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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Morning Hatch??

Re: Morning Hatch??

Author: : pcray1231

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URL:

To be honest, if you want to just catch fish without a billion flies, forget about getting a different pattern for cahill, quill gordon, sulfur, etc.

The main difference between species is color and size. Size matters, color USUALLY not as much. The Adams was a great invention. It's not an actual type of bug, but rather a color used to imitate all of the above. You can easily get away with different sizes and patterns of Adams'. If you want to get more specific colors later, the Adams' is pretty dark, so do the same with a lighter colored fly. This whole thing about matching color perfectly is more because it's fun for us, not because it's necessary to catch fish!

Pheasant tails for the nymphs, Adams' for the adults. If you have that in the right size and pattern type, you can reasonably match any mayfly in PA.

But patterns, that is important. An emerger has most of the body UNDER the water, with just the wing protruding above the surface. A dun sits high and dry, with legs and tail touching, and the wings upright. They are fairly active too, so being able to skate it around a little helps. A spinner is full body in the surface film, and wings splayed directly to the sides.

As long as you know what you're trying to do, you can make various patterns do what you want. For instance, a parachute is kind of a jack of all trades, master of none. Wings are upright like a dun, but the body is in the water. If the fish aren't overly picky, by varying floatant and such you can make this do everything. Or some do a catskill tie. It's a dun pattern, but you can trim the top and bottom and make it a spinner!!!

So you can get as exact as you want, and will eventually, because it's fun. But you can get away with only 2 patterns for mayflies. A pheasant tail for the nymph, and a parachute adams for emergers, duns, and spinners. Play with floatants and stuff to make those do what you want them to.