
Subject: : Fly Tying

Topic: : Why are my dry flies floating on their side?

Re: Why are my dry flies floating on their side?

Author: : Maurice

Date: : 2007/4/29 8:22:18

URL:

John,

Don't give up on the catskill ties. Good info so far. I'll give my two cents which may reiterate some previous posts.

First, trouble shoot the ties you have done. Take one and drop it a foot from the table. It should come to rest on the table upright (I know, it won't). but look at it closely. and ask these questions....

Q.) Is the hook touching the table or would it if it were upright.

If the hook is or would be touching the table, the the tail may be too short or too "wispy".

Tails; Use a stiff dry fly hackle barb for tails, about the length of the hook shank (eye to bend.) Short tails cause the hook point to ridr too low and tips over the fly.

Q.) Is the hackle sized properly?

The hackle along with the tail should provide a support span for the hook point. If the tails are long enough, the hackle may be too short. If both are the proper length the hook point, (being the heaviest part of the fly) will act as a plum bob and balance or steady the fly upright.

I've never seen wings tip a fly over. but if they are balanced over the hook shank you shouldn't be having a problem. Just be sure they are not too much longer than the hackle once finished.

The profile of a catskill tie is dependent on the hook point to steady the fly upright. If you eliminate the obstructions, it will do the job itself.

Again, you should be able to drop you fly from a foot or two and it should fall into a "three point stance" like a football lineman. If it don't see why not using the above information.

Maurice