

Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : Leaders for Nymphing Re: Leaders for Nymphing

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Greenweenie,

But you can get away with a lot less tippet if there is no taper below the indi. Yes, surface waters are faster than bottom water. However, if the line is thicker near the surface and thinner at the bottom, that only enhances the effect, as the surface water puts more pressure on the line. It's not so much the diameter of the tippet, its the consistency of that diameter, the line has to interact with it all evenly.

Still, your point about the difference in speed between surface and bottom holds, and it's especially meaningful when using indicators, as the indi has a lot of resistance and goes with the surface water. Too long a tippet only delays the inevitable by putting some slack between the indi and the fly. That slack is bad, it means you'll miss a lot of fish. Instead, try "checking" the float. That just means moving it upstream periodically to put it back over the fly. It takes some practice in different water types to figure out how often and how much, but if you get it, you can maintain better contact between the nymph and indi and still reduce drag at the same time.

A good way to get good at it is when the fishing sucks, put on a highly visible fly. Glo-bugs, etc. Something you can see so you can get a feel for how far to check the indi.