



“SLF Caddis Variant”

January 2009 Fly of the Month

Tied and photographed
By John Daniels

MATERIALS

- HOOK:** #12-16 IXL 2XH Nymph Hook (e.g. TMC3761)
- THREAD:** Danville 6/0 Olive
- ABDOMEN:** Olive Hare’s Ear in a Dubbing Loop
- WING:** Cream Swiss Straw.
- ANTENNAE:** Wood Duck or Dyed Mallard
- HEAD:** Arizona Synthetic Peacock.

Davy Wotton’s SLF caddis pupa is a wonderful example of how a simple pattern can still be an effective imitation. The only “problem” with his pattern is SLF dubbing is pretty hard to find and a bit pricey. This simplified variant was originally tied by Dave Sloan of American Fly Fishing and I have found it to be a very effective alternative, especially in lakes during a late evening caddis emergence. Bead head versions can be fished deep to imitate emerging pupa, diving egg laying adults, and spent caddis as well, so it is really a general all purpose caddis pattern. My favorite versions are tied in either olive or cinnamon.

Tying Instructions

1. **(Photo 1)** Lay a thread back to the bend of the hook and create a dubbing loop. Dub a shaggy body, not too thick, to about a quarter shank length from the eye.
2. **(Photo 2)** Roll out a piece of Swiss Straw (aka raffia) and cut a piece about two gape widths wide. Round one end and tie in where the body ends so that the wing extends just past the bend of the hook, before trimming the excess.



Photo 1



Photo 2

3. **(Photo 3)** Take two fibers of wood duck or dyed mallard, tie in at the wing, about the length of the body. I like to cut out the center of a feather, stroke all but one fiber on each side of the stem back, tie in, pull to length, secure with thread, and then cut off the remainder.
4. **(Photo 4)** Dub the head/thorax of the fly with artificial peacock, whip finish and you are done..

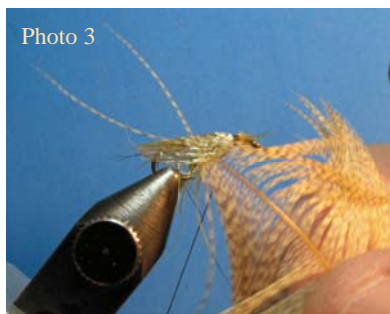


Photo 3



Photo 4

You’re done!

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