

Subject: : Fly Tying

Topic: : A question about fly dubbing

Re: A question about fly dubbing

Author: : TimMurphy

Date: : 2007/4/15 23:25:45

URL:

Dear Wmass,

What are you using for dubbing? Mink, beaver and muskrat make excellent dry fly dubbing because they are water based critters and their fur is naturally water repellent. Rabbit, squirrel, opossum, etc make better wet fly and nymph dubbing because they aren't naturally waterproof.

Likewise, not all synthetics are made for dry flies. Poly-propolene dubbing floats like a cork, but many synthetic blends are made for nymphs and wets and soak up water like a paper towel. It can be difficult to tell which is which because the colors are similar. Maybe you mixed up some of your dubbing?

I always use wax, and I always lick my fingers before I twist on the dubbing. It helps to make a very tight rope, and I try to dub my dry flies sparsely and tightly but I'm not always succesful.

Regards,

Tim Murphy 😊