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Subject: : Beginner Forum

Topic: : Basic leader formula for nymphing

Re: Basic leader formula for nymphing

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URL:

My floating indicator leaders are incredibly simple.

3-4' butt of heavy mono (Stren, Trilene, Maxima, whatever). (1/2 25or 30lb test and 1/2 20lb test) with a tippet ring attached. Next, A mid section of 2 or 3x diameter material anywhere from 4-6' in length. This varies depending on how I rig my flies to my tippet/leader, but in the most basic in-line style of rigging I would attached a foot or so of lighter tippet to the end of the 2 or 3x material and then tie on my fly. Just above the knot between the mid section and the tippet being a great place to put you split shot as it will prevent it from sliding down t your fly. The floating indicator should be placed on the heavy butt section. If this leaves the indicator too close or too far from the flies, the mid section should be lengthened or shortened accordingly.

Even this brief paragraph might make it seem more complicated than it should.

At any rate there are some key advantages to this rig:

- It's easily created with with widely available conventional mono. The butt and mid sections need not be fly fishing specific mono (or fluoro). The tippet can be conventional line also so long as it is an appropriate diameter and of decent quality.
- The long, single diameter mid section sinks rapidly compared to a conventionally tapered leader which are generally designed to turnover a weightless fly rather than a nymph rig.
- Dirt cheap. You can fish a new leader every day. Heck, you can easily carry all the materials needed to completely rebuild d a leader if the need arises. The retail cost of tippet rings is ridiculous IMO, but they can be reused once a leader butt wears out. You won't lose very many when attaching them to a butt section anyway.
- Can be chopped up and reconfigured. I use the butt section as a basis for most of my leaders including streamer and tightline leaders.