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# FLY OF THE MONTH

## IMPROVED FOAM-WING CADDIS By Scott Sanchez

- Hook:** Tiemco 2488 or Dai-Riki 125, light wire emerger / scud hook, size 12 to 18  
**Thread:** Black 8/0  
**Belly:** Olive or black fine vernille - (micro-chenille)  
**Wing:** A double layer of 2 mm craft foam cut to shape. Bright color on top.  
**Thorax:** Dry fly dubbing, color to match hatch.  
**Hackle:** Grizzly saddle hackle. The fibers should be one and a half to two gap-widths in length. - Cut flat along the bottom to make the fly float low in the water.  
**Antennae:** Moose body hair. (I used barred Guinea hen on size 16 or 18 caddis- LK)



Cut two 2 mm craft foam sheets to say- two inches by four inches. I used black and white or tan and pink glued together with a spray contact adhesive, like 3M's Super 77, or 3M Spray Mount Artist's Adhesive. You can use Super glue on smaller sections. Cut the large squares strips about one and one half the lengths of the desired hook shank. (About 1/2 inch) I used a razor blade with a steel ruler as a guide. Cut this strip into small triangles about 1½-hook gaps wide. Next use scissor tips to notch the back of the wing to make a V, and then taper the back to make a caddis fly wing. Taper the front and trim some of the white foam off the top. (I think the 2mm foam is a little too thick for the 16 and 18 sized caddis.) Gently slit the bottom with a razor. Try not to cut through the bottom layer. Mount the hook in the vise and wrap a thread base. Cement the thread base and tie in a two-inch strand of black Micro Chenille along the top of the hook and back down to the bend. The long tag end extends to the rear. Warp thread forward to the 2/3 shank. This point will be the front of the wing. Slip the foam wing on the hook shank. Leave the front third of the shank behind the eye bare. The wing should extend a half hook

gap past the bend. Tie down the tapered foam wing by the tip. With a toothpick or bodkin, add some head cement or super glue to the thread base. Push the form back down. Pull the micro-chenille forward under the body to make the abdomen and tie down behind the eye. Trim off excess. Wrap thread to behind the eye. Select two moose body hairs for the antennae. Size to a shank and a half-length and attach behind the eye. Figure 8 the moose hairs and separate. Bring thread back to the base of the foam and attach a grizzly hackle, sized to be two hook gaps long. The hackle is tied dull side forward, dry fly style. Dub a small thorax, creating a level section to wrap the hackle. Do not crowd the eye and antennae. Make four or five wraps of hackle on the dubbing. Tie off and trim the hackle in the space behind the antennae. It is difficult to make a "big loop" whip finish to avoid trapping the moose hair. Beginners might skip the antennae to make this an easier fly or tie the antennae back an eye further to allow a regular whip finish. Finish by trimming off the hackle flush with the bottom of the fly and adding a small drop of head cement behind the eye.

Thanks to new SDFF member, Bob Stafford for lending me the magazine - Lucky Ketcham

