Subject: : Hatch and Entomology Forum
Topic: : Spinner fall
Re: Spinner fall
Author: : Chaz
Date: : 2012/4/24 8:29:23
URL:

The easiest way to see spinners in the air while you are fishing is to look up toward the sky periodically toward a light source, sometimes they are a couple hundred feet up, but if there are a lot of them you'll see the clouds. Disclaimer, don't look into the sun.

Also pay attention to what is happening over the riffles, often the spinners are flying within 5 to 6 feet of the water over the riffles when they start laying eggs. If you see these bug over riffles change you fly to the appropriate spinner pattern. Trout recognize the spinners on the water immediately and because the spinners don't escape the surface, the trout chow down until they are gone.

You will most definitely see this behavior during the trico season as the tricos start falling on the water. When you first arrive at dawn you likely see spinners over the sunny areas of the stream, then as the sun rises they spread out and during the mating flight you see them getting lower over the water until at last there are large concentrations over the riffles laying eggs and falling spent on the riffles.

Trout bunch up at the lower end of riffles during the spinnerfall because the largest concentrations of spinners are available to the trout at the ends of riffles. Look for the gulping rise and bubbles on the water where you see the rise and you'll know when the spinners are on the water.

One last thing, not all spinners are equal, they don't all fly upstream in the mating flight just before dropping on the water, for sure GD's do. But some fly up into trees, March Browns do this and they may stay there for a day doing whatever mayflies do before they come out of the trees enmass again to lay eggs and die. Know the differences of the sexes too, because not all spinners of the same species are the same color.