

## TWO NEW SPECIES OF *FULICOFFULA* (Mallophaga) FROM THE SORA

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The Ischnoceran genus *Fulicoffula* Clay and Meinertzhagen, 1938, is found in North America (north of Mexico) on hosts of the avian family Rallidae. *F. longipila* (Kellogg, 1896) found on the Coot, *Fulica americana* Gmelin, is fairly common. *F. comstocki* (Kellogg and Chapman, 1902) found on the Virginia Rail, *Rallus limicola* Vieillot; and *F. gallinula* Carriker, 1953, found on the Gallinule, *Gallinula chloropus* (Linnaeus), are apparently rare. The remaining known species are from hosts which do not occur in North America. Two new species found on the Sora are herewith described and illustrated.

### *Fulicoffula americana* n. sp.

MALE. General shape and chaetotaxy as shown in Figure 2. Genitalia, less genital sac, as shown in Figure 3.

FEMALE. General shape and chaetotaxy as shown in Figure 1. Posterior margin of genital plate as shown in Figure 4.

DISCUSSION. This species is apparently closest to *F. gallinula*. The shape and chaetotaxy of the female genital plate as shown in Figure 4 is distinctive. In *F. gallinula*, this structure possesses approximately twelve short and twenty medium-length setae on the posterior margin. In the male, tergites of abdominal segments V-VII are shorter in *F. gallinula* than in *F. americana*. Distinctive features of the male genitalia are thin tapering paramera, long narrow endomera, and a large mesosomal plate. In addition, *F. americana* is larger than *F. gallinula*.

TYPE HOST: *Porzana carolina* (Linnaeus), Sora.

TYPE MATERIAL: Holotype male and one paratype collected at Orient, New York, on October 2, 1931, by Roy Latham in the Entomological Collection of Cornell University. Allotype female and six paratypes collected at Stillwater, Oklahoma, on June 5, 1948, by the author. The allotype will be deposited in the U. S. National Museum. One paratype collected at Arlington, Virginia, by William Palmer on September 24, 1898, in the U. S. National Museum. One paratype collected in Douglas County, Kansas, in May, 1909, in the Snow Entomological Museum, The University of Kansas.

### *Fulicoffula distincta* n. sp.

MALE. General shape and chaetotaxy as shown in Figure 7. Total length 2.25 mm. Male genitalia as shown in Figure 6.

FEMALE. Head, except for filiform antennae, as in the male. Abdomen, except for genital region, as in *F. americana*. Total length 2.56 mm. Shape and chaetotaxy of genital plate as shown in Figure 5.

DISCUSSION. In many respects, this species is atypical. The following characters are not found in other species of the genus: (1) narrow head in both sexes, (2) short stout spines on the posterior margin of the female genital plate, (3) short abdominal segments IV-V in the male (in typical

species, segments VI-VIII are short), (4) long, slender, simple paramera, and (5) the absence of a prominent mesosomal plate in the male genitalia.

TYPE HOST: *Porzana carolina* (Linnaeus), Sora.

TYPE MATERIAL: Holotype male and one paratype collected at Stillwater, Oklahoma, on June 5, 1948, by the author. The holotype will be deposited in the U. S. National Museum. Allotype female collected at Moscow, Idaho on May 2, 1952, by T. D. Burleigh; one paratype collected

