

June Fly of the Month – “Tim’s Special”

The June Fly of the Month comes to us from our FWWF Board Member Adam Tate. Here is Adam’s explanation why this is a New Mexico must have.

The “Tim’s Special” was created and first called the “Ambertail” by Tim Urtiaga owner and guide out of Eagle Nest Fly Shack & Lodge years ago. This fly was his go to growing up in the northern part of New Mexico. The fly was made to tie and fish tiny! It doesn’t imitate anything specific, but it catches fish. I remember the first time I saw this fly. We stopped at the fly shop and Tim made my friend a small box before our trip to the Valle Vidal. I won’t forget the days that followed. For every fish I caught, Lucas had three. I kept asking what are you using and he said, “That fly Tim gave me.” From then on we called it the “Tim’s Special” because we didn’t know the name. Of course when I got home I tied up sizes 16 to 20 and made sure to have them ready for my next NM adventure.



Hook: Nymph hook, size 16-20
 Thread: 6/0 Black
 Head: Gold or Silver Bead (match hook)
 Thorax: Hare’s Ice Dub “Bloody Black”
 Abdomen: Amber wire, size small
 Tail: Pheasant Tail



Step 1: Place the bead on hook and set into your vise. Attach your thread to the hook.

Step 2: Tie amber wire on the hook side facing you just behind the hook barb. Leave thread at back.

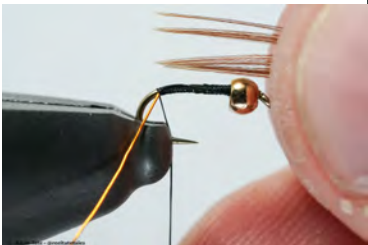
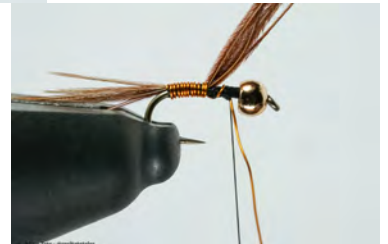


Step 5: Hold the pheasant tail fibers forward as you advance your thread forward even with the hook point.



Step 6: Wrap the wire up and away from you tightly all the way to the pheasant, and then take an extra wrap toward the bead.

Step 7: Tie in the wire, secure it, and then clip the wire.



Step 3: Cut about 8 fibers off of a pheasant tail. Measure out the length of hook shank and pinch to hold spot.

Step 4: Tie in the Pheasant tail feather fibers at where you left your thread.



Step 8: Advance the thread back to the hook point underneath the pheasant tail fibers.

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Step 9: Created a dubbing loop and advance thread up to the bead head. (You can dub without a loop here)



Step 14: Pull pheasant tail forward straight over the bead head and wrap thread around gently.

Step 10: Attach your dubbing spinner to loop. Take a small pinch of the Bloody Black Ice Dub and place in dubbing loop.



Step 14: Increase your force on thread and pull pheasant fibers down behind bead head. Make a few wraps to secure.



Step 11: Spin the dubbing loop tight, and pinch with hackle pliers. (You can dub by spinning material on thread without loop)



Step 15: Snip the pheasant tail fibers off as close as you can without nipping your thread.

Step 12: Wrap your dubbing up behind the bead head.



Step 16: Whip finish to hide your cut pheasant fibers. You can add a drop of clear cement or uv glue.



Step 13: Tie the dubbing loop off behind bead head and trim excess.

I tied a size 16 for the step by step photos. You can see how small a size 20 is compared to the 16 in back. For the tiny sizes I do not use a dubbing loop, it is not necessary and takes a little more time.

Thanks for learning!
Adam Tate @reeltatetales

