Subject: : Fly Tying
Topic: : Good hooks for small flies?
Re: Good hooks for small flies?
Author: : afishinado
Date: : 2007/1/6 8:18:41
URL:

BJ,
I use Tiemco (TMC) hooks almost exclusively. I used to tie with Mustad when I first started tying flies, and found that they tend to break easier, aren't as sharp out of the box, and rust quicker. For small flies, #20 or smaller, I use TMC 100 or TMC 2487. The 100's are standard dry fly hooks, and the 2487's are scud/pupa hooks with a curved shank The 2487 have a 2x wide gap for the hook size, and are 2x short. They work well, especially for midge pupa. The 2457 is the same hook as the 2487, except it has heavier wire. I don't think the 2457 is made in smaller sizes.

The biggest problem with small hooks is that they pull out of the fish much easier because they only hold a small part of flesh in the fishes mouth. I don't understand when people say that they bend or break the hooks on a fish when using small hooks. You must use 6x tippet or lighter for these hooks, and the tippet usually breaks or the hook pulls out before the hook fails – at least that's my experience with TMC. You must ease up on the pressure, as Sandfly said, or stop fishing in places that hold those big fish. If you give up on those hog holes, just PM me with the location. I'd be glad to go in there and take care of them.

Good luck.