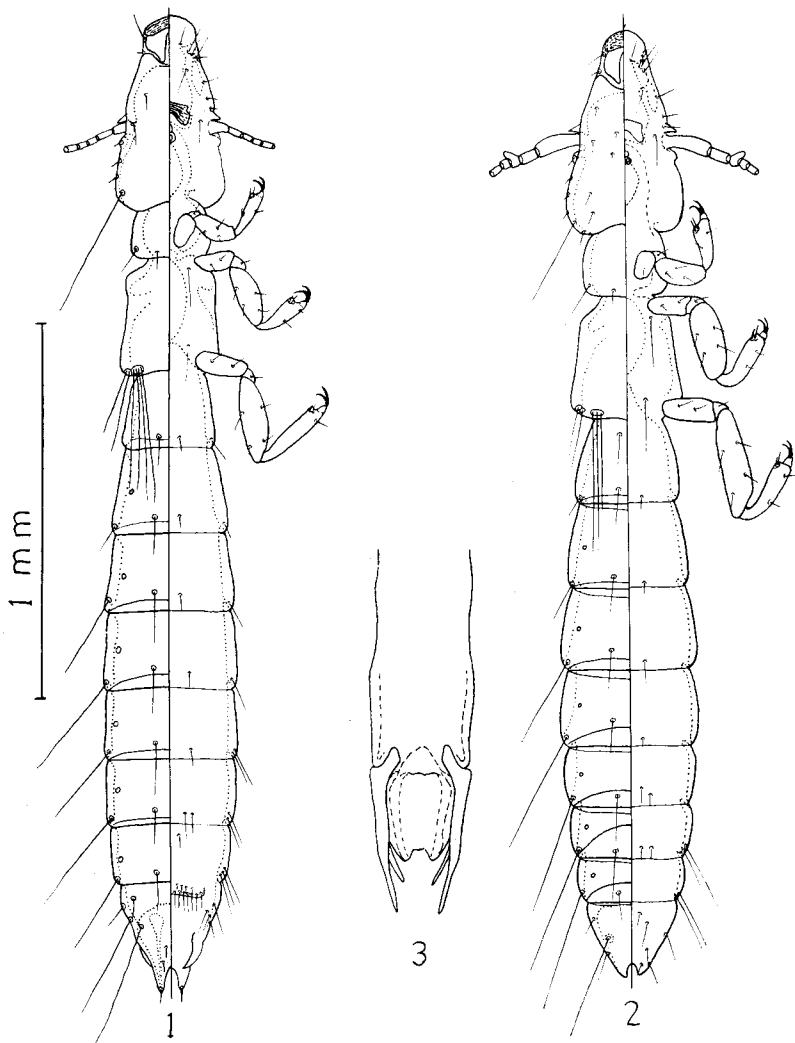


PLATE I. Figures 1-3. *Fulicoffula americana* n. sp. Fig. 1. Dorsal-ventral view of female. Fig. 2. Dorsal-ventral view of male. Fig. 3. Male genitalia.

near Cutler, Florida, on January 12, 1930, by E. J. Brown; and one paratype collected at Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, on March 7, 1902, by A. Allison in the U. S. National Museum. Five paratypes collected at Orient, New York, on October 2, 1931, by Roy Latham in the Entomological Collection of Cornell University.

The Sora is the only host from which two species of *Rallicola* have been collected. It is also the only host from which two species of *Fulicoffula* have been collected.

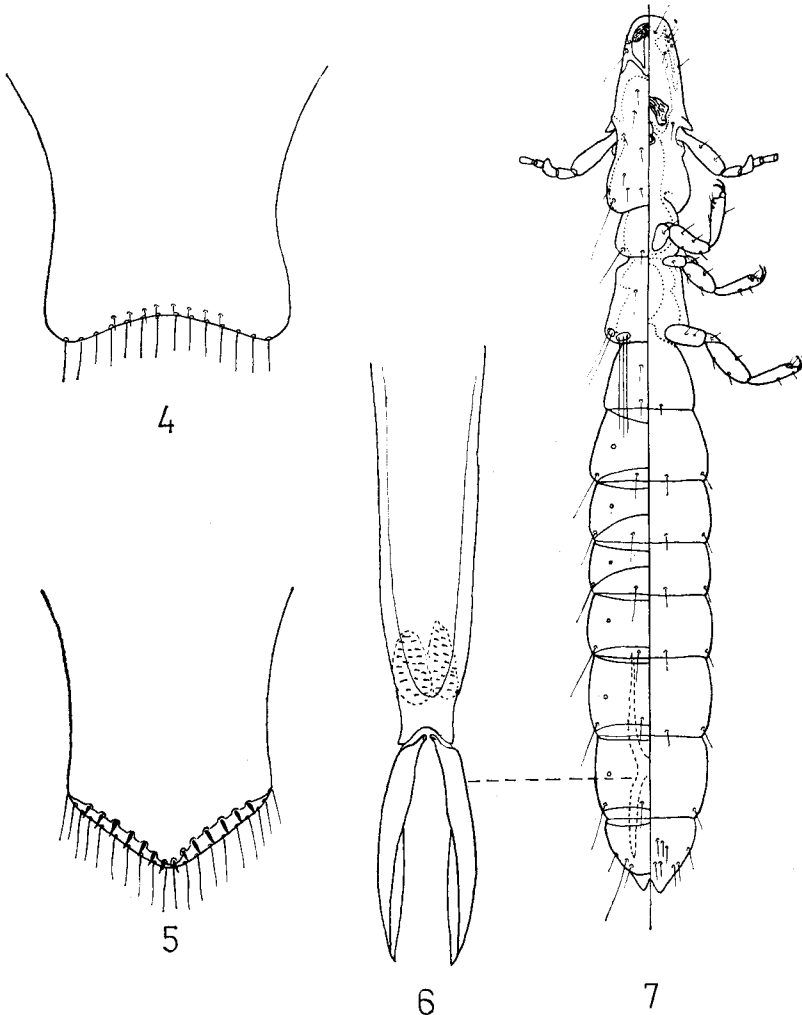


PLATE II. Figure 4. *Fulicoffula americana* n. sp. Fig. 4. Female genital plate. Figures 5-7. *Fulicoffula distincta* n. sp. Fig. 5. Female genital plate. Fig. 6. Male genitalia. Fig. 7. Dorsal-ventral view of male.

## LITERATURE CITED

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