



International Federation of
FLY FISHERS

Conserving, Restoring, Educating Through Fly Fishing

FLY OF THE MONTH

Asian Longhorn Beetle

June 2014

Written and Photographed By: Kit Seaton

Creator: Scott Sanchez

Guest Tier: Jimmy Armijo-Grover

This month we will be tying a fly that is not known for catching fish. As far as I know, it may not have ever caught a fish. So, what makes this fly special if it was not designed to catch fish? This month's fly is the Asian Longhorn Beetle which is an invasive species and was designed as part of the the Forest Pest Tying Project, to educate fly fishers on how to identify and report the beetle if found. The Invasive Species Action Network developed the program and they can be found at tying events all over the country demonstrating this fly and teaching people.

As part of this project, Jimmy Armijo-Grover is going to fly tying and fishing events demonstrating how to tie the Asian Longhorn Beetle. This pattern was originally created by Scott Sanchez, but Jimmy has made considerable alterations to Scott's original design.

Invasive-Species-Action-Network – Website

<http://www.stopans.org/>

Invasive-Species-Action-Network – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Invasive-Species-Action-Network/98093058102>

Forest Pest Fly Tying Project - Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ForestPestProject?ref=profile>

Materials

Hook – Size 4 Dai-Riki 700

Thread – 6/0 Black

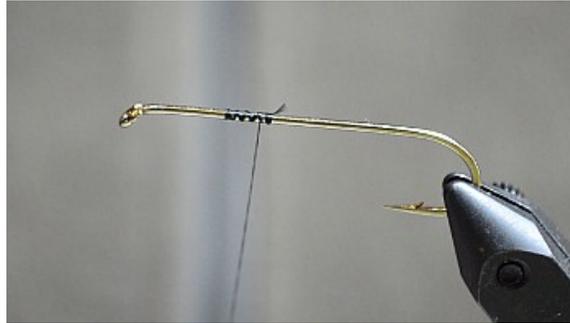
Body – Black Foam

Rib – Black BR Ultra-Wire

Legs/Antenna – Black Round Rubber Legs

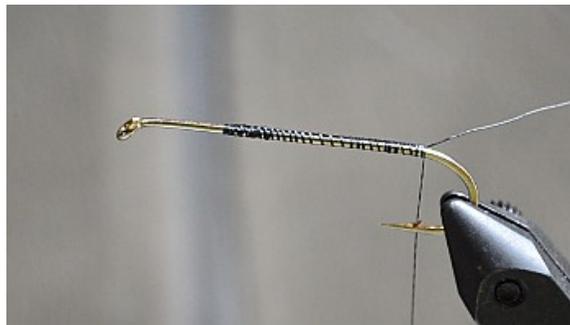
Spots – White Out

Tying Steps



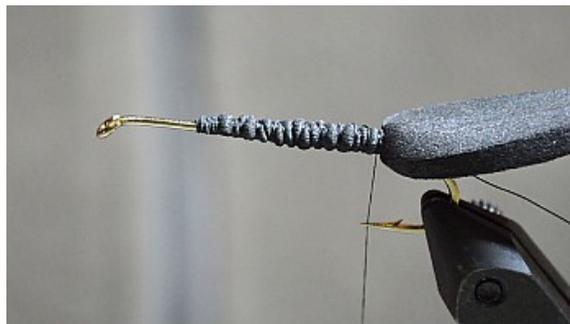
Step 1

Make a jam knot at one quarter the way down the hook shank.



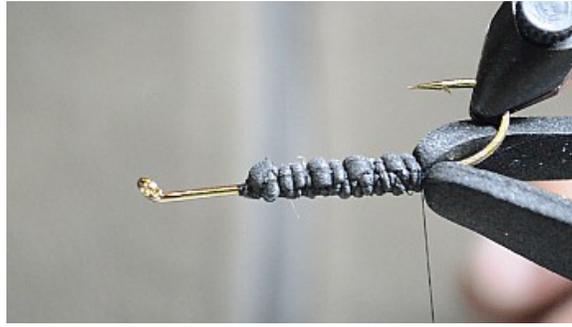
Step 2

Tie a piece of wire in on the far side of the hook and lash down the length of the hook all the way to the bend and return the thread once again to the jam knot.



Step 3

Cut a strip of foam that is the width of a hook gap and trim it to a point. Tie the point in and lash the foam down the length of the hook leaving the extra hanging off the back of the hook.



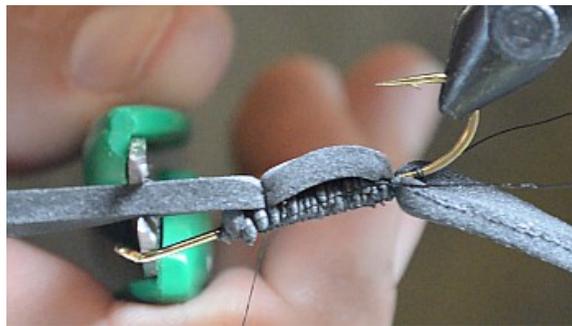
Step 4

Turn the hook over. If you have a rotary vise use the rotary feature to invert the hook. Prepare a piece of foam the same as was created in the last step. Tie it to the bottom of the hook, which is now facing up, in the same fashion as the piece that was tied to the top.



Step 5

Attach a second piece of wire on the near side of the hook and take the thread down to the bend and return back to the front of the foam.



