.
6. With the peacock herls behind the thread, wrap the peacock underbody forward to behind the eye. Tie down and trim.
7. Fold the foam body forward over the peacock underbody and tie down about a quarter body length behind the hook eye with three tight turns of thread. Add the bright spot indicator with 3 more tight turns. Trim foam head to just in front of the hook eye and whip finish.
8. For the front legs cut 2 pieces of leg material and slip one piece down between the body and indicator and the second piece down between the foam body and the front of the indicator. No need to tie-in or cement. Trim legs to body length.