

## A New Species of *Rhynonirmus* (Mallophaga: Philopteridae) from the Noble Snipe (*Capella nobilis*)

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**ABSTRACT:** The new species, *Rhynonirmus carrikeri*, is described and illustrated from specimens taken off *Capella nobilis* (Sclater) (Charadriiformes: Scolopacidae) from Colombia. A key to the species of *Rhynonirmus* and a host list are provided.

We recently examined a series of Mallophaga in the genus *Rhynonirmus* Thompson which was collected by our friend and colleague, the late M. A. Carriker, Jr., and which represents a new species. This is herewith described and illustrated. *Rhynonirmus* contains only a small number of species that are normally found on snipes, woodcocks, and the upland plover. There are 10 species of snipes from which we have not seen specimens; it is expected that some or all of these species of snipes will have species of *Rhynonirmus*. *Rhynonirmus kingi* Emerson and Price, 1968, found on *Carpococcyx renauldi* Oustalet (Cuculiformes: Cuculidae), the coral-billed ground-cuckoo found in Thailand, is also included in the genus. Differences between this species and the other species of the genus are not great enough to warrant erection of a monotypic genus.

### *Rhynonirmus carrikeri* n. sp.

(Figs. 1-3)

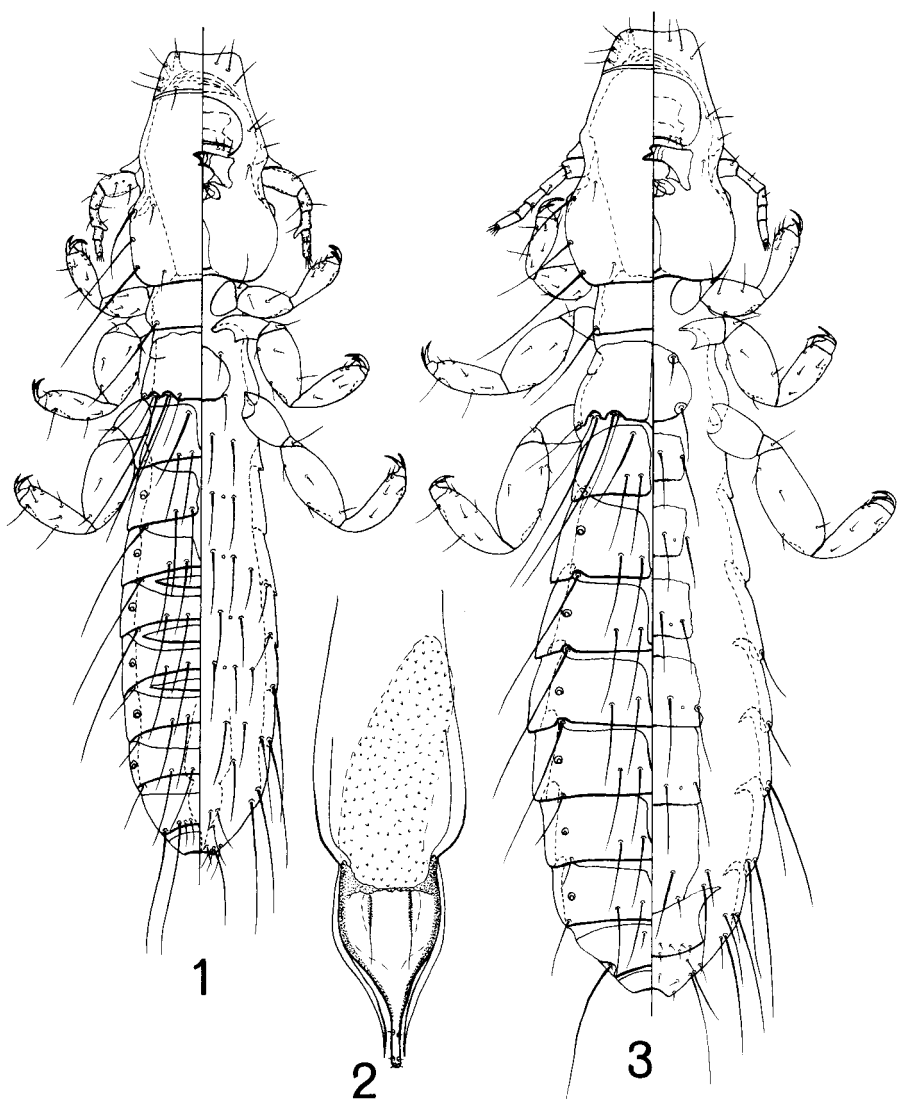
**MALE:** As in Fig. 1. Anterior head margin flat to slightly concave. Preantennal suture narrow. Temples narrow, 0.30-0.31 mm. Antennae sexually dimorphic. Length of head, 0.46-0.47 mm. Legs and thorax not distinctive. Abdominal tergal plates on segments II and IV each with deep median indentation; III separated medially; V-X entire; and with small median plates between IV-V, V-VI, and VI-VII. Abdominal sternal plates not prominent. Chaetotaxy and external morphology as shown in Fig. 1. Width of abdomen, 0.33-0.40 mm. Mesosome and parameres of genitalia almost of equal length, as shown in Fig. 2. Total length, 1.63-1.75 mm.

