

Bob Dietz CdC and Elk



This one's the invention of a gentleman from the Netherlands named Hans Weilenmann. Unlike most dry flies tied with Cul de Canard, the CdC isn't there so much for floatation, but to represent the moving parts of the caddis: legs, antennae, etc, and to create the body. The elk (actually this fly is almost always tied with deer hair, but elk still works) provides the floatation.

Hook: Standard dry fly hook

Thread: 8/0 or finer, color to match fly

Body/legs/antennae: Single CdC feather

Wing: Elk or coastal/summer deer hair

Start the thread mid-hook and wind back to the bend. Stroke back the fibers of the CdC leaving only the tip exposed, and tie in by the tip. Pay attention to the way the CdC is tied in: wrap over the feather; lift the feather to take a wrap under it, and then make another wrap over it. This is an excellent way to tie in many materials; it creates bend in the feather that makes it harder to pull out. (It also points the butt of the feather straight up and makes it easier to trim.) Look for ways to use this trick; it's a handy one.

Wind the thread to the front of the fly (where you will tie in the wing) and start winding the CdC forward. When you get to point where you're winding loose fibers, start stroking the fibers back and continue winding. Tie off when you reach the thread, and trim the butts.

Take an appropriate amount of hair and even the tips in a hair stacker. Tie in so that the tips just reach the end of the hook. The first two wraps should be with a soft loop, then make successively tighter wraps. Pull the butt end of the hair up take some wraps in front of them to lift them up. Trim the butt ends, wind a few turns through the remaining butt ends, and whip finish. Clean up the head if necessary.