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Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : Tandem combinations

Re: Tandem combinations

Author: : Wulff-Man

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URL:

I'm with Coughlin on the hook-up thing. When I first started using the dropper combo tied off the hook bend I wondered about this, but I don't think it's a problem. I also usually use a smaller diameter tippet for the dropper.

I'm with afishinado on the fly selection - use whatever makes sense based on the hatch or what you think might work, like you would if just using a single fly. If caddis are hatching, drop a caddis emerger or pupa from an elk hair. If BWOs are hatching, drop a BWO nymph or emerger from a BWO dry. If nothing's hatching and you like royal wulffs and BHPTs, use them together. Drop a midge pupa from a griffiths gnat. Or a san juan worm from a humpy. The only restriction is that the top fly must be bouyant enough not to be pulled under by the dropper. You can also use 2 nymphs in combination.

As far as technique, just tie the dropper tippet, as long as you want it (usually about 18 to 24 inches) to the bend of the hook with a clinch knot. To use afishinado's method, tie the lead fly on with an extra 18" to 24" tag end on the tippet, and tie the dropper to this. Or tie the dropper tippet through the eye of the lead fly (if there's enough space for 2 tippet sections).