

Red Butt Chironomid Pupa

Maroon is a fairly common pupal colour. Similar fishing tactics to the Black and Red Ice Cream Cone.

The most intense chironomid emergences occur between about 10 AM and 4 PM during the day. The pupa take advantage of warming water temperatures hence the later morning start.

Material

Hook – Curved shrimp/pupa hook sizes #16-#8 Thread – Black 8/0 or 6/0 waxed Tag – Red Holographic tinsel Rib – fine red copper wire Body – Black flashabou or Frostbite Gills – White metal bead

Chironomid Pupa without an indicator (naked)

Fly Line – WF6F FloatingLeader – 18 feet in length with 5 pound tippet Depth anchored – 12 feet Retrieve – very slow hand twist with short quick strips interspersed

5. Chironomid pupa with indicator

Fly line – WF6F – floating Leader – 15 feet long with Rio 5 pound tippet Depth anchored – 13 feet Technique – pupa suspended 12 feet below indicator Strike indicator – Thill brand

Chironomid pupa - sinking line technique

Fly Line – WF6I – clear intermediate/slow sinker
Anchored in 27 feet of water
Line sink rate @ 2.5 inches/sec
Wait time – 2.5 minutes to ensure chironomid pupa is at lake bottom before initiating retrieve
Retrieve – very slow hand twist
Leader – 7 – 9 feet with 5 pound tippet

Note: can use type 2 to type 5 sinking lines to fish this technique. The faster sinking lines reduces the amount of time you have to wait for the fly to get to the lake bottom.

Depth sounder critical to this technique