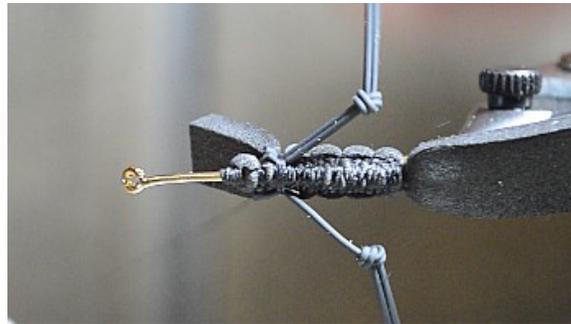
Step 6

Pull the foam on the bottom side of the hook forward and tie it down at the beginning of the foam. Cut the excess foam off right behind the eye of the hook.



Step 7

Wrap the wire forward using three wraps and put the finishing wrap in the valley created when the foam was tied down. By doing this the body should now have four segments. Tie off the wire and cut off the excess wire.



Step 8

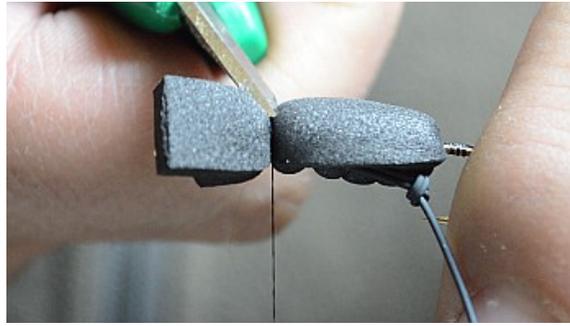
Prepare the legs by pulling two rubber legs off of the bunch. When round rubber legs come from the store they are all attached together. Be sure to keep the two rubber legs attached to each other. Cut this in half to create two sets of rubber legs. Tie an overhand knot in each of the rubber sections to form a joint. Tie in the rubber legs on each side of the fly. (Picture shows the top of the fly)

Optional: Jimmy sometimes uses black fly line to create the legs and antenna. To create the joints in the fly line he heats a pair of tweezers over a flame and uses the hot tweezers to bend the fly line.



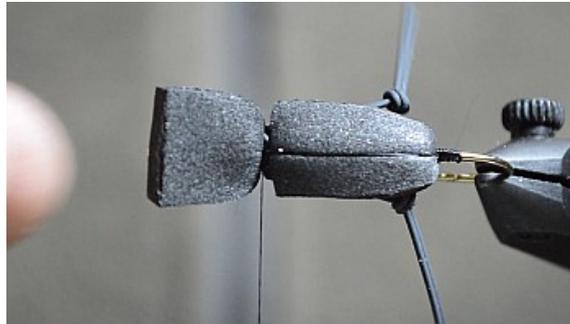
Step 9

Rotate the hook back to the upright position. Fold the foam over the back and tie it in the same spot on the hook.



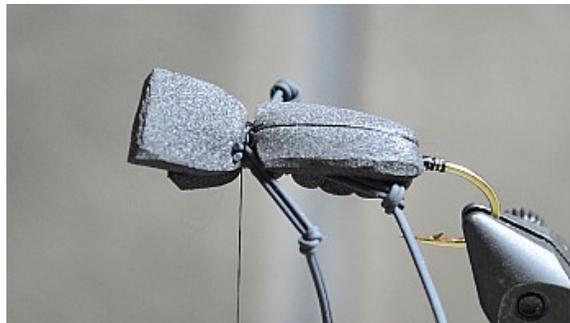
Step 10

Make a small snip in foam right behind the tie in point on both sides. This will extend the top of the wings out.



Step 11

Pull the second piece of wire over the back dividing the top piece of foam into two equal parts, tying down the wire and cutting off the excess.



Step 12

Prepare two more sets of legs like the first and tie them in like the first.



Step 13

Prepare two more sets of legs like the the others and tie them in but this time make them face forward. Turning it over may help to align the legs.



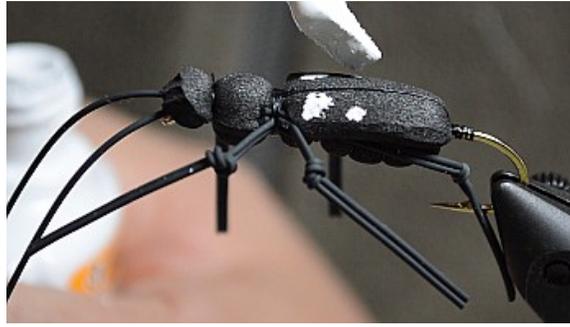
Step 14

Move the thread behind the eye of the hook. Tie in the bottom piece of foam. Take one piece of round rubber legs and fold it in half and tie it in with the two ends facing out over the eye of the hook.



Step 15

Tie the top piece of foam down, whip finish, and cut off the thread. Trim the foam by taking the corners and rounding them.



Step 16

Use White Out, the kind that comes with a dauber, to paint spots onto the back of the beetles shell. Try and make both side symmetrical.



Step 17

Use the White Out to add stripes to the antenna and legs. Finish by adding a coat of head cement to the back to give the fly a nice sheen.

Fly of the Month:

Do you know someone who deserves to be featured in the Fly of the Month? If you have a camera and computer, you can write a Fly of the Month article to honor your favorite tier tying their best creation. For details contact Kit Seaton at flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org.

Please note: The demonstration you are viewing makes no claim, implied or otherwise, that the presenter or demonstrator of the fly pattern was the original creator of the fly.

This is the guest tyer's version of this fly and it may differ from the creator's or other versions and variations.

**Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at
flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org.**