Tying Bench—Ken's Green Dragon *by Paul Sequira*

Ken Hofmeister, ever the experimenter (Or does he just try to use up whatever is on the bench?) came up with this unusual but productive fly "Ken's Green Dragon". Surprisingly it is effective in both fresh and salt water. It just goes to prove that you don't really have to know what you're doing to create a successful fly.

Ken's Green Dragon tied by Ken Hofmeister

Paul Sequira photo

Materials:

- Hook: SW Mustad 3407 size 1– 4
- FW Mustad 9672 size 8 -10
- Thread: chartreuse flat waxed nylon
- Tail: chartreuse bunny zonker strip
- Body: chartreuse crystal chenille
- Over Body: chartreuse 3/8" wide fly foam strip
- Weed guard: black hollow plastic tubing (optional)

Instructions:

1. Secure the hook in the vise in the conventional manner.
2. Attach the thread to the hook with a jam knot approximately 1/16" behind the hook eye. Spiral wrap the thread down to the hook bend and back up again to the tie-in point.
3. Lay the zonker strip (approximately twice the length of the hook) against the hook shank fur side against the hook shank. That's right, you want the skin side facing up. Secure the zonker strip to the hook with several tight wraps of thread and continue the wraps towards the hook bend in a tight close spiral wrap.
4. Tie in a piece of crystal chenille at the hook bend and spiral wrap the thread up to the tie-in point. Wrap the chenille up towards the hook eye and tie off. Clip and discard excess chenille.
5. Tie in the foam strip behind the hook eye, leaving the end extending out over the eye approximately 3/16" and the remainder of the foam extending out over the tail.
6. Hold the foam directly over the body and secure the foam to the fly body with a couple of wraps approximately half way to the bend, then secure the foam to the body with several more wraps just at the start of the bend. Now move the thread forward towards the hook eye by wrapping the thread at the center position again and then to the tie in point behind the eye.
7. Fold the fly foam over the body to the tie in point, and secure it to the body with several thread wraps and then a couple of half hitches.
8. At this point you may tie in a weed guard, two legs pointing towards the hook point.
9. Whip finish and cut off the excess fly foam leaving a small extension of foam above the hook eye.
10. A little carefully placed head cement on the thread wraps if you choose, and the Green Dragon is done.