

SPOTTED SEDGE HYDROPSYCHIDAE



Spotted Sedge Larvae

Identification

- Caseless
- Creates a net made of silk
- Coloration is variable, ranging from bright green, to tan, to brown
- Top of each thoracic segment hardened
- Gills throughout underside of abdomen
- Size: up to 0.8 in (#10)



Spotted Sedge Pupa

Identification

- Pupation occurs within the net retreat
- Body shape and coloration roughly resemble the larvae, but with larger eyes and longer antennae and legs



Spotted Sedge Adult

Identification

- Brown to tan body, with speckled wings and long antenna
- Size: 0.2-0.5 in (#20-12)

Biology

The larvae are omnivores and spin silken nets to catch floating food out of the current. They guard their nets and are very territorial. Females dive or crawl underwater to lay their eggs on ideal substrate. Spotted Sedges represent an entire caddis family, often with five to ten species occupying a single stream segment.



Angling Tip:

Spotted Sedges are the most common and important caddis to the angler. Their hatch occurs throughout the majority of the summer.