

The “Madam X”—By Jim Jenkin

Hook: Mustad 9761 or Tiemco 200R (size 8-12)
Thread: Yellow
Tail: Deer or Elk Hair (equal in length to hook gap)
Body: Yellow Dubbing
Head/Wing: Deer or Elk Hair
Legs: White Rubber



Tying the Stimulator:

This is a great attractor pattern whose development is credited to Doug Swisher. While being a great Hopper Pattern, this fly is also a good attractor pattern and can imitate a number of insects including Cicada, Stoneflies, and Dragonflies. This was a favorite pattern in East Tennessee, but I have used it all over with success. Tie a few up and give it a try!

Begin by laying a foundation of thread. Tie in a tail of Deer or Elk Hair so that the tail extends beyond the hook bend by approximately the distance of the hook gap. I like the lighter Elk Hair since the butts are not as thick and make a cleaner tie. Wrap the thread forward. A hair stacker works well to make sure the ends are even. Also take care not to let the hair spin around the hook. The tail should remain on top of the hook.

Next wrap the thread to 3/4 of the way to the eye of the hook. Select a slightly larger clump of hair for the wing and use a stacker to even the ends. The wing will be tied in with the tips of the hair pointing forward of the hook eye. It will later be pulled backward to the tail. When you tie in the wing, let the hair spin around the hook shank so that it will make a bullet formed head around the hook shank. Continue to secure the wing by winding towards the eye of the hook and then wind the thread to the back of the hook to begin the next step.

The next step is to dub in a yellow body beginning at the tail and winding forward to just behind the eye of the hook. A variation of this is to use yellow floss for the body. After wrapping to the front, return the thread to a point about 1/4 the hook shank from the eye.

Bend the hair back on itself and work the hair into a nice bullet shaped head. Tie the wing down with several wraps.

Tie in rubber legs on each side of the hook forming an “X” when you look at it from the top. Whip finish and cement at the point where you attached the rubber legs.