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Subject: : Hatch and Entomology Forum

Topic: : The Mayfly Stages of Life 101

Re: The Mayfly Stages of Life 101

Author: : pcray1231

Date: : 2014/2/11 14:13:52

URL:

Quote:

The article describes mayfly emerger's wings, while drying, as drab gray in color. This suggest, using only grayish materials for tying emerger patterns.

Varies a little by species, but we use the color "dun" generally. We have light duns, dark duns, etc.

Quote:

Is the trailing shuck, clear/grey or will it have a slight coloration?

Again, varies, but generally a clearish whitish gray. Think flaky dry skin, perhaps a little more reflective than human flaky dry skin.

Quote:

Pictures of duns show mayflies with colored wings. When do the wings take on coloration?

Many are tinged shades of dun, or grayish. Some can be a bit more colored.

They take it on slowly after molting. At all lifestages a mayfly molts, i.e. leaves the previous stage's exoskeleton behind. It happens from nymph-->dun obviously, but also from dun-->spinner. Shortly after the molt the wings are usually a lighter grayish/dunnish shade. As the wings stiffen into shape they slowly take on their final color over a period of hours or even days.