

A NEW SPECIES OF TROGONINIRMUS (Phloptoridae: Mallophaga)

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Trogoninirmus elegans n. sp.

Female: Head elongate, triangular; with slightly concave sides, and broad evenly rounded clypeal margin. A narrow v-shaped clypeal suture extends from near the mandibles forward with several small setae at the distal ends. Trabeculae small, pointed; extending to the second antennal segments. Antennae filiform; of medium length, first and second segments longer than the remainder. Eyes small. Temples oval-shaped, slightly expanded laterally and posteriorly; each with three short and one long setae. Posterior margin of head straight; gular plate small diamond-shaped.

Prothorax quadrangular, much wider than long; with one long seta in each posterolateral angle. Pterothorax with expanded posterolateral angles, and convex posterior margin. Two long setae in each posterolateral angle and a pair of long setae on each side of the median of the posterior margin.

Abdomen long, pear-shaped, with evenly rounded posterior margin. Tergites of segments I-IV with a projection on each posterolateral angle, and a long seta just median to the projection. Large distinct tergal plates on segments I-VIII separated medianly. One long seta in the posterolateral angle of tergites III and IV and two on tergites V-VII. Eight smaller setae on the posterior margin of tergites I-VI and six on tergite VII. Pleural plates thickened on segments I-VIII. Sternal plates small, indistinct and each with four medium-length setae. Genital opening large, posterior margin of vulva with a fringe of small setae.

Male: Head approximately the same size as in the female. Thorax and abdomen essentially the same shape as in the female, but smaller. Chaetotaxy except for the posterior abdominal segments, same as in the female. Genitalia large; stout, short crescent-shaped parameres.

Type host: *Trogon elegans elegans* Gould.

Type material: Holotype female, allotype male, and four paratype females collected by Mr. Richard E. Tashian near Uzumatlán, Department of Zacapa, Guatemala.

Discussion of the genus.

Carriker (1903) described *Nirmus hastiformis* from a single female collected from *Trogon violaceus concinnus* Lawrence, and noted that it could be separated from the remainder of the old genus *Nirmus* (now *Degeeriella*) by "the rounded front, with concave sides, completely encircled by the antennal bands; by the length and shape of the eighth segment of the abdomen and the presence of the broad, transverse abdominal bands."

Eichler (1944) erected the genus *Trogoninirmus* for this form and *Nirmus sulphureus* Giebel 1876, designating the former as genotype. His generic description is largely "die diagnose von Carriker."

Guimarães (1944) described *Degeeriella odontopleuron* from *Trogon surrucura aurantius* Spix. He pointed out that the morphological characters show a close relationship between that species and the genus *Cuculicola*, found on the Cuculiformes. An examination of his description and illustrations prove that this species should be included in the genus *Trogoninirmus*.

Nirmus sulphureus Giebel 1876 is without a proper host-record, the description is inadequate and the type is apparently lost; so it is unrecognizable at the present time, and should be discarded.

The new form described is the third recognizable species in the genus, all of which are found on the avian order Trogoniformes. It is the largest of the three; the female is 1.9 mm in length, while *T. odontopleuron* is 1.8 mm and *T. hastiformis* is 1.7 mm in length. The additional setae on the tergites also aid in its separation from the other species.

LITERATURE CITED

- Carriker, M. A. 1903. Mallophaga from birds of Costa Rica, Central America. Univ. Studies, Univ. Nebr., III: 123-197.
- Eichler, W. 1944. Notulae Mallophagologicae. XI. Acht neue Gattungen der Nirmi und Docophori. Stettiner Ent. Zeit. CV: 80-82.
- Guimarães, L. R. 1944. Um novo Malofago do Surucua *Trogonurus aurantius* (Spix). Pa-péis Avulsos do Departamento de Zoologia. IV: 71-77.