Subject: : Mayflys (Order: Ephemeroptera)
Topic: : Cream Cahill - Maccafferitium Interpuncatatum
Re: One from last year
Author: : pcray1231
Date: : 2012/4/17 21:03:27
URL:

haha, I think Maurice missed the point.

I'll be the first to admit I struggle to get beyond the genus. This is a maccaffertium genus. That fits all the cahills and march browns, they are closely related. I think Maurice is right on species, but am less sure of that. It wouldn't shock me if someone told me it was a March Brown, in fact, I started a thread where I misidentified a cahill and called it a March Brown. Sandfly corrected me.

2 tails, mottled wings, large/obvious hind wing.

Which kind of brings up another point. There's quite a few genus's that fit this description! Another marker to throw in there is the barred legs. I wish I had a nice list of which genus's/species have it and which ones don't. But I do know that it's pretty much on all in the maccaffertium genus, and it's also a very common genus in PA. Thus, when I see the 2 tails, mottled wings, and large hind wing, then barred legs, I usually check if it fits in maccafertium and rarely have to go beyond that.

Anyway, between march brown and light cahill, anyone have any "hard" biological markers? Generally, the cahills have more of a yellowish tint in the body, wing and tails, whereas March Browns are more brownish. But there's so much variation in color between individuals, it's not a reliable marker.