

THE TYING BENCH

SUMMER SNOOK AND THE D. T. SPECIAL

This is one of my favorite seasons, summer is here and snook are on the beaches. This is a terrific time because early in the morning, you can walk the Gulf beaches and sight cast to snook in the swash channel along the shoreline. A favorite fly of mine to do this is the D.T. Special, which is simply an all white Apte Tarpon Fly, (aka Keys Tarpon Fly and probably a bunch of other names). By the way, this fly tied in white, yellow or yellow/red also takes trout and redfish

Tying the D.T. Special couldn't be simpler, the dressing and tying instructions follow:

MATERIALS:

Hook — size 2 or 1, Mustad 3407 or similar
Thread — white 3/0 monocord
Tail — four white saddle or neck hackles
Collar — two white neck hackles
Eye — thread wrapped to eye, then a painted on eye (this is optional)

DIRECTIONS:

Select six hackles and match into three pairs. Strip the soft fibers off the butts of two pairs, leaving the feathers about twice the length of the hook shank. Tie one pair in by the hackle stems above the point of the hook, such that the feathers bend out on one side, with two wraps of thread. Then tie in the second pair, again with the feathers bending out on the other side of the hook, and se-

cure both pairs with several wraps.

Take the third pair of neck hackles, remove a bit of the fuzz from the base of the feathers and tie in by the butts in front of the tie-in point of the tail. Now palmer these forward with three to four wraps.



D.T. SPECIAL tied by Paul Sequira

Secure with thread, and clip the excess hackle tips off. Stroke back the fibers, and wrap the base of the palmer to force it backward a bit.

Finish the fly off by building up the head a bit with several wraps of thread. A couple of coats of head cement finishes the fly.

If you want to get fancy, you can continue wrapping a couple of layers of thread towards the eye of the hook after you've built up the head. Paint a yellow eye on each side of the head with the end of a small dowel and use a smaller dowel to place a black dot in the center of the yellow.

Note: No, you're not experiencing deja vu. This page previously appeared in last month's test run of the proto type electronic edition of On The Fly which was distributed to the SFF Board of Directors and a few other interested members. So if you are one of the test group, then you have seen it before. It is however, the first fly in a series of local successful patterns that I plan to include as a regular item. If you have a favorite fly that you'd like to see in these pages, send me a sample, a photo and the dressing.....*Paul*