FLY OF THE MONTH

DRAGONFLY NYMPH AND DAMSELFLY NYMPH

DRAGONFLY NYMPH

Hook:	3x - 4x long size 4 to 8
Thread:	Brown 6/0 or 8/0
Weight:	Lead wire .025
Body:	Olive and Brown Dubbing (I added a bit of yellow also) blended together
Rib:	Fine copper wire
Wing case:	Mottled turkey tail
Legs:	Pheasant tail fibers
Eyes:	Mono eyes or bead chain eyes

DAMSELFLY NYMPH

Hook:	Same as dragonfly nymph
Thread:	Brown 6/0 or 8/0
Weight:	Same as Dragonfly nymph
Tails:	Three olive biots
Body:	Same as Dragonfly nymph
Rib:	Fine Gold wire or copper
Wing Case:	Same as Dragonfly nymph
Legs:	Pheasant tail fibers
Eyes:	Same as dragonfly nymph

1. Place a de-barbed hook in the vise and wrap a layer of thread from just behind the eye to the bend of the hook. Wrap 2 layers of lead from about the 1/4 point behind the hook eye to about 1/8 inch in front of the hook bend. If you are tying the damsel nymph use only one layer of lead.

2. Tie in the ribbing wire at the bend of the hook. If you are tying the damsel nymph now is the time to tie in the tail.

3. Dub a fat body tapered from the middle both ways. This fat body should be from the bend to the beginning of the thorax. If you are tying the damsel nymph it has a skinny body and has no or a very slight taper. Thorax of the damsel is same as the body. The thorax of the dragonfly nymph is smaller than the body.
Put a small layer of dubbing on the thorax area (both flies)

4. Move the thread forward to the 1/4 point behind the hook eye. Tie in the wing case, which should extend over and front of the hook eye. (both flies)

5. Tie in the legs - 3 on each side. They should be 1/4" to 3/8 " long. Tie on the eyes just behind the hook eye.

6. Dub the thorax area from the eyes back to the front end of the body. The thorax of the Dragonfly is much skinnier than the body. On the damselfly it's about the same size. Put a small amount of dubbing between and around the eyes.

7. Pull the wing case back between the eyes and over the thorax. It should extend to just short of the middle of the body (on the dragonfly). On the damsel fly just a bit shorter. Secure it with several wraps behind the legs and then move the thread forward to just behind the eyes and make several more wraps over the wing case. Trim the wing case for proper length.

8. Whip finish and apply head cement to the thread and the wing case.

As you can see both flies are tied with basically the same materials and the steps are very similar. Both of these insects are found in stillwater almost the year around. Some studies indicate that damselfly nymphs are the third most important food source of stillwater trout. Both of these flies are good stillwater patterns and should be in your fly box. Use a sinking fly line and a moderate, jerking retrieve. They are especially productive in the spring and early summer.