



September Fly Of The Month

European Style

Czech Nymph

By Todd A. Schotts

For this month's fly of the month, I decided to bring a fly to you that would be a great asset to your arsenal if you're going on the new September "The Muskegon River Outing." It is the Czech Nymph. So for this month we will be having the 10 step Czech Nymph by Jindra Lacko. I have tried these flies, they are easy to tie and fish great. My pattern changes a few procedures and some of the materials to items more readily available in the U.S.

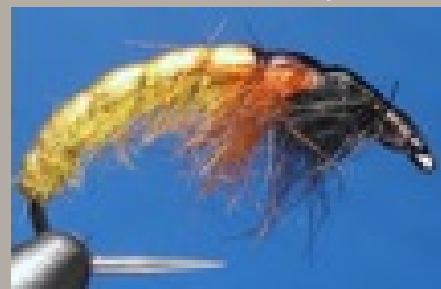
Regarding its history, the first Czech Nymph was tied with a plastic foam body from a kitchen sponge, horsehair ribbing, and a shellback from a salami skin. The Czech Nymph style, or method, didn't have its first great success until the World Championships in Belgium in 1986. Then in 1990, Czech Nymphs broke through the World Championships as a global pattern where it brought the title of World Champions for the Czech Team. Besides Czech Nymphing, there is Polish, Spanish, and Italian Nymphing, or otherwise referred to as European Nymphing. Each one of these styles uses basically the same type of flies, but the fishing techniques are quite different. Variances include use of short leaders, long leaders, or how the fly is presented to the inhabitants of the water. The fly rods are usually 3, 4, or 5 weight rods that are 10, 11, or 12 feet long, but you can use regular length fly rods. The rod tips on the longer rods are very

sensitive, aiding in feeling the take of flies by the fish.

The "Czech Nymph" is a term known throughout the fly fishing world. There is a certain way of tying these unique flies. The flies must be slim/skinny, weighted, and tied on grub or gammarus style hook that will imitate fresh water shrimp or the case-less larvae of caddis flies. These flies are tied thin to help sink the fly quickly. Another known feature is to have a "Hot Spot" incorporated into the fly. This is usually located between the body and head/legs area and is a drastic color change, such as red, pink, or orange that will entice the fish to strike - this is optional. One more typical feature is the shell back on the flies is made from thin skin materials such as plastic bags or latex strips, just to name a few. The shell is normally darker than the body dubbing.

If you are interested more into the world of Czech or European Style of Nymphing, there are some great DVD's out on the market from Steve Parrott, Aaron Jasper, and Jeff Currier and others. Hopefully you will join the fun I have had tying these amazing Trout morsels.

Czech Nymph



HOOK: 8 thru 16 Dai Riki 125/135, TMC 2487/2457, Daiichi 1130/1150, or Mustad 37160

THREAD: 6/0 UNI thread color Tan or to match body material

WEIGHT: medium size flat lead or 0.035 round flatten to wrap around hook shank

BACK: Think Skin, Latex, Plastic Bag

RIBBING: 5x Tippet Material is best

BODY: Hare dubbing dyed light Olive; Angora Goat dubbing dyed hot orange; 60 Hare/40 Angora Goat dubbing dyed Black

COLOR: a light touch of black Prismatic or Copic Marker systems; Sharpies work, but cannot blend colors

Step 1: Select your hook

Step 2: Add a layer of lead, one layer works great, but you can add another layer for more weight. But on second layer make it one turn shorter than bottom layer. Do not extend the lead past the hook's bend. If you do, your fly will be skinny with a big arse, which we do not want.

Step 3: Tie in your thread; you want to use 6/0 because it will be able to withstand the abuse and pressure of tying this fly. With tan thread, it won't darken the dubbing as if you use olive or black.

Step 4: Rib and Back Cover. Make sure your shell back is darker than the body material you use on the fly. Remember tie both materials down tightly so you will avoid having a skinny big arse fly.

Step 5: Dub the abdomen about one half of the body. If you are using natural dubbing, be aware it will darken once wet, so select color accordingly. Remember SKINNY fly!

Step 6: Hot Spot step. Use just want a small band of this. See the picture. Remember SKINNY.

Step 7: Thorax/Legs. This is with scruffy dubbing with longish materials, like Angora goat, seal, or hare. Make sure you leave just enough space for the head, remember SKINNY, NO BIG ARSE FLY!!!

Step 8: Fold over the Back shell. Once you pull it over, stretching it slightly forward tie in. But do not trim off until you rib the fly.

Step 9: Ribbing: wrap the material the direction of your thread. Keep the wraps evenly spaced. Tie off the ribbing then trim the excess shell or backing off.

Step 10: Brush you're dubbing with a dubbing brush to get your fly really buggy. Then color the head and front half of the shell with the marker.