

Sparkle Scud.... Tom Regina

Scuds are fresh water crustaceans that live on aquatic vegetation in nearly every body of still water and moving water where the current is slow enough for aquatic vegetation to take root. Scuds can swim and are frequently found scurrying between weed beds where they are pursued by predatory trout. Because scuds reproduce year round they are available to trout in all seasons.

The most common hook sizes for tying scud imitations are 10 through 18, with sizes 14, 16, and 18 being preferred. Live scuds range in color shades of olive, gray, and tan. Dead scuds are imitated with pink and orange colors. Scuds at rest are crescent shaped, whereas swimming scuds stretch out and look like animated sticks.

Use nymphing methods to present scud imitations to visibly feeding trout in shallow aquatic plant areas and at the edges of weed beds. If trout are not visible, blind cast to the same areas. Scuds are often swept away from their habitat by water current when they are swimming or because of the action of feeding trout disturbing the vegetation. For this reason you should also present your scud imitations into faster water below vegetation areas,

Materials

Hook	Mustad C49S, size 10
Head	7/64" or 3/32" gold bead
Thread	8/0 olive
Rib	Fine copper or gold wire
Shellback	Hareline Dubbing Inc., 1/8" dark olive Scud Back
Body	Wapsi Sow-Scud dark sow bug dubbing



Tying Instructions



1. Debarb the hook. Slide a bead onto the hook and mount the hook in the vise. Tie on the thread directly behind the bead. Lay down a neat underbody thread base back to a point at the hook bend directly over the hook barb.



2. At the thread hang point tie on about a 6" length of copper rib wire. Bind the tag end of the wire to the top of the hook and return the thread back to the point directly over the hook barb.



3. Cut away the rib wire tag behind the bead. For the shellback, cut about a 2" piece of Scud Back from the skein and tie it onto the hook at the thread hang point. Bind the tag end of the shellback to the top of the hook forward to the bead. Return the thread to the tie on point at the rear of the hook.



4. Cut away the excess shellback tag behind the bead. Dub a full buggy body up to the back of the bead and leave the thread hang directly behind the bead.

Sparkle Scud.... Tom Regina (continued)



5. Pull the shellback strip forward over the top of the dubbed body stretching the shellback only slightly. Tie off the shellback just behind the bead with several tight thread wraps.



6. Cut away the tag end of the shellback. Wrap the rib wire forward in about 5 to 7 evenly spaced turns. (Note: While wrapping the rib wire it may be necessary to manipulate the shellback to keep it on top of the body. It may also be necessary to manipulate the dubbing to keep it off the top of the body). Tie off the rib wire directly behind the bead. Cut away the wire tag. Half hitch or whip finish the thread behind the bead head. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement to the finished thread wraps.



7. Using a dubbing teaser, tease the dubbing, on both sides of the fly, out and down to imitate legs.

Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Velventon



The big news since my last report has been the early arrival of the false albacore. In my humble opinion, there's just nothing better on a 7wt than the hard fighting "little tunny". These fish typically weigh 4-6 pounds, and every one takes you deep in the backing. We landed the first fish of the season on June 9, two weeks earlier than last year. I think the tropical storm in early June pushed them in along with the tiny, clear minnows (sz 6 or 8) that they feed on.

The albies can be spooky, especially when you're dealing with lots of sun and calm water. But it can be done, as my friend Tij from UC Berkeley proved on June 10 by landing fifteen albies in an afternoon. Here's a good shot of Tij with a six pounder.



The next photo is of Tony Woodward, Colorado Springs, with one of twenty-two albies he and his fishing buddy landed on June 20. We got the fly right that day (Umpqua's sz 6 Cowen's Albie Anchovy) along with a fast stripping routine that includes sweeping the rod tip.

But the biggest news I have is that we finally landed the first king mackerel on fly June 21. Brook Niemiec from Cardiff, CA, had the hot hand that day. Brook was throwing a big streamer at barracuda around the USS Massachusetts when the king grabbed the fly. Immediately the tip section of the three piece Sage RPLXi 10wt came off, and Brook was fighting a screaming king with the butt and center sections...the tip section being somewhere down the fly line. I was pretty interested in the outcome, since it was my rod. After a while Brook worked in enough fly line where I could grab and reattach the tip section, and he handily brought the king to the boat. Here's a photo. This is the first ever king mackerel landed on my boat, and we did it the proper way...no chum....Capt Baz

