
Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : limestone streams

Re: limestone streams

Author: : Fishidiot

Date: : 2015/1/6 10:38:53

URL:

Quote:

atticus wrote:

I fished primarily tandem nymphs , usually a scud or cress bug with a zebra midge. Any advice on techniques for this type of steam would be most helpful.

Your fly choice was fine. Your experience is a common one when FFers first visit the Cumberland Valley.

My usual advice to CV newbies is to embrace the reality that trout in these creeks are bottom feeders and live on a year round diet of scuds, sculpins, midge pupa, and cress bugs. This isn't to imply that you won't find rising fish, you can, and there are hatches as well (mainly sulphurs and BWOs) but for someone used to fishing upstate or in the Catskills....it's often a big disappointment. You can fish for days (esp this time of year) and not see any surface activity around here. This fact combined with the slower, weedy nature of the stream makes it even tougher as the fish are often not visible. As for tips, I advise moving slow, avoiding wading as much as possible, and sitting down to watch the stream. When you see a fish, present a small scud (scuds around here are grayish/olive and small, #16 and under are best) or cress bug and you can often hook up. In areas where there is current, fish a scud/cressbug just like you would any nymph anywhere else. These sections with current are often good places to catch fish. In the summer, terrestrials can produce too (including hoppers) although, in my experience, the terrestrial bite is not as great as it has been made out to be by many angling authors.

Fishing weedy creeks such as those in the CV is a tough learning curve . To learn more, take some time to read thru the many reports and discussions on these creeks here on PAFF - you're not the first person to ask about this challenge. I'd also highly recommend you get a copy of the book *Spring Creek Strategies* (Mike Heck, Harrisburg: Stackpole Books, 2008).