

In search of orange

By

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Anyone who fishes with will know that I have a predilection for fishing wet and that I go orange more often than not. In fact the more orange (reckoned in the vividity of the colour, not the quantity on your fly) the better in my book. For example I like the orange hot spot. - See <http://www.tomsutcliffe.co.za/fly-fishing/friend-s-articles/item/469-the-hot-spot.html>



My predilection for orange was brought home to me when I undertook one of those sporadic tidy ups we fly tyers are obliged to do, if only to keep the dearly beloved from threatening divorce. Of course I exaggerate on that subject. The truth is my dearly beloved give me considerable leeway in this regard. Her dolls house

cavern surpasses my nook in size, get up and general sprawl (note I do not say mess as that would be dangerous). So it was not so much the imprecations of dearly beloved that drove me to tidy up. It was necessity. Such was the clutter I found myself losing tools and materials on my fly tying desk and that just won't do.



It was during one such clean up that I noticed that I had an awful lot of orange stuff. However, given my predilection one would expect that I would have found the right orange. The truth is that I have not. The perfect orange still eludes me. My search continues. Thus there is hardly a time that I visit a fly tying shop that I do not ferret about looking for some new magical shade of orange that will do what all of my other shades of orange have not accomplished.

This search is not without some danger. For example recently I succumbed and bought a beautiful shade of fluoro orange seal fir. Now seal fir is a traditional fly tying material. It is also wonderful glistens and has a wonderful leggy look about it. I waxed lyrical on this stuff on Facebook recently only to discover, or more correctly have pointed out, that seal fur comes from clubbed baby seals. I am still having sleepless nights. A timely reminder to have some regard to the provenance of the material we tie with. So as I said I have a lot of orange stuff about.

