

Black Flying Ant



This month we will tie a black ant. You will find ants in the stomachs of the trout living in our mountains and elsewhere! This pattern was originated by Rene Harrop of Idaho, one of the great fly designers of our time. I hope we can do justice to his pattern. Size of the insect will determine the hook size. I have found the flying ant works best. I have tried different types of material for the wings and found Mallard wing feather works best.

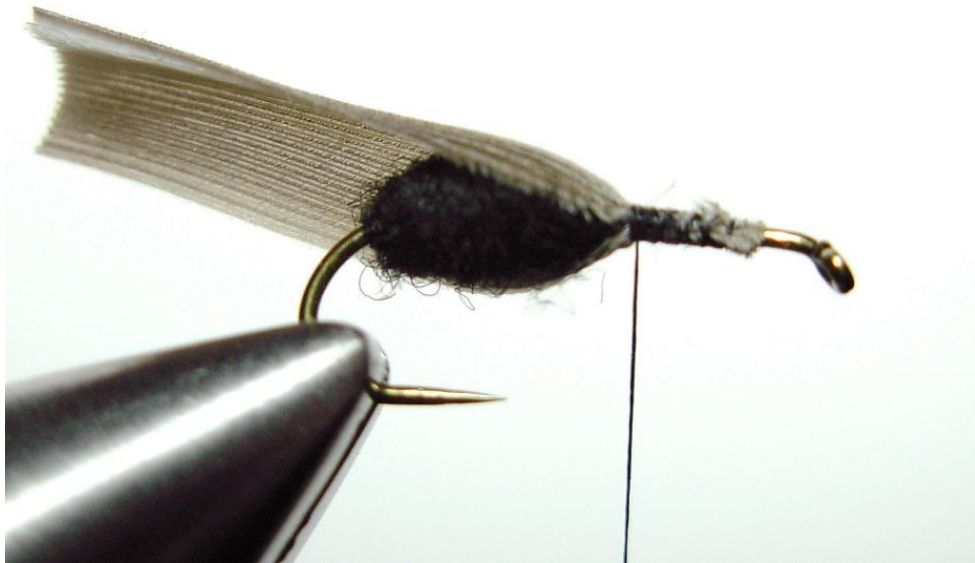
Hook: Dry fly size 14 and 16
Thread: Black 8/0
Dubbing: Black super fine dry fly dubbing
Wing: Slip from a Mallard wing feather
Legs: Black Moose body hair
Hackle: Black dry fly quality

Start the fly down on the bend of the hook making an abdomen with the dubbing. Ants have large abdomens.

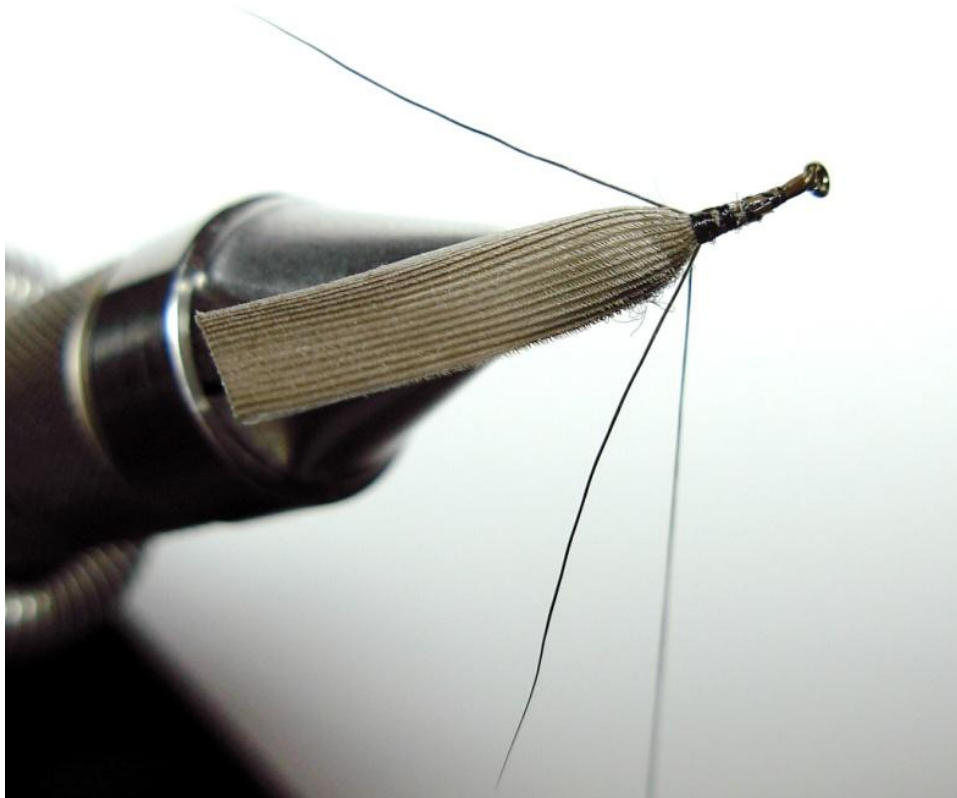


Tie the thinner end of the Mallard slip to the area just in front of the abdomen. Make sure to have it extend beyond the rear of the abdomen.





The next step is to tie in the Moose body hairs. Make sure they are even and extend back about the length of the body of the fly.



Tie in the Hackle stem in front of the Moose hair V. Shiny side to the rear.



Wrap three turns of Hackle and secure. Trim the excess Hackle.



Make a round ball type of thorax. Make a neat whip finish, trim the wing to size and you are done. Go Fish!



I have used this fly many years and highly recommend it. Jerry Hopewell
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