

CDC Biot Caddis

Sunriver Angler's Fly Tying Corner

By: Phil Fischer



With Mother's Day just in the rearview mirror, it seems timely to visit a very profuse hatch that occurs just around its namesake, the Mother's Day Hatch. An early season hatch I target each year is the Mother's Day Caddis hatch on the Crooked River. And one of the better imitations I have tried is the Henry's Fork Caddis. As usual, I have made subtle adaptations to the original. But the trout can't resist this pattern when the Grannom, also known as the Mother's Day Caddis, get going on the Crooked River. The Crooked River plays host to this hatch from approximately early-May to early June. Precise timing varies from year-to-year and is dependent on the weather. But the hatch is beginning in earnest right now.

The Mother's Day Caddis is often also referred to as an American Grannom or a *Brachycentrus americanus*. But it is also confused with *Brachycentrus occidentalis*. Not being an entomologist or expert in Latin names, I know this fly as a Mother's Day Caddis that is dark olive/gray in color, and which trout eat in enormous quantities during the hatch. That makes it a prime hatch to target for the next few weeks.

The Mother's Day Caddis pattern is designed to catch fish. The trailing shuck gives an impression of an insect having difficulty fully hatching, giving an impression that it is crippled, a trigger for hungry trout. The abdomen matches the coloration to imitate the natural. The CDC underwing has excellent floatant properties, and the over wing has the exact coloration of the natural. Lastly, the thorax of Peacock Ice

Dub and trimmed saddle hackle causes this pattern to float low in the water, which leaves it vulnerable to a waiting trout.

Cast this pattern just above rising trout and let the fly dead-drift toward the rise form. If you are not raising fish, try a size smaller or larger. Or alternatively, impart some very subtle movement on your fly with slight wiggles of a raised rod tip. Ideally, you don't want to do much more than twitch the fly. Often trout key in on fly movement and this technique can mean the difference between a take and a refusal.

Pattern Recipe:

Hook: Firehole 633, Size 16 - 18

Thread: 14/0 Veevus

Training Shuck: Caddis Amber Zylon

Abdomen: Dark Olive Squirrel SLF Dubbing

Under Wing: Natural CDC Puff in Dark Pardo

Over Wing: Hungarian Partridge

Thorax: Ice Dub, Peacock

Hackle: Whiting Grizzly Dyed Dun Saddle

Tying instructions and steps are being published in video form, and can be found on the Sunriver Anglers Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SunriverAnglers/>, or at the following YouTube URL: <https://youtu.be/FzUNmdygW7c>

Experiment with this pattern during the Mother's Day Caddis Hatch on the Crooked River. If you have questions or would like additional information about the Mother's Day Caddis pattern, please don't hesitate to email me. Or if you have suggestions on future patterns to feature in this column, I welcome your input. I can be reached at Philfischer@sbcglobal.net.