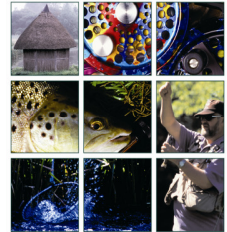


# AUGUST FISHING ADVICE



## TACTICS



**August tends to be one of those months that gets mistakenly 'written off' by some fly fishermen as too hot, too sunny and too hard. But in truth if you are looking for a time when the rivers are at their most uncrowded and the English countryside splendid I can't think you will do much better.**

My first tip is to pare down your kit; dress for the summer on the river. If you like shorts, wear them. Great rid of that heavy waistcoat for a few essentials hung around your neck. Ditch your wellingtons for something cooler and lighter. Secondly be prepared to fish in short bursts retreating to the shade at regular intervals. Thirdly watch the sun, keeping it to your face to prevent your shadows and your line spooking the fish.

As for fly presentation this is the month I most assiduously pay attention to my tippet. If a fish comes up for a fly, but turns away this is one of the few times of the year that I will consider reducing the thickness of the tippet rather than changing the fly. Likewise I will always apply Gunk, Fullers Earth or sinkent to the final 6 inches of my tippet every time I change or re-tie my fly.

## TACKLE TIPS

If you have a lighter outfit August is the month to use it. As in July light tippets for smaller flies are the order of the day. You will be fishing more small flies which are harder to tie on so don't forget a torch if you are fishing late.



## HATCHES

Olives, sedges and midges are the three main hatches for August. All beats now allow the nymph option, so I have added a section for the non-hatching times when you will need to turn to your nymph box.

### Blue Winged Olive

The definitive chalkstream fly that is the most widespread of the summer olives. The three stages in the lifecycle are all attractive to trout.



- Emerger - Parachute Adams #14
- Dun – Blue Winged Olive #14-18
- Spinner – Sherry Spinner #16

**Blue Winged Olive**

## Medium Olive

If it is not a Blue Winged then it will be one of any of the prolific summer olive hatches covering a variety of species.

Parachute Adams #16  
Greenwell's Glory #16  
Lunn's Particular #14-16



**Lunn's Particular**

## Midges

Midges or 'buzzers' are incredibly prolific and the staple for stillwater anglers, but are equally effective on rivers where they are less commonly used. Fish the bloodworm close to the river bed, but try the buzzers at varying depths.

Deep Nymph - Bloodworm #12  
Common Nymph – Buzzer #14-18  
Emerger – CDC Shuttlecock #14  
Adult – Knotted Midge #16



**Knotted Midge**

## Sedges

There are over 30 British caddis species, but they are all fairly similar from an angler's viewpoint. A few different patterns will cover them all.

Cinnamon Sedge #12  
Elk Hair Caddis #14  
Silver Sedge #12-14  
Klinkhammer #14-16 (Emerger)



**Klinkhammer**

## Terrestrials

Ants and Daddy-Long Legs are some of the most fun patterns to fish. Ants are the less common of the two, but always carry a few because on the rare occasions a swarm gets blown onto the water the trout will go mad for them. Daddy-Long Legs are far more common (there are 300 species native to Britain) and trout view them as easy pickings. Fish this fly in the surface film rather than cocked on the surface.

Daddy-Long Legs #12  
Black Ant #16



**Daddy-Long Legs**

## Nymphs

When nothing much is moving on the surface observe the fly life and match with the nymph.

Damselfly Nymph #12	Damselflies
Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear #12	Sedges
Pheasant Tail Nymph #14-16	Olives
Pink or Olive Shrimp #14	Freshwater shrimp



**Green Shrimp**

Ends.