

Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Answer to the age old "What flies?"

Re: Answer to the age old "What flies?"

Author: : MKern

Date: : 2010/4/9 9:06:05

URL:

jreichel,

Your basic list is good.

However, my point is there are a flood of posts on this forum (many by 1 time posters)(some by newbies) that are in a panic and want fly advise.

And they all get the same, if not very similar, answers.

A simple scan of the fly bins at a fly shop (because they all carry the same flies) is all that's really needed.

For example, when I pull up to a stream and am rigging my rod. I flip open my fly box and put on 2-3 flies. These flies make sense to me because I've fished for awhile, but they are pretty common sence; especially if they are generic patterns.

This is why they have generic patterns and why generic patterns work.

I hate hearing, "Well March Browns are hatching, so I tied on a size 12 GRHE." Because a GRHE is not a match for a March Brown, substitute possibly, but not an imitation.

I prefer to closely imitate many mayfly species, so I study the bugs (pictures and live) and tie accordingly. However, I use generic patterns too, after all, they all work! In a 3 nymph rig, I usually have 1 completely generic, one "hybrid" if you will (generic, with modifications), and hatch specific. I don't know if the hatch specific fly catches more, because I don't keep track, but I'm guessing certain days it does and certain days it doesn't. Overall, it probably comes out even.

I have fished during intense sulphur hatches and caught all fish on a size 10 bead head flashback PT, but right behind is was a pretty good (IMO) sulphur nymph and in front a decent sulphur emerger.

(This could lead to me talknig about reaction and fly order, but it won't).