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Subject: : Hatch and Entomology Forum

Topic: : Dave Wolf's Sept-Oct 'Cream Cahill'

Re: Dave Wolf's Sept-Oct 'Cream Cahill'

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URL:

A lot of the light/cream cahill species hatch sporadically for months, starting in May/June and ending in Sept/Oct.

They all fall in 3 genus's.

Stenacron. Only 1 species. interpunctatum. And I believe this is a shorter lived species, ending in Aug.

Stenenoma. Only 1 species. femoratum. May-Sept. Generally a warmwater bug.

Maccaffertium. This is the super genus for cahills. Some 17 species, most are present in PA. Troutnut isn't the end-all, be-all for timing, but for what it's worth, the only one they list as lasting into October is mediopunctatum, while they have multiple species ending in Sept.

For what it's worth, it's possible that Wolfe was referring to bugs that aren't classically described as "cahills". Common names are often locally specific or outright misused, and some authors go by the imitation to use rather than the bug itself. This makes common name ID's troublesome if you actually care to figure out the species, but it's often fine if you just want to catch fish. Personally, the mayflies I run into most in Sept.-Oct are BWO's (mostly baetis tricaudatis, I think) and the "little blue dun/tiny BWO" (previously pseudocloeon carolina, now acentrella turbida). Both could fit the size 18 just fine and I've seen both with tannish bodies before. Likewise, crane flies can be abundant in the fall. And a size 18 cahill would probably do fine to imitate all of the above.