A NEW SPECIES OF STRIGIPHILUS

(Philopteridae: Mallophaga)

By Theresa Clay

BRITISH MUSEUM (NAT. HIST.), LONDON

Abstract: A new species of Strigiphilus Mjöberg from Phodilus badius is described and its possible affinities and those of the host are discussed. A key to the species groups in Strigiphilus is given, together with their distribution on the Strigiformes.

Phodilus badius (Horsefield) is placed by Peters (1940: 85) with Tyto in the family Tytonidae. As Tyto is parasitized by such a distinctive species group of Strigiphilus (Clay, 1966), a comparison of this with the species on Phodilus should be of interest. This has been made possible through the work of Professor J. T. Marshall, Mr Ben King, and Dr H. E. McClure, who have collected specimens from Phodilus. These prove to belong to a new species which I have much pleasure in naming after Professor Marshall. I am greatly indebted to Dr K. C. Emerson for the loan of material and for records of distribution of Strigiphilus species from SE Asia.

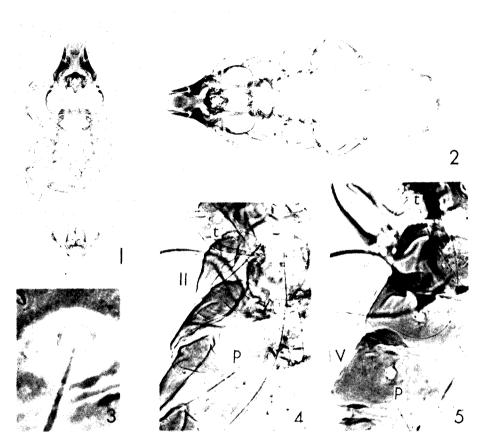
Strigiphilus marshalli Clay, n. sp. Figs. 1-2, 6-12, 18, 20.

Type host: Phodilus badius (Horsefield)

This species is distinguished from all other known species of *Strigiphilus* by the combination of the shape of the head, dorsal anterior plate and the male genitalia. It is easily distinguished from the *S. rostratus* group from *Tyto*, to which it has a superficial resemblance, by the backward prolongation of the anterior plate; other differences between this new species and those parasitic on *Tyto* are given below. The male genitalia resemble most closely those of *S. heterogenitalis*.

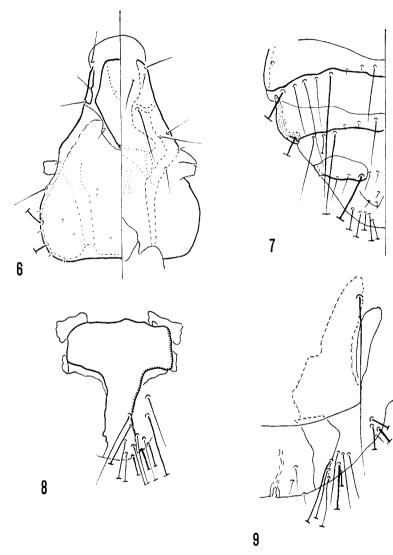
A and Q. Setae of preantennal region as in fig. 6; ocular seta long; 1st and 3rd temporal setae short and spine-like, 2nd and 4th long (in some specimens there may be 2 short spine-like setae between the ocular seta and the 1st long temporal seta). Central setae of pterontal margin in 633, and 599: 4+4. Central mesosternal setae: 3, 2-4; Q, 3-4; central metasternal setae; 3, 3-5; Q, 4-6. Tergites VII-VIII of 3 (apparent 6th and 7th) continuous across abdomen (fig. 7); in Q only fused IX-X are continuous. Abdomen without complicated patterns of internal pleural and tergal thickening; posterolateral corners of tergites II-V prolonged posteriorly; pleurite VIII more highly pigmented than those of other segments. Sterna II-VI each with a small indistinct sclerite on each side; sternites of posterior segments as in figs. 8 & 9. Genitalia of 3 as in fig. 18 and figs. 10-12.

