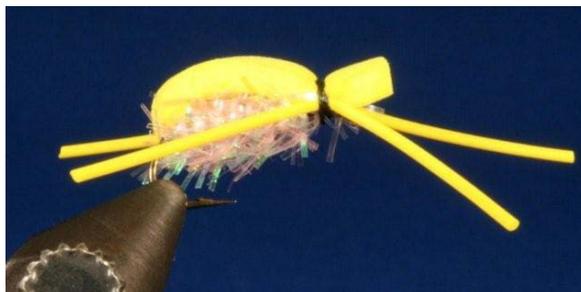


Foam Spider.... Tom Regina

The Foam Spider is another fly in our terrestrial fly tying series. As with the Cap Spider Russ Shields tied in March, the Foam Spider is also very simple to tie and yet a very effective warm water pan fish fly. And like so many other flies, it can be tied in a verity of colors and sizes. I have listed the materials we will use to tie the Foam Spider at the Saturday April 19 fly tying and casting clinic. However you may choose to use another brand, style, or size dry fly hook, pre-cut foam bodies, chenille or hackle, etc., for the under body, and different types of leg material so long as they produce an "alive appearance". Use what materials you have on hand so long as they float the fly high in the water. To see a video of the Foam Spider being tied go on line to www.youtube.com and enter "Foam Spider" in the search box.

Materials

Hook: Mustad 94840 size 12
Thread: 6/0 black
Body: 2mm yellow closed cell foam
Underbody: Spirit River Pearl Shrimp Pink Petite Estaz
Legs: Wapsi medium, round, yellow rubber legs



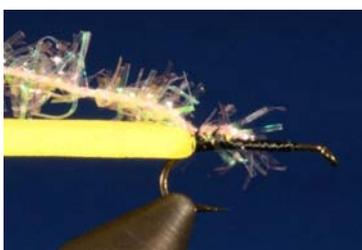
Tying Instructions

Before tying the Foam Spider determine how many flies you will tie. Cut an appropriate number of 3/16 to 1/4-inch wide closed cell foam strips, 3 or 4-inches long, from a sheet of foam. Also prepare an appropriate number of leg pairs.



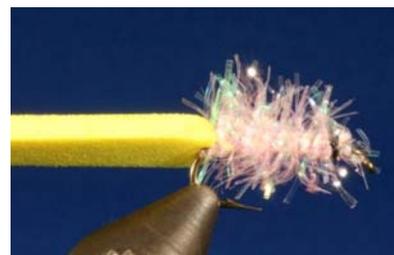
1. Debarb the hook and secure it in the vise. Use a jam knot to tie the thread onto the hook 1/8-inch back from the hook eye. In tight touching turns wrap a neat thread base back to a point directly over the hook barb.

2. Cut a 45-degree arrow point at one end of a closed cell foam body strip. Tie the foam strip point to the top of the hook at the rear thread hang point with the standing part of the strip overhanging the rear of the hook.



3. At the rear thread hang point and directly on top of the foam arrow tie on the tag end of the underbody Estaz. Take the thread forward to the thread tie-on position 1/8-inch back from the hook eye.

4. In close turns wrap the underbody forward to the thread hang point 1/8-inch back from the hook eye. *Note: With each turn of the Estaz stroke the previous wrap fibers toward the rear to prevent them from being trapped under succeeding wraps.* Tie off and cut away the excess underbody Estaz.

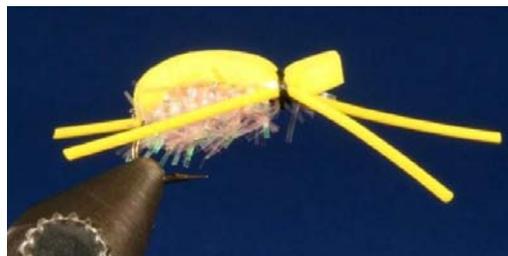


Foam Spider.... Tom Regina



5. Pull the foam body strip forward over the top of the underbody. Tie the body strip down at the front thread hang point with 3 or 4 tight thread wraps forming the body/head segmentation. Cut away excess foam strip so the head of the spider extends beyond the hook eye 1/16 to 1/8-inch.

6. With 2 or 3 light thread wraps tie in one pair of legs to one side of the spider over the segmentation thread wraps. Adjust the leg pair so it is positioned relatively low on the body. Take two or three tight thread wraps to hold the leg pair in position. Rotate the spider in the vise and in the same manner tie on the second leg pair to the other side of the fly. So you say "A spider has eight legs." Well as Doc Birdwell says "The fish don't care." And I say "Fish can't count." Use a long reach Matarelli whip finish tool to apply whip finish thread wraps over the segmentation wraps. Cut away the thread and apply head cement to the whip finish thread wraps.



8. Cut the legs to length at the tying bench or at the fishing hole. Each of the four separate legs should be about twice as long as the spider body.

Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Yelverton

The exciting news for fly casters is the start of the spring pompano migration. There have been numerous reports of shore fishermen "limiting out" east of the pier, but I haven't seen many fish west of the "asphalt dune" where I spend most of my time. There are some fish around as you can see in the attached photo. We didn't weigh this fish, but I'm sure it was close to 5# (released unharmed). We need just a few more degrees of water temperature, and the full migration should begin.

The redfish and trout haven't moved onto the flats in the usual spring quantities. I'm hoping this is due to cool water temps and not the continued discolored water we've experienced for the past six weeks. We did find a very nice black drum on a shallow flat yesterday and might even have hooked him if Travis could've gotten the fly in the right place...

Where are the darn Spanish mackerel? They ought to be here any day, and I'm looking forward to their arrival. Hard to beat throwing a fly into a school of slashing, crashing Spanish.



Capt Baz