

Strawman Nymph

Recipe



Photo from the fly collection of Bob Summers.

Hook: Nymph Hook Size: 2-14
Tail: Mallard Flank, tied slightly long
Body: Natural Deer Hair, spun and clipped
Rib: Yellow Silk Floss

Tying Tips: Standard techniques. There was also a variation using black deer hair with gold ribbing and another variation using white deer hair with silver ribbing.

Fishing Tips: Larger sizes were used by bass fishermen with a small spinner attached. This was a great wet fly but was also fished dry ... once it waterlogged it was then fished wet. When fished wet, fish it down and across the stream. The pattern was used as a generalized nymph pattern, a caterpillar or as a generalized insect larva.

Historical Note: We present this fly to you today because it was and can be fished wet or dry. The fly was created by Paul Young. It was a variation of a fly that came from Canada and was introduced to Paul Young by his friend W.O. Stoddard of Detroit. The fly appeared in a 1935 edition of Paul Young's catalog ... it may have been created earlier and possibly appeared in earlier editions of his catalogs. Paul Young was an innovator and tyer of flies but most of the flies he sold commercially were tied by his shop tyer 'Hazel Johnson.' Hazel worked for Paul at all of his Detroit locations. Hazel retired when the operation was moved to Traverse City, Michigan.

Tyer: Paul H. Young or Hazel Johnson

Contributor: Tom Deschaine