

Terry Andrews HD Dragon



Material list

1. Hook Mustad size 2, 4 or 6 R75-795080 2hx/5XL Streamer hook.
2. Large plastic bead chain eye.
3. 20kg or similar mono to be used to brace the tail.
4. Olive green rubber legs. The stuff used as skirts on lures works. A bit of flash embedded in the legs is preferred.
5. Uni copper wire – large.
6. Green wool for bulking the abdomen.
7. Caddis green Ice Dub.
8. Chartreuse green pine squirrel zonker.
9. Dark green crinkle mirror flash or holographic flashabou.
10. Green hen hackle or mallard feathers.
11. Copious amounts of water based head cement

That is quite a shopping list and I must tell you will not find all of it in Durban.

For some reason Durban fly fishing shops won't stock Ice Dub. This is despite it being available elsewhere in the country. Your best bet is to order it locally online from African Fly Angler or Frontier Fly Fishing.

Finding Holographic flash is even harder even though it is supplied by Veniards who are represented locally by Kingfisher. They don't have – I checked and neither does anyone else in South Africa at least not in the required colours. Terry Andrews sources his on E bay from [ladyflytyer](#) (vendor code 161120).

Triggers

Terry stresses that the fly has 4 important triggers:

1. The zonker tail – it must not be too long
2. The abdomen must be chunky
3. The wing case and flashabou must pulse on retrieval
4. The head. – It is substantial

Tying Instructions

The tie is pretty straightforward. Terry's takes 11 minutes to tie this fly. I take a great deal longer.

1. Wrap thread from the eye.
2. Continue wrapping thread backwards to the bend of the hook.



3. Terry ties these two ways. One is to tie in a weed guard as is shown in these photographs. The other is to tie a nylon loop under the tail to prevent the zonker tail from wrapping around the bend of the hook. This latter option is now preferred. So:
 - a. either tie in 1cm loop behind the bend using the mono wrap forward to the bead chain cutting the excess mono off just behind the bead chain; or
 - b. Do much the same with a single un looped strand leaving enough to tie in a weed guard in front of the eye.



4. Take a good length of copper wire and tie it in wrapping backwards towards the bend of the hook.



5. Take the zonker and tie it in so that the tail is just longer than the nylon loop – say 1.5cm. Take care not to trap the zonker fibres when doing this. Gordon Van Der Spuy's latest DVD has a useful tutorial on how to do this.
6. Pull the zonker back out of the way behind the bend of the hook and then tie in the green wool wrapping forward to the bead chain eye.



7. Tie in a pair of eyes using the plastic the plastic bead chain about 4 to 5mm behind the eye. I find it helps to secure the eyes with glue.
8. Wrap a wool body wrapping backwards and forward up and down the hook tapering it to its thickest point about one third of the way along the abdomen gradually thinning down towards they. An important trick,

stresses Terry is not to tie it too tight as you want the abdomen to absorb water. secure the wool just behind the bead eyes and cut off the excess.



9. Rib your thread backwards to secure the wool and then dub forward using the caddis green dubbing. The dubbing should end about 5mm behind the bead chain eyes. Terry uses an imported product called Hi Vis which he sometimes mixes as shown above.



10. Rib forward with the copper wire as shown above.



11. Bring the zonker forward and tie off firmly with the copper wire.



12. Take your rubber legs and cut them in half. Tie one half in on each side securing the legs midway on the side of the body thus creating two legs a side both riding backwards and flush on the side of the body. The I find the best way to do this is to tie them in with a couple of wraps just behind the bead chain and then wrap them onto the body going back 5mm from the bead chain. (i.e. to where the dubbing stops.



13. Take three or four strands of flasahbou and fold it over to create a bunch of loops about 2 cm long. Tie them in 5mm behind the bead chain so the flashabou lies backwards to the bend of the hook to create a wing. Cut the loops unevenly to create a scraggly wing.
14. Liberally apply glue



15. Take the partridge or hen hackle and tie it in over the flashabou to create a wing case. the wing case should be about 1cm log and the idea is to get the feather to wrap around the side of the fly and over the top in much the same way as this is done with the Papa Roach.



16. Liberally apply water based head cement on the base of the wing case all the way forward to the bead chain eye. This is important as the head cement will secure the thorax and give the dubbing something to bind to.



17. Dub the thorax thickly with caddis green dubbing. Wrap the Dubbing around the bead chain Eyes. (again Gordon Van Der Spuy's DVD contains a useful tutorial on how to do this).



18. Continue dubbing to the eye of the hook. Whip finish and secure with glue or Sally Hansen's.
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