

## A NEW SPECIES OF MALLOPHAGA FROM NATAL.

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RECENTLY Dr. Theresa Clay, Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), sent to me for study a series of Mallophaga which proved to be new. The species is herewith described and illustrated.

### *Damalinia natalensis* n.sp.

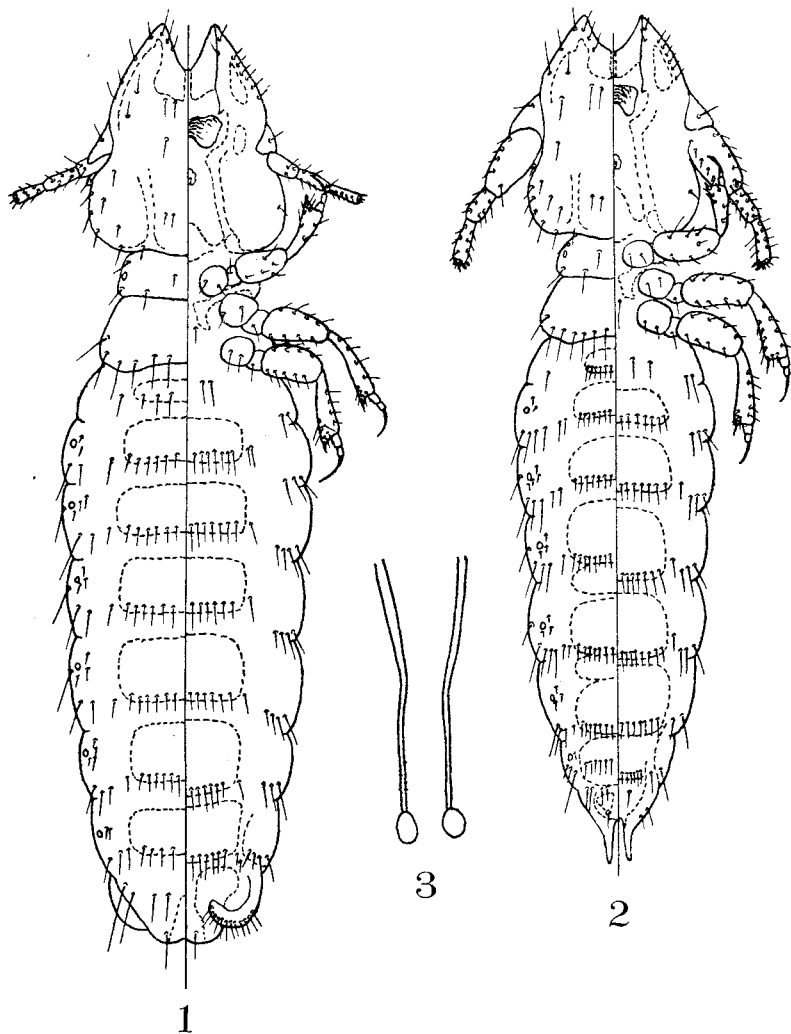
*Holotype male*.—General shape and chaetotaxy as illustrated in fig. 2. Genitalia, less sac, as shown in fig. 3. Genital sac with numerous small barbs. Total length, 2.06 mm.

*Allotype female*.—General shape and chaetotaxy as illustrated in fig. 1. Total length, 2.22 mm.

*Type material*.—Holotype male, allotype female, and four paratypes collected off *Tragelaphus sylvaticus* on February 15, 1963, in the Umfolozi Game Reserve, Natal, by the South African Institute for Medical Research, Johannesburg. Holotype is deposited in the British Museum (Natural History).

*Discussion*.—This species is closest to *Damalinia hopkinsi* Bedford, 1936, found on *Traurotragus oryx pattersonianus*. The two species are similar in type of male genitalia, and general shape of the females and the males. The posterior extension of the terminal abdominal segment in the male, and the type of male genitalia separate these two species from others in the genus. In both sexes, *D. hopkinsi* is larger than *D. natalensis* by 0.15 mm in total length. In *D. hopkinsi*, the first two apparent abdominal tergites of the male are modified on the posterior margin with thickened blunt projections, and the margin is concave between these projections. This distinctive feature has been amply illustrated by Werneck. Lateral margins of the two abdominal tergites are also convergent posteriorly in *D. hopkinsi*. In *D. natalensis*, the first two apparent abdominal tergites are normal in size and shape, as illustrated in accompanying figures. The posterior segment of the terminal abdominal segment of the male in *D. natalensis* has a sparse chaetotaxy, while this structure in *D. hopkinsi* has thick chaetotaxy on the lateral margins.

Figs. 1-3.

*Damalinia natalensis* n. sp.

1. Dorsal-ventral view of female. 2. Dorsal-ventral view of male. 3. Male genitalia.

#### REFERENCE.

WERNECK, F. L. 1950. Os Malofagos de Mamiferos, Parte II: Ischnocera (continuacao de Trichodectidae) e Rhyncophthirina. Rio de Janeiro, p. 127, figs. 163-166.