FORBES' DAMSEL NYMPH:



Hook: #12 to 14, Mustad 9671
Thread: Olive monocord
Tail: Olive Marabou
Abdomen: Dubbed green wool, floss, or larva lace
Thorax: Dubbed brown or back wool or seal
Rib: None
Gills: Olive Partridge hackle or dyed ostrich herl
Eyes: Plastic or bead chain
Wrap on the thread and X in the eyes just behind the eye of the hook.

Wrap the thread to the bend of the hook and tie down a moderate clump of olive marabou, extending about a hook shank length past the bend as a tail.

Tie in another clump of marabou and wrap the thread forward to the eyes. Then wrap the marabou forward forming a slim body, and tie off at the eyes.

Tie in a smaller clump of marabou and X around the eyes to form a small bulbous head. Tie off behind the eyes.

- *Tie in the partridge or ostrich and wrap two or three times around, tie off and whip finish.*
- An effective variation of this pattern can be tied with a bead head instead of the eyes.



The damselfly nymph patterns should be fished using a floating or slow sinking line near weeds or lilypads using a hand-twist retrieve. During the midday heat the damsel nymphs swim to the nearest reeds, weeds, or lilypads, crawl up them and hatch out into the adults. Trout key in on this migration and feed steadily near the surface for hours. If you twitch your retrieving hand just slightly while bringing in the line you will cause the marabou on the fly to undulate and will attract a bit more attention.