Last Month's Demonstration: Hederow Vegetation by Frank Blanton

Hedgerows are closely spaced shrubs that form a barrier or mark properties. Sometimes they contain small trees. Although very common in France, they appear over all of Europe. Frank uses common railroad supplies to make his own. Here are the notes from the demo.

Products

- Scenic Express SuperTrees serve as the armature to build upon. They have good scale appearance for 1:35 and last over many years of projects.
- Noch Leaf Flake Shakers are the material that simulate leaves. Different colors are available but for this work Frank likes the dark and light Olive Green colors. Light grey/tan leaves are also nice when used sporadically to break up the green.
- Woodland Scenics Scenic Cement is the glue that attaches the leaves to the trees. Frank likes to dispense some into a spray bottle for easy application. Use it straight from the bottle and do not thin it with water.

Method

- Work over an empty box top to collect the excess, because only a small percentage of the leaves stick to the trees.
- Hold a SuperTree tree upside down and spray with the Scenic Cement. Give it a good coat but not so much that it's dripping. Let it sit for a few moments - you have time before it sets.

- Grap a pinch of the Noch Leaf Flake Shaker leaves and knead it a bit to ensure it is broken up and fully separated. Frank likes to use the dark olive leaves on the lower sections and light olive on the upper sections. Sprinkle the leaves onto the wet areas. Spray and reapply several times to build up compact appearance of a hedge. It's important to apply the leaves in small amounts several times to build it up rather than trying to do it all in one pass.
- Mix in a small amount of tan/grey leaves to break it up.
- When you are done you may use light passes with an airbrush if you still want to tweak the colors.
- Empty out the spray bottle and thoroughly rinse with hot water so that it doesn't clog.

Base

- Use Matte Medium Gel as a glue to apply grass tufts that will cover the ground underneath and around the hedge.
- Drill holes for the sprigs that will form the hedge and lay down some Matte Medium Gel. Pluck off pieces from the dried SuperTree and insert into the holes. Continue layering more pieces, spraying more Scenic Cement and sprinkling leaves.
- When dry, shake off the excess.
- You can also use mesquite branches to simulate small trees.

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Product Links

- Woodland Scenics Scenic Cement
- Scenic Express Super Leaf Scale Leaves
- Scenic Express Noch Leaf Shaker

- Scenic Express SuperTrees
- Golden Matte Medium

