

CDC PARACHUTE EMERGER (CPE)



Fly tiers from all over the world came to the 2010 FFF Fly Fishing Fair and Conclave in West Yellowstone, MT. During the Fair Arno Laubscher from Nelspruit, South Africa tied a Klinkhammer variation. This variation uses CDC instead of dubbing for the thorax. When he goes fishing he ties it in colors to match the hatching insects. Arno owns Scientific Fly www.scientificfly.com.

The best time to use this pattern is when the insects are hatching. Cast a floating line, and let the fly float on the water surface. In moving water let it float drag free around boulders or current seams where the hatching insects are drifting or collecting. In still water let it sit on the surface for a while, and if fish are not interested move it a little to attract their attention. Like many good emerger patterns part of the fly is underwater where the fish can see it, and part is above the surface where you can see it. It looks like a helpless hatching insect.

Arno said that trout and yellowfish eagerly take this pattern. I didn't know about "yellowfish" so I did an internet search using South Africa yellowfish. What I found makes me want to visit there. Although yellowfish are not recognized as game fish in South Africa they are increasingly recognized as a premier fly-fishing species. Their feeding behavior is between 80% and 100% characteristic of trout and grayling. All the trout flies (nymph, dry and streamer) can be used to catch yellowfish. It is, pound for pound, at least twice as strong as a trout (even three times as strong, some believe) and are commonly caught in the 6- to 10-pound range. With that, it is understandable that fly anglers contract incurable "yellow fever" on the first hook up.

Match the color and size to your insects and this fly will work in the U.S., Canada and elsewhere. For Arno it works best when mayflies and caddis flies are hatching.

Materials List:

Hook: Grip 14723BL size 12 - 18

Thread: UNI-Thread, 8/0, Olive, match thread color to abdomen color.

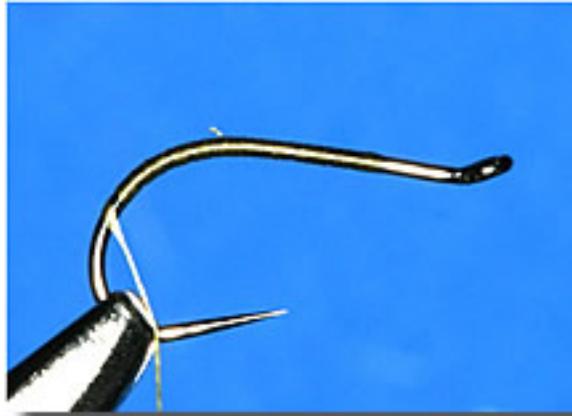
Abdomen: Antron dubbing, medium olive

Post: Antron yarn, white.

Hackle: Brown

Thorax: CDC feather, Olive.

Tying Steps:



1. Attach thread a little behind the eye, and wind rearward around the bend.



2. Put dubbing on thread and wrap forward to about mid shank.



3. For the post use white Antron yarn, and use the entire yarn on the larger flies. Arno likes a thick post because it is more visible. A thick post is also helpful when it comes to wrapping the hackle. Secure the Antron, stand up the rear portion and wrap around the Antron yarn to post it. After posting trim away the front portion. Poly or other materials can be used for the post.



4. Take a brown hackle and tie it vertically against the post. When this is done the 8/0 olive thread is not needed any more so tie it off securely and trim.



5. Attach 17/0 UNI Thread and let hang behind the post. Untwist the thread so you can split it with a fine, very sharp needle, and then insert the barbs of an olive CDC feather into the split thread as shown below. It takes a little practice to split the thread and insert the CDC.



6. Trim the CDC at the shaft so you just have only barbs in the split thread. Keep tension on the thread as you hold the thread below the CDC. Spin the bobbin to put a twist in the thread. When you released the thread, the twist moves up the thread trapping the CDC barbs.



7. Wrap the CDC first in back of the post and then in front. If you don't have enough CDC to reach near the eye just repeat the process with the other side of the feather or another feather.



8. Wrap the hackle around the post with each wrap below the previous one. After a few wraps bring the hackle toward the eye and secure it. Pull the hackle up and back to prevent trapping the barbs then trim excess, whip finish behind the eye, and put on a little head cement. The final step is to trim the post to a reasonable height.

Closing comments: Now your assignment is to tie a few, and take them fishing.

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