

## Fly of the Month

## The Squirmy Wormy



Hook :- Heavy wet fly or grub hook 12-10-8

Thread :- To suit the body colour.  
Flat thread, wool or dubbed tying thread.

Body :- Squirmy Wormy...that's what it's called.



The Squirmy Wormy is the latest worm pattern around and so effective that it is said to have been banned in competition fishing. It looks easy to tie but looks are deceptive. The silicone material is very soft and stretchy, likes to roll around the hook and is easily cut by ordinary tying thread pulled too tight. And it also tends to dissolve in contact with most head cements and nail varnishes. Superglue is safe enough, as is UV-set epoxy.

I tied the one above by laying a base of thread from eye to bend and attaching the squirmy with a couple of pinch and loops, not too tightly as that makes the material roll around the hook. The thread was then taken forward over the body in three or four spaced turns and secured with a wrap knot behind the eye. A tiny drop of superglue instead of head cement was then used to seal the knot.



The worm on the left was started in a similar way by attaching the material at the bend, taking the thread forward and then winding the slightly stretched material along the shank and securing it at the eye. To get the nice glossy finish it was then coated in UV-set epoxy.



Another problem with the squirmy material is that it floats, so the pattern is often tied with a beadhead. I think the floating problem could also be overcome by putting a weighted nymph on a dropper twelve inches or so above the worm.

I prefer the natural worm colour squirmy material but if you want to get inventive it is available in a wide variety of colours on ebay.



I haven't yet been able to bring myself to tie one on but the Orvis website says that your misgivings will fade once you start catching fish on it.

I have tied a few and will try one soon ..... for research purposes only, of course.

*Alan Taylor*

~~~~~