

September 2018 FOTM

Callibaetis Spinners

By Greg Chester

Greetings

With an FFB Hebgen Lake outing coming up I thought I'd offer some Callibaetis Spinners that have worked well for me during gulper activity. Both of these patterns float well and are relatively easy to see. I missed Denny Westover's recent Lake Fishing presentation but can imagine he presented versions of this bug along with gulper fishing techniques.

The Deer Hair Spinner floats really well but is a bit fussy to tie, so I've shown a hackle version that also fishes well and is much easier to tie.

I tie them on a standard #14 dry fly hook and include a few #16's to be prepared. Key to this bug is well defined split tails, slightly longer than normal. I use medium dun Microfibets or spade hackle fibers, about 4 per side. Split the tails by whatever means you're comfortable with such as employing a dubbing ball. I prefer to split tails with thread tension prior to adding the dubbing. It's a bit fussy to do but makes for a clean, slim transition into the abdomen.

For both patterns I use tan 8/0 Unithread and Super Fine Callibaetis dubbing.

For the deer hair version I incorporate a thin strip of orange foam to split the hair into a spinner configuration. The foam adds terrific visibility and floatability. Use hollow short tipped deer fibers such that you'd use for a Sparkle Dun. Post the deer vertically in the thorax area then first split them with figure 8 wraps of thread, then further split them with the foam strip.

For the hackle version use 1 long saddle hackle or 2 neck hackles, medium dun. This gets plenty of hackle on the bug to aid in visibility and floatability. Once you've wrapped the hackle trim it flush on the bottom to aid in representing the split wings.

Call if you have questions. 363-0033. Good tying and good fishing!!

