

FLY OF THE MONTH

The Klinkhamer Special
by Frank Murabito

The Klinkhamer Special is a fly of European origin that has proven effective as a cripple/emergent pattern the world over. It is more of a style than a specific pattern in that it can be tied in different colors, materials and sizes to imitate a wide range of different mayflies. The consistent features are the hook shape, the parachute wing and the peacock herl thorax. The hook is a fine-wire scud type hook which has the advantage of providing a large hook gape but a short shank for the body. Thus the pattern here is a size 10 hook but it has a body length of about a size 14 mayfly tied on a standard dry fly hook. The hook is bent with needle nose pliers about 3/16 inches (For a size 10 hook) behind the eye to provide a flat spot for the thorax and to give a greater drop down of the abdomen and shuck below the surface. This is easier for larger rather than smaller hook sizes that require a shorter flat spot. Alternatively, Partridge and Daiichi manufacture Klinkhamer hooks with the proper bend. The peacock herl abdomen is the most difficult step as the herl is quite fragile. To increase the strength and prevent unraveling if a strand breaks, tie in three herl strands and twist with the tying thread to make a rope of peacock herl.

Recipe

Hook: Tiemco 2487 #10

Thread: Tan, 8/0 or 12/0

Wing: White Antron or
polypropylene yarn

Shuck: Zelon

Thorax: Peacock herl

Abdomen: Tan thread

Hackle: Medium ginger

