

RED QUILL DRY FLY

The Red Quill is a classic dry that I first saw in the *Noll Guide to Trout Flies and How To Tie Them*, published in 1970. The next time I came across it was in Art Flick's *Streamside Guide to Naturals and Their Imitations* where we actually find it not only in the book, but on it's cover indicating Art thought a great deal of this fly.

The Red Quill is the imitation for the Hendrickson which hatches from the 3rd week of April to the Last week of May. Here in the Mount Washington Valley we have very few Hendrickson; however we do have the Gray Drake hatching on the Saco River the 1st and 2nd week of June for which the Red Quill is an excellent match. The Gray Drake will commonly hatch from the last week in May until 1st week of July.



Pattern:

Hook: Dry Fly #12

Thread: Black 6/0

Tail: Rusty Blue Dun or Blue Dun Hackle Barbules

Body: Stripped Brown Hackle Quill

Hackle: Rusty Blue Dun or Blue Dun

Wing: Wood Duck, upright & divided

Special Instructions: Pre-soak the stripped hackle quill in warm water perhaps 30 minutes before tying.