



Singed Zelandopsyche (cased) caddis.

Peter Corson

This is a very quick and easy nymph pattern to tie. Although this pattern most correctly resembles Zelandopsyche, a larger cased caddis that makes cases from sand or debris, mainly in forested catchments, it is also a good imitation of other common cased caddis. It is easiest to tie in size 10 or 12 in a straight shank 1x long hook and best fished on a dead drift.

- Start your thread behind the eye and wrap the shank of the hook, slightly into the bend of the hook, then back up 3-4mm.
- Strip fibres to create a tie in point from the end of an 8-10cm piece of sparkly chenille. Tie in, take the thread forward, then wind the chenille forward to a hook eye length behind the eye. Tie in, whip finish and cut the thread. Take the hook out of the vice and hold with hackle pliers or forceps. Gently singe the chenille with a lighter. It can burn quickly, so go lightly. Rotate the hook and blow out immediately if it starts to burn.
- Place the singed caddis back in the vice and using a thread colour of your choice, rusty brown or black are good options, start forming a head. Optionally, you can tie in legs that face forward using a 'V' of hen hackle. The legs should be 2-3 times the length of the eye. Finish the head with your thread, whip finish and varnish.