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Subject: : Gear Talk

Topic: : Furled Leaders

Re: Furled Leaders

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Let me begin by saying I am no expert, but. I began furling leaders this year after much research. There is not a lot of good information on the web. I first started by hand furling which produced something less than I was expecting. I then tried using the boards already mentioned. The method of laying it out, taking it off the board to twist with a drill, hanging weights and swapping back and forth to twist different legs was slow, frustrating, and the consistency was horrible. Then I salvaged some gears from an old vcr and with a couple scraps of wood I made a gear box powered by a drill to twist both legs at the same time. It is easy to use, fast, and produces uniform and consistent leaders. The best and worst thing about furled leaders is they are infinitely customizable by length, thickness, percent of taper, and percent of reduction or the tightness of the furl. I would humbly suggest that those who have had bad experiences with furled leaders just had the wrong leader for their casting abilities, rod action, and a host of other variables. The only way to fine tune your leader to you is to make them and experiment with them. I have made hundreds with various material. I find that the thread does not matter as much as the slope and reduction factors. all thread can be made more supple or stiffer simply by the amount of twists and the degree of taper. When I get the chance Ill post pictures of my board. It can be made in one rainy afternoon for next to no cost depending on what you have laying around.