

Subject: : Mayflies (Order: Ephemeroptera )

Topic: : Blue Wing Olive (BWO) - Drunella lata - First Fork - Potter County

Re: Blue Wing Olive (BWO) - Drunella lata - First Fork - Potter County

Author: : pcray1231

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URL:

I'd also point out to beginners that BWO is one case where our common name for bugs is insufficient. Sometimes, a common name refers to only one species, or at the very least, several species in only 1 genus. And in those cases I think it's sufficient to say March Brown, Green Drake, or whatever.

But with BWO, you have at least 2 genus's. Drunella and Baetis. And the characteristics of the bugs are VERY different, from stream type, substrate type, time of year, time of day, hatching characteristics, etc. In fact, nothing is really the same except the basic color pattern. And that makes it confusing for a lot of people. They read and hear about people trying to catch the "BWO" hatch on the spring creeks in March, and then more people talking about "BWO's" on a wider variety of streams with spinner falls in late June. TOTALLY different hatches! I can understand the confusion and wish that the common name wasn't the same.

P.S. Sandfly, Drunella's have 3 tails. Think you may have a Baetis.