

Fly of the Month, February – Starling and Yellow Soft Hackle

Hook: Fine wire dry fly hook. Size 8 to 16. Sample is tied on a size 14 hook

Thread: Fine thread to match the body color. Sample is tied with 12/0 yellow

Body: Yellow silk floss.

Hackle: Starling neck feather

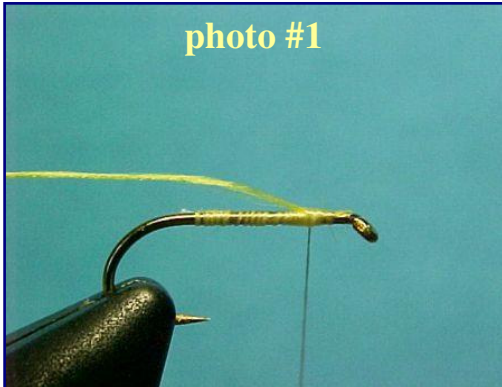


Photo # 1 Tie in a base of thread. Tie in the silk floss at the point 1/8 inch back from the eye.

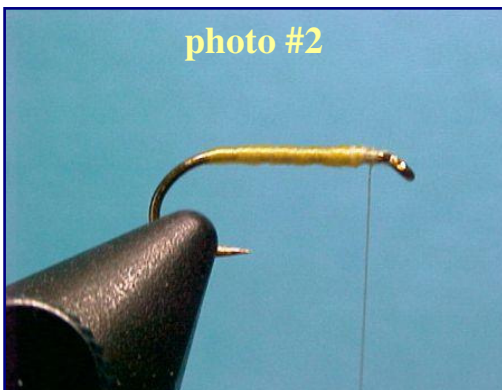


Photo # 2 Wrap the silk floss back to the start of the bend and then over wrap back to the tie in point near the eye. Tie off the silk and trim off the excess.



Photo # 3 Prep a single feather from the starling neck. Tie in the feather post.

Photo # 4 Wrap the feather one to two revolutions around the hook and tie it off. Trim off the excess and whip finish a head. Trim off the excess thread and seal the head with cement. This is the completed fly.



This soft hackle is considered a traditional fly pattern and can be highly effective when fished properly. It can be swung, used as a dropper or even lightly stripped near feeding fish. You can also tie with guinea or partridge feathers and many different body colors.

The soft hackle is recognized as the fly of Dick Walle's expertise. Dick passed away December 30 and February's Fly of the Month is in his honor.

For previous Fly of the Month patterns, please visit our web site at www.firelandsflyfishers.org

**Tom Zmina, Director of Fly Tying,
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