

X-Caddis – Dark Green



Class: Dry

Originator: Craig Mathews

Source: Blue Ribbon Flies

Or Tie our Own

Clay's Notes

Because caddisflies tend to emerge very quickly, trout don't want to expend too much energy chasing them. Instead, the fish focus on those emergers that are crippled or are struggling to escape the nymphal shuck. The X-Caddis, developed by famed West Yellowstone guide and shop-owner Craig Mathews, imitates just such an insect, with a trailing shuck of Zelon and a splayed wing of deer hair. Because there's no hackle, the X-Caddis sits very low in the water, as if the bug is trapped in the surface film. All of these features make the fly attractive to feeding trout, and the pattern has proven itself effective over the years. I have them in my caddis box. They are some of my "Go To" flies when the caddis are hatching.

Olive X-Caddis

Hook: Standard dry-fly hook (e.g. Dai-Riki #305), sizes 12-16.
Thread: Dark Olive, or thread to match color of mayfly 6/0.
Shuck: Olive Zelon, or color to match mayfly, tan, etc.
Body: Dark Olive dubbing (rabbit/Antron blend) or color to match color of mayfly
Wing: Natural deer hair, cleaned and stacked.
Head: Deer-hair butts.

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