Subject: : Fly Tying
Topic: : Foam Beetle
Re: Foam Beetle
Author: : afishinado
Date: : 2007/7/18 11:44:23
URL:

I read your first post and saw that you are using rubber legs for your foam beetles – that works. I used to tie my beetles with something called “leg stuff” which was essentially stiff black mono. They looked good and were durable, but I thought the stiff legs hurt my hooking percentage so I switched back to rubber (more movement with rubber too).

I also see that you tie a wet ant as a dropper (great combo for summer BTW). A lot of FFers disagree with me, but I seem to have a better hooking percentage when I tie the dropper to the eye of the hook. My theory is that when the fish hits the fly, the fly is sometimes pushed away from the fish by the line that’s attached to the bend. My hooking percentage seems to go up with the dropper attached up front.

The third thing I have not solution for; as the fish are caught and become more wary, they short strike or reject the fly in an instant. They learn the game! I may be crazy, but my hooking percentage goes down in streams with heavily pressured fish. Since you are now using the beetle most the time, maybe its the fish and not the fly type causing you to miss.

Dude, you fish Valley a lot. Think back - what is your hooking percentage there, versus a lightly fished wild trout stream? Those Valley fish hit and are gone in an instant, while on a more remote and lightly fished wild trout streams, I sometimes have to switch to a larger fly because the fish take the fly too deeply.

Has anyone else ever noticed that?