Abdominal Chaetotaxy: 1st post-spiracular setae on tergum IV (as in fig. 5). Tergum II (apparent 1st) with 1+1 long anterior setae. Terga II-V of δ each with an irregular



Figs. 1-5.—1, Strigiphilus marshalli n, sp. male; 2, Strigiphilus marshalli n, sp. female; 3, strigiphilus cursor—Burm... Post-spiracular seta and sensitius; 4, Strigiphilus cursor—Burm... Anterior abdominal tergites—II IV—t. pterothorax; p. 1st post-spiracular seta; 5, Strigiphilus ceblebrachys—Denny... Anterior abdominal tergites.

row of long stout setae. VI VIII with 2 long central setae with 1, 2 or more short setae between these long setae and the rest of the row of long setae on each side; IX with a long stout seta with usually 2 short, fine setae on each side of it (fig. 7). Range of \mathcal{S} tergocentral setae (the number of segments on which these are countable in the available material varies): II, 8-12; III, 8-11; IV, 7-10; V, 11-12; VI, 11-14; VII, 13-16; VIII, 11-13; IX, 10; terminal, 9-10. Tergocentral setae in \mathcal{Q} usually long stout and of approximately the same size. Range: II, 8-12; III, 11-12; IV, 10-13; V, 9-12; VI, 9-11; VII, 5-9; VIII, 4-8; IX, 2-3. Sternal setae long and stout: in \mathcal{S} : II, 8: III, 11-13; IV, 10-15; V, 11-14; VI, 9-14; VII, 2; terminal segments, 20-24. In \mathcal{Q} : II, 8-14; III, 15-17; IV, 15-18; V, 15-20; VI, 13-18; VII, 2; VIII, 2-3; terminal segments as in fig. 9. Pleural setae in \mathcal{S} - II, 0-0; III, 1-1; IV, 1-1; V, usually 2-2, occasionally 3 on one side: VI, 3-3; VIII, 3-3; VIII, usually 2-2 occasionally 3 on one side: IX, 3-3 or 3-2. \mathcal{Q} : II IV as in \mathcal{S} : V, 3-3 or 3-2, 1 specimen with 3-1; VI, 4-4. I specimen with 3-4 and 1 with 4-1; VII, 4-4 or 4-3; VIII, 3-3 or 3-2; IX, 3-3 or 4-4. Single pleural setae on each side of III and IV usually short and spine-like but occasionally

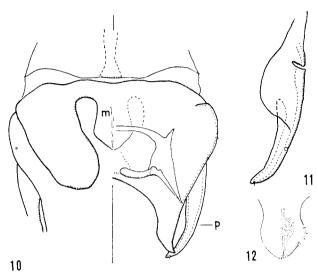


Figs. 6-9. Strigiphilus marshalli n. sp.: 6, male head, dorsal and ventral; 7, male posterior abdominal segments, dorsal; 8, male, subgenital plate; 9, female posterior abdominal segments, ventral.

thinner and longer; VIII, in addition to the 2 setae on each side in 3 and 3 in the \mathcal{Q} , with usual both riotrichium found on this segment. 3 pleural setae in 3 found on each side of IX comprise 2 long and 1 shorter and finer.

MATERIAL EXAMINED: 6강강, 5우우 from *Phodilus b. badius.* MALAYA: 2강강, Subang, 17. VIII.1962, H. E. McClure. THAILAND: 1강, 2우우, Khooluang, 6.VI.1965, J. T. Marshall; 3강강, 3우우, Nakonsitbumarat, 12.V.1956, B. King.

Holotype & (USNM), collected by Professor J. T. Marshall, Khooluang, Nahornsri Ta-



Figs. 10-12. Strigiphilus marshalli n. sp., male genitalia: 10, distal region. p. paramere; 11, paramere; 12, details of region m. in fig. 10.

marat, Thailand, 6.VI.1965.

	N	/IEASURE	EMENTS (mm.)	
	Male			Female	
	Length	Breadth		Length	Breadth
Head	0.60	0.43		0.71	0.52
Prothorax		0.28			0.33
Pterothorax		0.38			0.45
Abdomen	0.78	0.43		1.14	0.54
Total	1.67			2.20	
		F	HEAD		
	<i>&</i> (6)			♀(5)	
	Range	Mean		Range	Mean
Head breadth	0.43-0.47	0.447		0.49-0.52	0.514
Head length	0.60-0.64	0.614		0.68-0.73	0.709

S. marshalli resembles the species of the rostratus group parasitic on Tyto, at least in the characters of the preantennal region. In these species this part of the head is narrow and elongate (figs. 1-2 & Clay 1966); the dorsal anterior plate in marshalli has the distal point slightly modified, but otherwise resembles that of the rostratus group in appearing to be an undifferentiated area of the preantennal region marked off by a suture (figs. 19 & 20). In all other species of Strigiphilus examined, this plate shows greater distal modification: in S. heterogenitalis (fig. 22) and macrogenitalis it has an elongated thickened point with a central gutter; in others the thickened point arises from the broadest part of the plate, not strongly differentiated in S. ketupae (fig. 21), but more so in species such as S. cursitans (fig. 23). Apart from the backward prolongation of the anterior plate which is slightly modified distally, marshalli also differs from the rostratus group in having no

post-spiracular seta on tergum III and in having a seta on pleurite III; the male genitalia are quite distinct and resemble closely those of heterogenitalis.

