

Fly of the Month, October – Root Beer Nymph

Hook: Mustad #9672 size 12. Use any nymph hook in size 8 to 14.

Thread: "Larva Lace" brand. Ultra fine Nylon Thread. Clear.

Body: "Estaz." Root Beer color.

Shell: "Swiss Straw." Black color.

Photo # 1 Form a solid base of thread on the hook shank. Tie in the end of the Estaz at the top of the bend; double it over to allow the strands of Estaz to form a tail that sticks out beyond the tie in point. Bring the thread to the midway point of the shank to be ready for the next step.

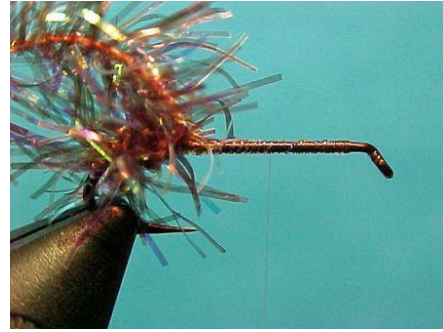


Photo # 2 Spiral wrap the Estaz to the mid point of the shank and tie it off. Do not trim off the excess Estaz. Move the excess Estaz out of the way of the back section of the fly. Trim off the hackles of Estaz that is already wrapped from the tail to the midpoint. This creates a slender tail section of the nymph body. Make sure that you do not trim off the tail hackles that stick out beyond the hook bend.



Photo # 3 Tie in a section of Swiss Straw on the top of the hook at the mid point.

Photo # 4 Bring the thread to the hook eye. Spiral wrap the balance of the Estaz to the hook eye and tie it off. Trim any excess.



Photo # 5 Flop the Swiss Straw over the top of the front section of the hook and tie it off at the eye. Form a head of thread and whip finish the tread. Trim off the excess thread. This is a picture of the completed fly.



This pattern is courtesy of fishing guide and Firelands member, Monte Casey. He first tied this nymph with orange estaz and a pheasant tail shell backing or wing case. He expressed how productive it is for trout and steelhead. This is a color variation in root beer that Monte suggests is even more productive. The important trick for tying this fly is the use of clear thread.

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www.firelandsflyfishers.org

Tom Zmina, Director of Fly Tying, Firelands Fly Fishers

