

LIGHT, BEAUTIFUL COLORS FOR FINISHING THAT MODEL

By George White

I've been a fan of Design Master Floral Spray as a finish for models. It is extremely light and seemingly as waterproof, if not more so, than dope. It comes in a wide variety of colors, in convenient rattle cans, but it often is not exactly the color you need. After being reminded several times by Bill Duke, of Rossville, GA, and listening to the excited praise of it by Mike Isermann, I'm finally convinced that there's great value in the use of INDIA INK. Bill has been finishing his airplanes for several years using what I'll refer to here as "Duke's Mixture" of 1 part india ink, 7 parts dope thinner and 2 parts non-tautening dope. He says he changes the thinner value as needed make it easily airbrushed. I haven't tried it, but I also suspect that those folk who are airbrushless would find it easily adaptable to the Preval Sprayer, which is described in an article on our website, www.pensacolafreeflight.org.

Mike Isermann has found that he can make custom colors by mixing two or more colors of ink. I went on-line to the India Ink websites and found literally dozens of colors. I've struggled for some time trying to find a yellow paint which will closely match the yellow esaki tissue. In a conversation with Buzz Trabbic, he says that Dr. Martin's Bombay Golden Yellow India ink # 13BY, or Bombay Yellow ink # SL1BY, or sometimes a mixture of the two, does a very good job of matching esaki yellow. He has put the ink on raw wood and then clear doped over it to good effect. You can find an extensive array of colors at Hobby Lobby or at:

[Http://www.reuels.com/reuels/Dr_Martins_Bombay_India_ink_1_oz.html](http://www.reuels.com/reuels/Dr_Martins_Bombay_India_ink_1_oz.html)