

The New Genus *Fregatiella* (Mallophaga: Menoponidae) for *Menopon aurifasciatum* from the Frigate-Bird¹

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ABSTRACT

The new genus *FREGATIELLA* is erected to include the single species *Menopon aurifasciatum* Kellogg. *Menopon intermissum* Harrison is placed as a junior synonym of *M. aurifasciatum*.

Our recent study (Ryan and Price 1969) of the lice within the genus *Eidmanniella* K  ler has led us to conclude that *Eidmanniella* should be restricted to those species occurring on hosts within the Suli-

dae and Phalacrocoracidae (Pelecaniformes). Lice from *Fregata* species (Pelecaniformes, Fregatidae), grouped by some with *Eidmanniella* sens. str., exhibit so many important differences that they should not be included with them. Bedford (1939), in a discussion of *Eidmanniella*, stated that these *Fregata* lice "are distinct and cannot be included in this genus." Later, Clay (1957) emphasized several of the morphological differences between the lice from

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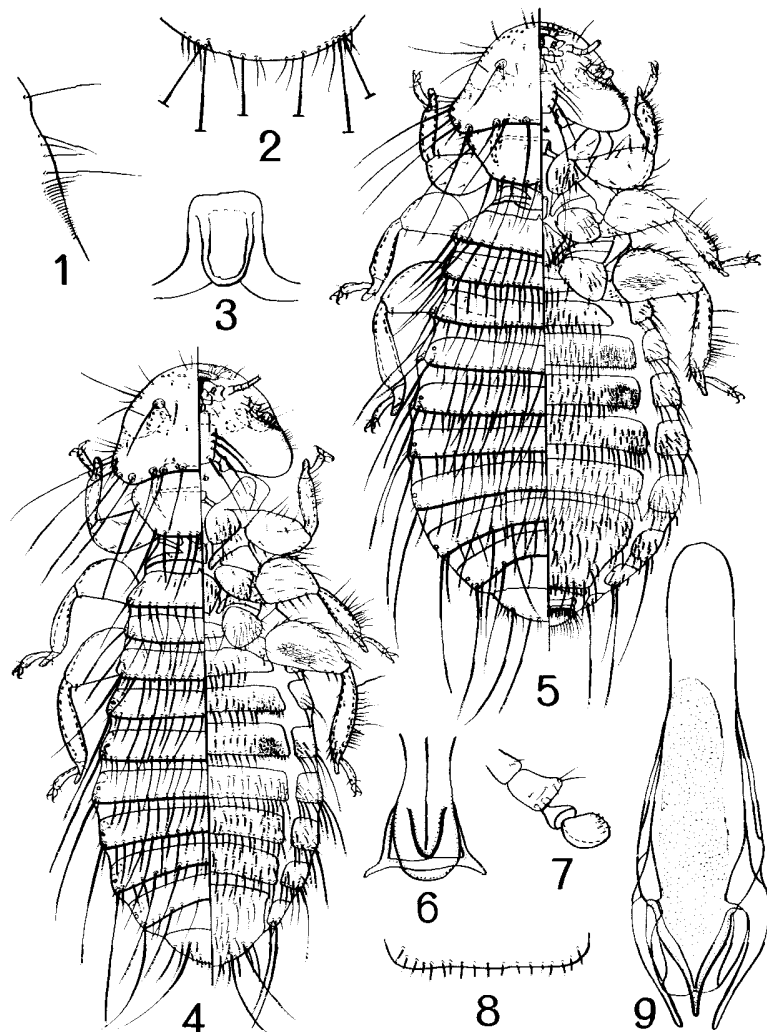


FIG. 1-9.—*F. aurifasciata*. 1, Subocular setae; 2, dorsal terminal margin of female abdomen; 3, prosternal plate; 4, male; 5, female; 6, sitophore sclerite of hypopharynx; 7, antenna; 8, female vulval margin; 9, male genitalia.

Fregata and the other *Eidmanniella*. It is therefore our purpose here to establish a new genus for *Menopon aurifasciatum* Kellogg from *F. magnificens* Mathews and to redescribe this louse species. The format for the description follows that of Ryan and Price (1969).

Genus *Fregatiella*, n. gen.

This genus appears to be closest to *Eidmanniella*, but is distinguished by the following characters. Head: eyes situated at lateral margin; cavity between laterodorsal and lateroventral margins not roofed over distally by fusion of these margins; outer middorsal setae lateral to inner middorsal setae; small seta located distinctly lateral to outer occipital seta; subocular setae as in Fig. 1; and sitophore sclerite of hypopharynx well developed (Fig. 6).

