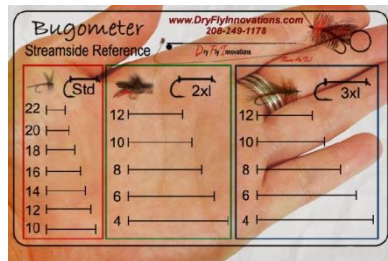
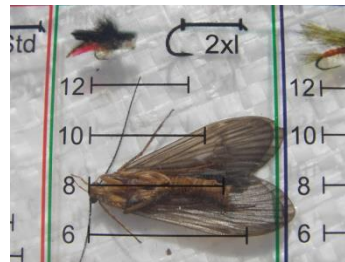


## Bugometer

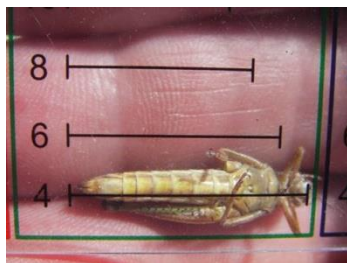
If it is your intent to excel in a bug hatch, you must know the species of the insect, the color, and the exact size. Hatches must be matched perfectly to entice a fish to eat your fly. Species and color can be determined quite easily by simply picking up the bug for a thorough examination. Where we fail most often is in the size of the insect. A good fishing buddy of mine, Troy Pearse, created a measuring device to solve the problem of size. It is called a Bugometer. It can be used to precisely measure body length of a bug and instantaneously equate it to a hook size. This is a photo of a Streamside Reference Bugometer (which attaches to a zinger on your vest. It is waterproof, scratchproof, UV coated, and the size of a credit card.) Notice measurement from head to end of abdomen *only*. Do not include wings, antenna, or tail. These are photos of the Bugometer doing its job.



Bugometer (Not Actual Size)



Fall Caddis Size 8



Hopper Size 4



Midge Size 20

Bugometer * Benchside Reference		
<b>TMC100 1X Shank</b>	<b>TMC5212 2X Shank</b>	<b>TMC5263 3X Shank</b>
Size Length	Size Length	Size Length
24 3.99mm	12 12.39mm	12 13.25mm
22 4.65mm	10 14.55mm	10 15.29mm
20 5.22mm	8 16.72mm	8 17.84mm
18 5.78mm	6 19.64mm	6 22.18mm
16 7.66mm		4 26.80mm
14 8.53mm		
12 10.16mm		
10 11.42mm		

The Bugometer comes with a second measuring device called the *Benchside Reference*. I have several of them laminated and I keep them in my fly tying room. I often bring home insects from the river to recreate at the vise. The benchside measures these bugs in millimeters and the chart converts that measurement to hook size. It's a quick, easy way to derive the exact hook size on which a bug should be tied. Appendix B displays a Benchside and Streamside Reference in actual sizes.

Troy wrote an awesome article entitled "Size Matters" in the June 2011 *American Angler* magazine explaining the importance of the Bugometer. (Back issues of *American Angler* are available at: <http://americanangler.com/contact-us/contact-us>)