

**A NEW SPECIES OF STRIGIPHILUS FROM THE SAW-WHET OWL,
AEGOLIUS ACADICUS**
(MALLOPHAGA: PHILOPTERIDAE)

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ABSTRACT—*Strigiphilus acadicus* n. sp. is described and illustrated from *Aegolius acadicus* (Gmelin) collected in Canada.

Through the courtesy of Mr. John G. Woods, Guelph, Ontario, and Mr. Paul M. Catling, Toronto, Ontario, several series of Mallophaga from the Saw-Whet Owl were made available to us for study. In our opinion, these specimens represent a new species and we are describing and illustrating it here.

Strigiphilus acadicus, n. sp.
Figs. 1-4

Male: External morphology and chaetotaxy as shown in fig. 2. Anterior dorsal plate of forehead as shown in fig. 3. Genitalia, less sac, as in fig. 4. Total length, 1.81-1.87 mm.

Female: External morphology and chaetotaxy as shown in fig. 1. Anterior dorsal plate of forehead as for the male. Total length, 1.96-2.18 mm.

Discussion: This species belongs to the *cursorians* group as defined by Clay (1966). Ledger (1970) illustrated the head of each species in the group when he described *S. zumpti* Ledger. In general shape, the head is essentially the same as for *S. tuleskovi* Balat and *S. cursorians* (Nitzsch); however, the anterior dorsal plate of the forehead differs from both in that the posterior projection does not extend beyond the posterior margin of the plate. The male genitalia, while being shorter than for *S. cursorians* and approximately the same length as for *S. tuleskovi*, are distinctive; the distally central forked prolongations of the basal apodeme are widely separated in *S. cursorians* and *S. tuleskovi* (see Clay, 1966: fig. 27), but barely separated in *S. acadicus*. Abdominal tergites of *S. acadicus* are narrow, each with 2 long setae on the posterior margin, while both *S. cursorians* and *S. tuleskovi* have wider abdominal tergites, each with 4 long setae on the posterior margin. In general shape, *S. acadicus* is more robust, especially in the abdomen, than either of the other 2 species.

Type host: *Aegolius acadicus* (Gmelin), Saw-Whet Owl.

Type material: Holotype male, allotype female, and 95 paratypes collected off the type host on Toronto Island, York Co., Ontario, Canada, on July 18, 1971, by John G. Woods; 20 paratypes collected off type host in Ontario, Canada, by Paul M. Catling; 55 paratypes



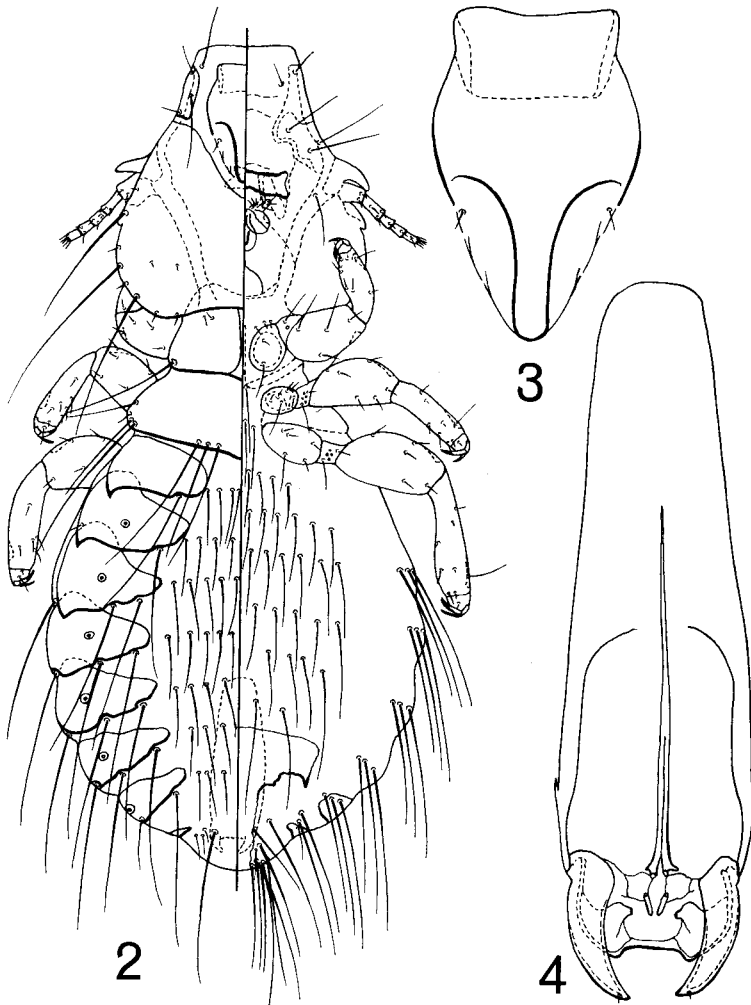


Fig. 2-4. *Strigiphilus acadicus*, n. sp.: 2, dorsal-ventral view of male; 3, anterior dorsal plate of forehead; 4, male genitalia.

collected off the type host at Dundas, Ontario, Canada, on February 13, 1971, by John G. Woods. The holotype and allotype will be deposited in the U. S. National Museum; paratypes will be retained by each author, and distributed to leading museums.

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Fig. 1. *Strigiphilus acadicus*, n. sp., dorsal-ventral view of female.

REFERENCES

- Clay, T. 1966. A new species of *Strigiphilus* (Philopteridae: Mallophaga). Pacific Insects. 8:835-847.
- Ledger, J. A. 1970. A new species of *Strigiphilus* Mjöberg (Mallophaga: Philopteridae) from the giant eagle-owl *Bubo lacteus*. J. Entomol. Soc. So. Africa. 33:119-128.