Thorax: prosternal median process as in Fig. 3; mesosternal plate elongate, narrow, and with pair of minute anterior setae; dense brush of short setae on venter of each femur III.

Abdomen: short marginal seta lateral to postspiracular seta only on I; without well-developed internal pleural thickenings; dense brushes of short setae on each side of sternites III and IV; female with sternites VII and VIII fused, with marginal vulval setae as in Fig. 8, and without evident internal structure of genital chamber; male with sternites VIII and IX fused and genitalia as in Fig. 9.

This genus includes only the single species, *F. aurifasciata* (Kellogg), and by monotypy it becomes the type-species.

Fregatiella aurifasciata (Kellogg)

(Fig. 1-9)

Menopon intermedium Piaget, 1880, Les Pédiculiens: 497 (nec p. 430). Type-host: *Atagen* (*Fregata*) *minor* = *Fregata minor* (Gmelin).

Menopon aurifasciatum Kellogg, 1899, Occas. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci. 6: 43. Type-host: *Fregata aquila* = *Fregata magnificens rothschildi* Mathews.

Menopon intermissum Harrison, 1916, Parasitology 9: 39. Nomen novum for *M. intermedium* Piaget, 1880, p. 497 (nec p. 430). NEW SYNONYMY.

FEMALE.—As in Fig. 5. Inner middorsal head setae minute, not over 0.01 long. Antenna as in Fig. 7, with fine setae on 2nd segment and definite constriction between 3rd and 4th segments. Pronotum marginally with 18-20 (18-22) setae. Margin of metanotum with 20-25 (18-20) setae; metasternal plate with 15-22 (17-24) setae. Marginal tergal setae: I, 26-35 (23-32); II, 27-35 (26-33); III, 31-38 (27-36); IV, 30-38 (30-39); V, 27-39 (26-37); VI, 24-35 (24-33); VII, 16-22 (17-20); VIII, 4-10 (10-13). Without anterior tergal setae. Last

tergite with 7-11 (5-10) medium to long inner posterior setae (Fig. 2). Sternal setae (exclusive of those in brushes): I, 6-7; II, 28-33; III, 79-98; IV, 85-96; V, 81-88; VI, 75-78; VII, 55-56. Vulva marginally with 18-22 (15-21) setae (Fig. 8), anteriorly with 24-26. Anus ventrally with 33-43 (32-44) fringe setae, dorsally with 30-38 (26-36). Dimensions: preocular width, 0.47-0.52 (0.42-0.52); temple width, 0.67-0.74 (0.66-0.71); head length, 0.32-0.38 (0.28-0.38); prothorax width, 0.51-0.59 (0.49-0.58); metathorax width, 0.67-0.75 (0.61-0.75); total length, 2.17-2.40 (1.89-2.35).

MALE.—As in Fig. 4. As for female, except as follows. Margin of metanotum with 17-20 (17-20) setae. Marginal tergal setae: I, 22-27 (21-27); II, 26-29 (21-32); III, 24-31 (28-33); IV, 25-32 (27-37); V, 26-31 (25-32); VI, 24-29 (26-29); VII, 18-20 (19-22); VIII, 11-12 (10-15). Last tergite with unusual displacement of setae dorsally (Fig. 4). Sternal setae (exclusive of those in brushes): I, 5; II, 21-22; III, 38-46; IV, 44-50; V, 51-57; VI, 45-51; VII, 35; VIII, 18-20. Dimensions: preocular width, 0.40-0.49 (0.45-0.51); temple width, 0.56-0.65 (0.60-0.66); head length, 0.28-0.35 (0.33-0.37); prothorax width, 0.44-0.52 (0.44-0.49); metathorax width, 0.54-0.59 (0.53-0.59); total length, 1.68-2.15 (1.69-2.06); genitalia length 0.60-0.73 (0.47-0.65), width 0.15-0.20 (0.14-0.18).

A single female from "*Fregata aquila*, Panama" in the Kellogg collection at the University of California is labeled "Type" and is undoubtedly the specimen upon which *M. aurifasciatum* was based. It, along with the description and illustration, is in good agreement with the other material we studied and leaves little doubt as to the identity of the species.

Material Examined.—13 ♀ (including the type of *M. aurifasciatum* Kellogg), 5 ♂, *F. magnificens rothschildi*, Colombia, Inner Hebrides, Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, USA; 1 ♂ (type of *M. intermedium* Piaget), *F. minor*, no other data; 6 ♀, 5 ♂, *F. andrewesi* Mathews, Sarawak, Christmas Is., 2 ♀, 2 ♂, *F. aquila* L., Colombia, USA; 3 ♀, 2 ♂, *F. ariel* (G. R. Gray), Maldives Is., Colombia.

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