

Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : Fishing during the spawn

Re: Fishing during the spawn

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Eggs change color depending on a host of factors. Age, whether or not they're fertile, water chemistry, etc.

The most typical color for natural trout eggs would be a pale orange. Cream, orange, and pink (salmon) are common colors, as is a pale chartreuse. In general, these seem to work best for me on the imitations. I like a mix of these colors too, for instance a "scrambled eggs" is typically a combination of at least 2 of the above colors marbled together. An egg selection should be based on these base colors.

Sometimes, in the nature of trout fishing, something a little more out there seems to work. Hotter, fully opaque colors, like blood red, aren't unusual, and in great lakes fisheries are often favored in colored water as they show up better. Also, paler colored flies with some hot colors in them (blood dots), get some use. Some get a little shiny, either with reflective material (estaz and the like) or putting beadheads on the egg flies. And often off the wall colors like blue and purple work. Have a smattering of this kind of thing.

Start with the base. If it ain't working, change up the colors often, and observe what is happening that day.

Size matters, but like colors, it ain't always logical. Real eggs are about the size of a bb. But often clumped together as skein. Vary sizes like you do colors. Often, I go smaller in clear, spooky fish situations, and bigger in high or off color water, or when dealing with very aggressive fish.