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## Foreword

The Czech nymph is a concept which has been known among fly-fishermen for many years and since then it has been described in many specialised magazines. The patterns of the Czech nymphs, however, were a long kept secret even at home – in the Czech Republic. This secret was revealed in 2000 in *“Lexikon mušek” (Thesaurus of Flies)* which was edited by Miloš Zeman. And in one moment fifty of the Czech nymphs came to light and there was a lot of attention paid to them in this book.

Another breakthrough into the well kept secret of the Czech nymphs was in the narrative book by Jaromír Karafiát and Miroslav Macháček *“Muškaření a vázání mušek” (2002) – (Flyfishing and Fly Tying)*, which revealed more than forty different patterns of nymphs, including the tying procedures. In the chapter devoted to grayling fishing, there is also a mention of the short nymph, which is a more accurate label for the Czech way of nymphing. And this book brought me to the idea of how to solve the problem of the future book, which I have spent several years on.

For about five years I was playing with the idea of writing a book on the Czech nymph and I was certainly not the only one who had this idea. I knew that this would not be easy at all, because this is a very special and very small part in the field of flyfishing. In about 2003 I started to collect data on particular topics and in the beginning of 2005 I put the first draft on paper, which I thought might have been enough for the future book. I carried on working further on the text and I was trying to improve it and at the end of 2006 I finalised the Czech manuscript.

I did not dare do this topic alone and therefore I asked a few friends of mine who provided me with extremely good advice and many observations. Most of them are top competitors, who immediately shared in the development of this flyfishing technique. I have many nymphs in my collection which I have been collecting for several years now and which accounts for about 200 different patterns.

My good friend Milan Hladik who took the photos of selected nymphs and who is also the photographer of the majority of photographs in this book. They have certainly contributed to the overall image of the new book, which has helped me a lot. I would like to show my appreciation to all the other co-workers; Vladimír Šedivý, Jiří Klima, Milan Janus, Pavel Macháň, Jaroslav Karafiát, Slavoj Svoboda and Vit Mísar, because without their help it would not have been possible to complete this book on the Czech Nymph.

Whilst writing this book I also had to solve many terminological problems which resulted in the proposal of diversification of the Czech nymphs. However, I am prepared that in the presented “taxonomy” many different mistakes might be found. However, this is the first attempt at solving this problem, I am therefore not going to oppose the possibility of further improvements.

The English version of this book is being published together with the first Czech issue as a voice of my respect and acknowledgement to the help of the British fishermen. They freely provided their help to us for the last several decades during the study of the completely new conditions of boat fishing on still waters. I am now also repaying this debt to our friends in Belgium who guided us and showed us the mysteries of bank fishing with the fly...

*N.N.*

Author when fishing on the Teplá Vltava (Warm Vltava)