

FOTM: Arrick's Parachute Ant

Trout love ants and I have had big trout move a considerable distance to take an ant from the surface. Arrick's Fly Shop, in West Yellowstone, provides this recipe for a parachute ant pattern. It can be tied with a body of ginger variant Antron or black. For many years while I was in West Yellowstone, I would stop by Arrick's shop to see what he was tying. Back then, his shop was about the width of the parking space out in front and his drift boat usually took up that space.



Recipe:

Hook: Tiemco 100 or similar in sizes #14 - #16

Thread: 6/0 red for the ginger variant or 6/0 black for the black version

Rear and front body: Gingers variant Antron dubbing or black Antron dubbing for the black version

Parachute post: White Para Post or white McFlylon

Hackle: Ginger dry fly for ginger variant or black for the black version

Tying Instructions:

1. Crush down the hook barb.
2. Attach the tying thread behind the hook eye and wrap rearward to the hook bend.
3. Dub the tying thread with the Antron dubbing and build the rear portion of the body or rear ball at the hook bend.
4. Wrap the tying thread forward in touching wraps covering the hook shank ending in the thorax area.
5. Double the post material and tie it in on top of the hook shank in the thorax position.
6. Wrap around the post with horizontal thread wraps at the same time securing the prepared stem of the hackle. Go up a little higher with the wraps so that there will be clearance between the front portion of the body and the parachute hackle.
7. Around the base of the post, build the front body ball using X wraps of dubbing.
8. Wrap the hackle downward around the post creating the parachute hackle. Tie off at the hook eye and whip finish.
9. Go fishing