**FEMALE:** As in Fig. 3. Anterior head margin flat to slightly concave. Preantennal suture narrow. Temples narrow, 0.33-0.35 mm. Antennae filiform. Length of head, 0.49-0.51 mm. Legs and thorax not distinctive. Ab-

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Figs. 1-3. *Rhynonirmus carrikeri*. 1. Male. 2. Male genitalia. 3. Female.

dominal tergal plates on segments II-III each separated medially, IV-VIII each with deep median indentation, and IX-X each entire. Abdominal segments II-VI each with median sternal plate, VII-VIII sharing median sternal plate, and IX with larger median plate. Chaetotaxy and external morphology as shown in Fig. 3. Total length, 1.82-1.96 mm.

TYPE-HOST: *Capella nobilis* (Sclater), the noble snipe.

TYPE-MATERIAL: Holotype male, 8 female paratypes collected off *Capella nobilis* (Carriker skin number 20925), 20 Aug. 1951, Paramo Frontina, Antioquia, Colombia, by M. A. Carriker, Jr.; allotype female, 2 male paratypes, 3 female paratypes collected off *C. nobilis* (Carriker skin number 20636), 30 June 1951, Paramo Sonson, Antioquia, Colombia, by M. A. Carriker, Jr.; 1 male paratype, 11 female paratypes collected off *C. nobilis* (Carriker skin number 11314), 9 Aug. 1947, Los Angostura, Santander, Colombia, by M. A. Carriker, Jr. The holotype and allotype are deposited in the U.S. National Museum.

REMARKS: *Rhynonirmus carrikeri* is morphologically closest to *R. medius* Timmermann, 1955, *R. stenurae* Timmermann, 1955, and *R. scolopacis* (Denny, 1842). The male of *R. carrikeri* is separable from the first 2 of these by its relatively broad genitalia and shorter parameres; it is apparently inseparable from *R. scolopacis* except by host association. The female of *R. carrikeri* is recognized from these other species by its head shape in conjunction with the divisions of the abdominal tergites.

#### Key to Species of *Rhynonirmus*

1. Without preantennal suture . . . . . *kingi* Emerson and Price, 1968
  - With preantennal suture . . . . . 2
2. Anterior head margin rounded . . . . . 3
  - Anterior head margin laterally angled . . . . . 5
3. Anterior head margin medially pointed . . . *helvolus* (Burmeister, 1838)
  - Anterior head margin not pointed medially . . . . . 4
4. Abdominal tergal plates III–V of female entire; male with genitalic mesosome having divided plate and with anterior head margin evenly rounded . . . . . *infuscatus* (Osborn, 1896)
  - Abdominal tergal plates III–V of female medially divided; male with anterior head margin somewhat flattened and genitalic mesosome lacking divided plate . . . . . *parsonsaе* Clay, 1961
5. Male with parameres short, distal end not reaching to middle pair of mesosomal setae; female with anterior head margin flat to slightly indented and abdominal tergites VII–VIII without median division . . . . . *medius* Timmermann, 1955
  - Male with parameres long, distal end reaching to or beyond middle pair of mesosomal setae (see Fig. 2); female with anterior head margin with distinct median indentation or, if flat to only slightly indented, then abdominal tergites VII–VIII with deep median division . . . . . 6
6. Anterior head margin flat to only slightly indented; male genitalia wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome, as in Fig. 2 . . . . .
  - . . . . . *carrikeri* n. sp.
  - Anterior head margin with distinct median indentation; male geni-

- talia either wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome or much narrower ..... 7
7. Male genitalia wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome, much as in Fig. 2 ..... *scolopacis* (Denny, 1842)
- Male genitalia only two-thirds as wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome ..... *stenurae* Timmermann, 1955

### List of Species of *Rhynonirmus* and Their Hosts

- Rhynonirmus carrikeri* n. sp.—*Capella nobilis* (Sclater), noble snipe.
- Rhynonirmus helvolus* (Burmeister, 1838)—*Scolopax rusticola* Linnaeus, European woodcock.
- Rhynonirmus infuscatus* (Osborn, 1896)—*Bartramia longicauda* (Bechstein), upland plover.
- Rhynonirmus kingi* Emerson and Price, 1968—*Carpococcyx renauldi* Oustalet, coral-billed ground-cuckoo.
- Rhynonirmus medius* Timmermann, 1955—*Capella media* (Latham), great snipe.
- Rhynonirmus parsonsae* Clay, 1961—*Philohela minor* (Gmelin), American woodcock.
- Rhynonirmus scolopacis* (Denny, 1842)—*Capella gallinago* (Linnaeus), common snipe.
- Rhynonirmus stenurae* Timmermann, 1955—*Capella stenura* (Bonaparte), pintail snipe.

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