

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Skitter ?????

Re: Skitter ?????

Author: : Fishidiot

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URL:

To "skitter" a fly just means to pull it along the surface. Skittering is only done with dry flies. Normally, one would fish dry flies dead drift meaning that the fly drifts at the same speed as the current. It's done this way simply because most natural bugs in the surface drift this way. However, some insects, especially caddisflies and small stoneflies are quite active on the surface and they sort of dance around on the surface by wingbeats, sometimes lifting off the surface here and there. Imagine a flock of geese taking flight off a lake - in effect, they "skitter" before getting airborne. So skittering a fly merely means to impart some action so your dry fly moves across the surface like an active insect. This is usually done by stripping line or perhaps just twitching your rod tip a few inches.