

Fly of the Month

Cubits Mudeye

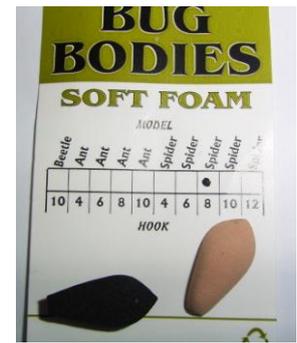


Hook :- Kamasan B170, B175 or similar, size 10-8-6

Thread :- Strong thread of your choice.

Body :- Foam Bug Body

Head and 'legs' :- Deer hair



December is the month in Tasmania when mudeye hatches are at their peak, traditionally a few days each side of the full moon. So a good mudeye pattern in the fly box is a must, especially on a warm summer evening and the Cubits is one of the best. It's a fly of fairly recent Tasmanian origin and I believe it was named for, or devised, by Simon Cubit.

The Cubits Mudeye is not particularly difficult to tie, the main problem being obtaining the foam bodies which are sold in a variety of shapes..... "Spider" is the best shape to use. Prepare the foam body by making a slit in it from the blunt end back about ¾ of its length. The slit should be deep enough to accommodate the thickness of the hook. Starting about ¼ of the shank length back from the eye cover the shank with tying thread stopping at the start of the bend. Half hitch the thread and cut it. Put one drop of Superglue on the thread covered shank and then press the slitted foam body onto it, being sure to leave the front quarter of the shank clear to make spinning the deer hair easier.

Spinning and stacking deer hair to make a collared head is not easy to describe in words but there are heaps of instructions on YouTube, one of the best of which is here <http://flylifemagazine.com/tips-tactics-spinning-deer-hair-flies-just-got-easier/> (I love his trick with the razor blade, I use curved blade nail scissors) When you have formed the sloping back collar snip away the bits on top and leave the leggy looking bits underneath.

The Cubits Mudeye is very much a floating fly and is fished by pulling it dance timequick, slow, quick-quick, slow across the surface. Be prepared for savage takes.... Bruce Tole and I found a few years ago when fishing one evening at Jonah Bay that you almost need to hold the rod in two hands !

A.T.

