Subject: : Fly Tying
Topic: : What exactly does "dun" mean?
Re: What exactly does "dun" mean?
Author: : bigjohn58
Date: : 2006/10/5 23:59:43
URL:

Yeah I agree size is the most important thing but I'd give it a toss up between color and shape. I've seen it before when you can throw a brown caddis during a rusty spinner fall and catch just as many fish as someone fishing a rusty spinner it all had to do with the color or in some sulphur hatches you can use any yellow fly in some situations (not many but sometimes) I've also seen where color makes all th difference once on Fishing Creek there was a BWO spinner that was a real dark olive and I was catching fish and this other guy couldn't get a hit and his was just a hair lighter shade of olive...but then again I've seen it where the shape is all the difference (a caddis pattern or a dun pattern, or when you need a parachute style instead of a traditional style so it sits perfectly flat on the water for examples).

When I tie my flies I try to match the colors as close as I can to the flies. If light dun is the only color you have then by all means tie up some flies with that and an olive body...you gota work with what you got (dry fly hackle is expensive I know) but techincally you'd want a dark dun for a BWO. I'd make sure you have dark wings for them (dark dun hen feathers or duck/goose feather) and I probably wouldn't use too many turns of the hackle when tying so the wings are clearly visable. Honestly I think the body color is maybe more important with the olives. I perfer an olive to dark olive (I use Fly-Rite #3 Dark Olive mostly) for the bodies but it also depends on where you fish because there are different variations.

And always remember a lot of the times the fisherman's eyes are more sensative to how the fly looks then the fish...to me tying is an art but to the fish they just think its dinner, they don't really care how fancy the fly is MOST of the time.