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Subject: : Hatch and Entomology Forum

Topic: : ID Help Please

Re: ID Help Please

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URL:

Eh, as far as the imitation, size is usually important. But color, not quite as much. I find a number of factors much more important. Stuff like how they emerge, how long they float as duns, and when they will return as spinners. You nail down the species or at least genus, and loads of useful info becomes available. Partially for getting the right imitation. But more for when to target the stream, whether to look for risers in slower or faster water, where to expect the nymphs, etc.

I guess I'm with dryflyguy here. I'm going with a *Paralep* of some sort (blue quills). The species most commonly associated with blue quills in PA are *adoptiva* (April time frame) and *mollis* and *guttata* (June typically). There are a lot of species though, and several are reported in the fall. For example, troutnut says *debilis* is locally abundant in the East and occurs mainly in the fall. I've never seen one, nor is there a picture for comparison. Descriptors all fit.

For the entire genus, the nymphs swim to the surface and float a ways, before emerging onto the surface and floating a ways more before taking to the air. Floating nymphs are effective, as are emergers and duns, you kinda have to judge what the fish are doing. Nymphs are crawlers, but unlike most crawlers, are pretty good swimmers and will be found in both fast and slow water. Spinner behavior is species specific.

So if that ID is correct, not a ton can be gleaned from genus specific traits, they're pretty standard mayflies. I'd just point out not to forget about emergers and floating nymphs for them. If you struggle with duns, give it a shot, they might be keying on nymphs just before they emerge.