

Subject: : Fly Tying

Topic: : Dry flies without hackle

Re: Dry flies without hackle

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Date: : 2013/7/12 22:14:15

URL:

floating has a lot to do with materials used besides the hackle, and how you use them. Some synthetic dubbings don't absorb water as much as some natural furs. Stiff tailing fibers tend to support the fly in the surface tension better than soft ones, etc....i use a pattern during the sulphur hatch that has no wound hackle, just wing quill fibers tied in sort of a comparadun style. works great, but wont float forever either.

You are on the right track with the foam ant. deer hair is buoyant, but not near the tips, which are solid. on small flies, we usually end up just using the tips, and don't get much buoyancy. And for what its worth...sunken ants can be fantastic.

keep at it, and don't feel like you need 10 different hackles, a grizzly will be fine for whatever you want to tie.