A New Species of Mallophaga from the Blackbilled Cuckoo

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The genus Cuculicola Clay and Meinertzhagen, 1938, is found only on genera of Cuculidae. Cuculicola splendidus (Kellogg, 1899) found on Geococcyx californianus (Lesson), the Roadrunner, is fairly common in collections. Recently, a series from the Black-billed Cuckoo was examined, which apparently represent a second species of the genus to be found in North America. This species is herewith described and illustrated.

Cuculicola erythropthalmus n. sp.

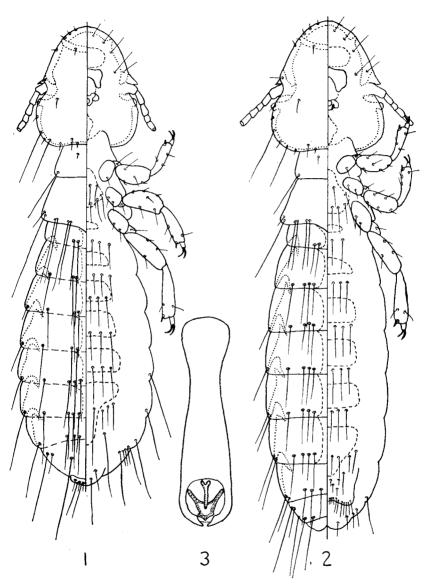
Holotype male. General shape as shown in Figure 1. Head circumfasciate. Forehead with a preantennal dorsal curved transverse suture. Abdomen narrow and elongate. Abdominal tergites weakly pigmented, with segments II–VII divided medianly. Abdominal sternites weakly pigmented and undivided. Thoracic sternal plate prominent. Pleurites narrow with reentrant heads. Chaetotaxy as shown in Figure 1. Genitalia as shown in Figure 3. Total length 1.74 mm.

Allotype female. General shape as shown in Figure 2. Chaetotaxy, shown in Figure 2, is essentially the same as in the male except for the terminal abdominal segments. Abdominal tergites II–VII divided and pigmented as in the male. Abdominal sternites and pleurites essentially as in the male. Total length 2.02 mm.

Type host. Coccyzus erythropthalmus (Wilson). Blackbilled Cuckoo.

Type material. Holotype male, allotype female and seven paratypes collected on May 20, 1928 at Miami, Florida. Holotype and allotype have been deposited in the U. S. N. M. Paratypes in collections of the author, and the University of Minnesota.

Discussion. Cuculicola splendidus is large, robust, and with ovate abdomen. C. erythropthalmus is slender and elongate. Abdominal tergites II-VIII divided medianly, and the heavily



Figs. 1-3. Cuculicola erythropthalmus n. sp. 1. Dorsal-ventral view of the male. 2. Dorsal-ventral view of the female. 3. Male genitalia. Figs. 1 and 2 drawn to the same scale.

pigmented portions are narrow in *C. splendidus*. In *C. erythropthalmus* abdominal tergites II–VII are divided medianly; due to light pigmentation and width of the lateral portions, the tergites appear almost entire.

References

CLAY, T., and R. MEINERTZHAGEN. 1939. New genera and species of Mallophaga. Entomologist 72: 161-168.

Kellogg, V. L. 1899. Mallophaga from birds of Panama, Baja, California and Alaska. Occ. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci. 6: 3-52.