

Bill's RED QUILL SPINNER

Most dry flies are tied to imitate the “dun” stage of the mayfly. This is the mayfly just after it has hatched on the water. Many duns float down stream for a ways while their wings dry enough for them to fly off into the streamside vegetation and trees. Trout feed vigorously on these tasty morsels and this is the stage most often referred to when talking about “matching the hatch”.

The “spinner”, on the other hand, is often overlooked. After the dun flies off into the vegetation and trees it changes into the spinner. You can tell the difference between the dun and the spinner mainly by the wings. The spinner has clear, cellophane like wings. The spinners mate in the air over the streams and later, in the evening after mating, they fall exhausted [spent] into the water where the trout gorge themselves on this easy food source. Trout become EXTREMELY selective during a “spinner fall”.

The Red Quill Spinner is an especially useful fly here on the Saco anywhere from the last week of May through mid June.

So here it is, Bill's Red Quill Spinner:



Recipe:

Hook: - #10 Swimming nymph

Thread: - Brown

Tail: - Light dun hackle barbs, divided

Abdomen: - Mahogany brown dubbing

Wing: - Blue dun hackle barbs, spent

Thorax: - Same as the abdomen, built up and around wings

This particular version of the Red Quill Spinner is exclusively available at [The North Country Angler](#).