

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW SPECIES OF MALLOPHAGA
(ISCHNOCERA: *DEGEERIELLA*)
FROM THE CARACARA

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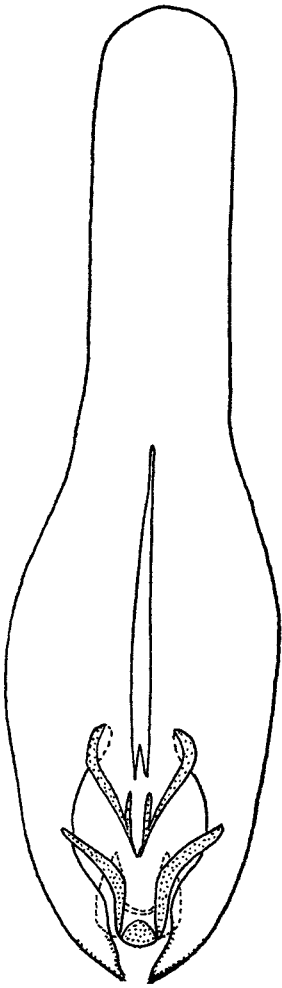
Through the courtesy of Dr. Donald Tuff, I recently received a small series of *Degeeriella* collected off the Caracara, which represent an interesting new species. That species is here-with described, and the male genitalia, which is unique, is illustrated.

Degeeriella pricei, new species

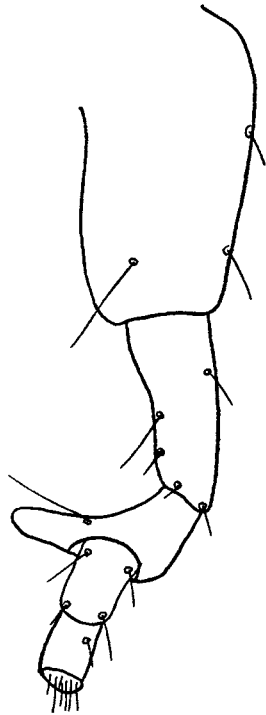
Holotype male: Head similar to *D. mookerjeei* Clay, 1957 except that the anterior margin of the head is straight, and the ocular setae are as long as those of the temporal margins. Antennae as illustrated in figure 2. Chaetotaxy of the posterior margin of the pterothorax as in *D. rufa* (Burmeister, 1838). Shape and chaetotaxy of the thoracic sternal plate as in *D. mookerjeei*, with a normal variation between individual specimens. Pleural thickening of abdominal segments, narrow as in *D. guimaraesi* Clay, 1958. Abdominal tergites entire, but II with a central concave area. Abdominal tergite II with four long setae on the posterior margin and four long setae around the concave area. Chaetotaxy of abdominal tergites III-IX, each with eight long setae on the posterior margins. Abdominal sternite II with four centrally located long setae. Abdominal sternites III-VI, each six long setae on the posterior margins. Terminal abdominal segment with 24 long marginal setae. Genitalia as illustrated in Fig. 1. Total length, 2.41 mm.

Allotype female: Except for the antennae, similar to the male in form and chaetotaxy of head and thorax. Except for terminal segments, abdomen similar to that of the male in form and chaetotaxy. Posterior margin of vulva indented centrally, with twenty medium-length setae; and with eight small setae located centrally anterior to the posterior margin. Total length 2.68 mm.

Discussion: This species is apparently closest to *D. mookerjeei*, found on *Pernis ptilorhynchus gurneyi* Stresemann, a bird of Southeast Asia. These two species are the only known species of *Degeeriella* in which the males have enlarged antennae. The male genitalia of the two species



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Degeeriella pricei, holotype. FIG. 1. Male genitalia. FIG. 2. Male antenna.

are quite different. Clay has provided an excellent illustration of the male genitalia of *D. mookerjeei*. The greatest differences are in the shape of the endomerale plate and the mesome. The lateral extensions of the endomerale plate are curved outward in *D. pricei* and not in *D. mookerjeei*. The mesome of *D. pricei*, as may be seen in the illustration, is unique.

Type material: Holotype male, allotype female and paratypes were collected off *Caracara cheriway* (Jacquin), at Ciudad Victoria, Mexico, on 8 July 1962 by M. A. Price. The holotype and allotype will be deposited in the collection of the U.S. National Museum.

LITERATURE CITED

- CLAY, T. 1957. The *Degeeriella* (Insecta: Mallophaga) parasitic on *Pernis* (Aves: Falconiformes). Proc. Zool. Soc. Calcutta, Mookerjee Memor. Vol.: 339-347.
- . 1958. Revisions of Mallophaga Genera. *Degeeriella* from the Falconiformes. Bull. Brit. Mus. (N. H.), Entomol. 7 (4): 123-207.