

## MOHAIR LEECH



By Bob Bates

Often a simple fly pattern will catch as many fish as more complicated patterns. Such is the case with this pattern. As I watched Norm Crisp tying it at the 2009 FFF Conclave in Loveland, Colorado I thought this is too simple to put in the FFF Fly of the Month. Then I remembered that it is very similar to a pattern in my fly box that has caught many nice fish. It even has the same name. The only difference is the marabou tail. Norm is from Prairie Village, Kansas, and he fishes whenever he can. In fact he fishes it all over the world; it is his fly of choice. For him it is a stream fly, and he drags it through deeper holes like a Woolly Bugger. However, I bet it would work in lakes also.

The lighter colored version imitates a Golden Stonefly nymph. Norm thinks that it might also imitate a crawdad that has just shed its older cover. Fish seem to know that such a crawdad is good eatin'.

### Materials List:

**Hook:** Cabela's model 21 or TMC 200RBL sizes 6, 8

**Thread:** Olive, 6/0

**Weight:** Lead wire, 035-inch

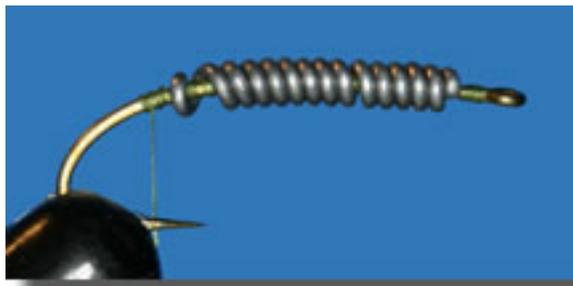
**Tail:** Marabou, olive

**Body:** Mohair yarn, olive, dark yellow golden and black

**Tying steps:**



1. Attach thread behind eye, and wrap it backward to near where the barb would be if the hook was not barbless.



2. Put on 12 wraps of 0.035 lead wire. Start the wraps about half way between the barb location and point. After the 12 wraps, hold the coil and break off the wire, and roll down any wire that sticks up.



3. Attach the tail behind the lead coil. Tie it long, and break it off later.



4. The mohair yarn that he got at a yarn shop was a little thinner than he likes so he doubled it. Every couple of wraps, pull fibers out and back. This way they will flow backward over the body.



5. Tie off yarn at front. Fold the yarn back, and wrap over it to keep eye clear. Whip finish to complete the fly.



6. Pinch the tail at the length you want, and break off the excess. Pinch the marabou hard between the thumb nail and first finger so it doesn't slip when excess is broken off. You might have to do this more than once.

**Closing comments:** This is a great fish catching fly that is easy to tie. Tie a few and test them in your local waters; I think that you will be happy with the results. Sometimes mohair has

places where the fibers are bound down when the yarn was made. They can be picked out with a bodkin after tying the pattern.

Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.  
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at [flyofthemoth@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:flyofthemoth@fedflyfishers.org)