



International Federation of  
**FLY FISHERS**

Conserving, Restoring, Educating Through Fly Fishing

# FLY OF THE MONTH

## Hackle Stacker Flag – March Brown

March 2014

Written and Photographed By: Kit Seaton

Creator: Bob Quigley

Guest Tyer: Brandon Bwyer

The Magic City Fly Fishers intermediate fly tying program is lead each week by a different guest tyer. This gives the students the chance to learn different techniques and flies that they may not otherwise be introduced to. One of the very talented guest tyers was Brandon Dwyer who introduce the class to tying the para loop style of tying flies by tying the Hackle Stacker Flag.

The Hackle Stacker is an emerging mayfly pattern developed by Bob Quigley. Bob created this pattern to fool the picky fish in the clear waters of spring creeks. Although designed for slow moving water it as much at home on the choppy water of the western freestone rivers.

This version of the Hackle Stacker Flag is tied to represent a March Brown, but it can be tied to represent any number of mayfly species.

### Materials

Hook – 14 Dry Fly Hook (14-20)

Thread – 8/0 Brown

Shuck – Brown Sparkle Yarn

Abdomen – Brown Super Fine Dubbing

Flag/Post – Cream Sparkle Yarn

Hackle – Grizzly

Thorax – Dark Hare's Ear Dubbing

## Tying Steps



### Step 1

**Make a thread base from the eye to the bend of the hook.**



### Step 2

**Tie in a small hank of brown sparkle yarn for a shuck. Starting at the front of the fly and lashing it down the length of the hook to the bend leaving the remainder hanging off the back of the hook. Then trim the shuck to equal length of the hook.**



### Step 3

**Dub the abdomen of the fly using super fine dubbing. The dubbing should extend from the bend of the hook two thirds the way up the shank forming a nice tapered shape.**



#### **Step 4**

**Loop a hank of cream sparkle yarn in half and tie the ends in where the dubbing was terminated. The loop should be hanging over the eye. Trim the butt ends that are left over the abdomen to leave a little tuft.**



#### **Step 5**

**Pull the loop back over the body and tie down sparkle yarn over itself.**



#### **Step 6**

**Tie the stem of a appropriately sized grizzly or brown hackle to the front of the hook with the mass of the feather facing the back of the hook.**



### **Step 7**

**Grab the loop of sparkle yarn and hold it upright putting your finger in the loop for greater control. Palmer the hackle up the sparkle yarn as you would with a post on a parachute.**



### **Step 8**

**Continue to palmer the hackle back down through already palmered hackle. When the hackle is down at the bottom tie the hackle off on the front of the hook and cut off the excess.**



### **Step 9**

**Dub the thorax using a dark hair's ear dubbing in front of the hackled sparkle yarn. Create a nice big ball of dubbing.**



### **Step 10**

**Pull the loop of sparkle yarn down over the eye of the hook making sure to sweep back the hackle fibers so they do not get trapped. Tie down the sparkle yarn in the head space.**



### **Step 11**

**Pull the sparkle yarn back and tie down. Build a head, whip finish, and cut your thread. Finally groom the sparkle yarn upright and trim to one and half the length of the hackle.**

### **Closing Comments**

**The flag makes this fly easy to see and it can be tied with flags of different colors to be seen under a variety of fishing conditions.**

**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.**

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