

**Dear Customers,**

After spending 60 years on the water and 25 years as a full time guide, I am fully convinced nothing will out fish a dyed grizzly hackle. Back in the late 1930's and 40's a plain black or brown chenille body wrapped palmer fashion with a grizzly hackle was about as deadly as you could get. I fished them in all sizes from 2-14 in 6x long down to 2x long hook. These flies were just plain woolly worms. We had no weighted lines so we would put about six or eight strings of wrap around lead on our leaders and bump the bottom on those big deep runs in Northern New Mexico's Rio Grande River. It took years for someone to put a tail on them and call the woolly buggers. We used to get our grizzly hackle by the bulk from Herter's and I've sold many dozens of these flies for \$1.50 a dozen. Good money in the late 1930's. We caught big fish in those days and bigger fish in these days. Let's get back to grizzly hackle. I never dreamed we would

have these beautiful hybrid birds we have now. I have a saddle in my office dyed Burnt Orange. During my morning coffee, I picked it up and looked at it in awe. After dying thousands of these capes and saddles and fishing them many thousands of hours, I know why they are so effective. As I said before, they are a three-colored feather and when mixed with the right body materials you have a four color fly all blended into one. Add a wisp of Burnt Orange or Rust marabou tail, fish it very, very slowly and big fish have a hard time resisting it. These colors work as well in rivers as they do on a lake.



**~ Jay Fair**