
FLY OF THE MONTH

HORNBERG

Thread: Black, 8/0 or 6/0
Hook: TMC 5262 - Steamer hook - 2X long
Body: Gold or silver flat tinsel
Wings: Yellow buck tail with two outside wings of matched mallard breast
Cheeks: Jungle Cock feathers or black hackle tips
Hackle: Grizzly and brown saddle hackle (one each)



1. Wrap a layer of thread from the 1/3 point back from the eye to the bend of the hook. Tie in a piece of medium flat tinsel, gold or silver. If you are using tinsel which is gold on one side and silver on the other, tie it on with the side you want showing facing the hook shank. When you start the wrapping forward the side you want to see will be facing up. Wrap the tinsel in connecting wraps to the starting point.
2. Tie in a small bunch of yellow calf or buck tail at the 1/3 point with the tips extending back over the bend of the hook. The buck tail should extend just a fraction beyond the end of the hook.
3. Tie on a barred mallard breast feather on the near side. The feather should extend a shank's length beyond the hook bend. Then tie a matching mallard feather to the other side. The two wing feathers should be matched.
4. Tie on a jungle cock cheek on each side lying against the mallard breast side wings.
5. In front of the two side wing feathers tie in one grizzly hackle and one brown hackle. Wrap both hackles forward at the same time.
6. Form the head, whip finish and apply head cement.

This fly can be fished dry or wet. I have always fished it wet. If you want to fish it dry you will need to wrap the hackle tight so you have sufficient hackle to support the wing. This can be a good still-water fly. It is said to imitate a caddis, a stone fly and a damsel. Maybe a near sighted fish! All I know is that it can be a productive still-water pattern. TOM SMITH