While comparing the new species from Phodilus it was found that the species of Strigiphilus could be separated into a number of groups based on chaetotaxy, form of the male tergites and genitalia. It can be seen from the key on p. 840 that marshalli agrees with the macrogenitalis group in the absence of a postspiracular seta on tergum III, the presence of a seta on pleurite III, the chaetotaxy of terga VII-VIII, in having some of the posterior tergites continuous across the male abdomen and in the characters of the male genitalia. The species of the macrogenitalis group have been taken from some of the S. E. Asian species of Otus, one of the S. E. Asian species of Glaucidium, Uroglaux from New Guinea and at least one species of owl in Africa, probably Ciccaba woodfordi, but perhaps also Scotopelia peli. It is not possible to assess the phylogenetic importance of the characters common to the macrogenitalis group, but it would seem probable that they do reflect phyletic relationships, and thus one possible explanation of the distribution of these species would be a relationship between their hosts. However, the fact that the present ranges of all the hosts of the macrogenitalis group, with the exception of the Ciccaba and Scotopelia. overlap would have made secondary infestation possible, not only of the parasites of Phodilus, but also of those of some of the other hosts. If, therefore, Phodilus is correctly placed in the Tytonidae, then it must be assumed that the Strigiphilus species on Phodilus, resembling in many characters heterogenitalis from Otus, is due to secondary infestation. The characters of the head and anterior plate of such a species secondarily established on Phodilus, might have become modified in response to a similarity of feather structure between Tyto and Phodilus, thus giving the superficial resemblance between marshalli and the rostratus group. Alternatively, if the rather unlikely assumption is made that the characters of the head are of greater phyletic importance than those of the rest of the body, then the simularities of the head of marshalli and rostratus could mean: 1), The lice and their hosts had a recent common ancestor. 2), The species parasitic on Phodilus could be intermediate between those on Tyto with the simple perhaps primitive anterior plate, and those from the Strigidae in which the anterior plate shows greater modification, and that marshalli was near the ancestral form which gave rise to heterogenitalis; from this could be deduced an intermediate position for Phodilus between Tyto and the Strigidae. The anterior plate and shape of the head might, of course, be an adaptation to some feature of the plumage common to Tyto and Phodilus which did not denote relationship of the hosts. It is obvious from this discussion that the characters of the species of Strigiphilus parasitic on Phodilus give no real indication of the phylogenetic position of its host.

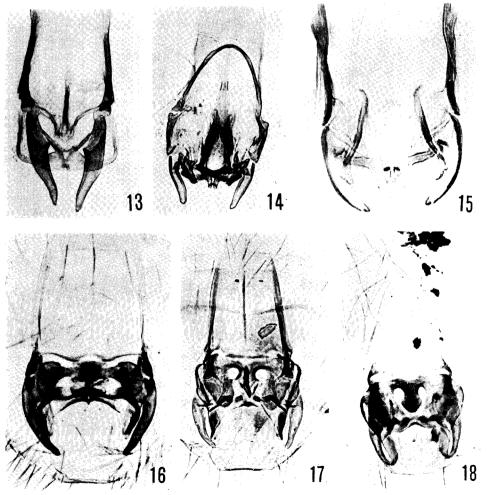
It may be interesting to see how far the distribution of the species of Strigiphilus follows the generally accepted arrangement of their hosts. Table II shows the owl species from which Strigiphilus is known and the species groups to which the parasites belong. It is possible that crenulatus should be included in the cursitans group, and that this latter group does not form a phyletic assemblage. It will be seen that species of the cursitans group occur on 12 of the 18 genera; on species of six of these genera, one or more additional species of Strigiphilus are found. It would seem that the presence or absence of a species of the cursitans group is not neccessarily significant in considering host-parasite relations. What appears to be established populations of cursor have been taken from Tyto in the Lebanon (by Dr Robert E. Lewis) and N. America. The other species suggest distinct positions for Tyto, Bubo, Ketupa, Strix and Asio. The rather strange distribution of the

macrogenitalis group has been discussed above.

Apart from the possibility of contamination during collecting, the distribution of some of these species appear to be geographical and may be due to secondary infestations (Clay 1946). When more material is available from both the known hosts and from a wider range of hosts and regions, it may be possible to obtain a more satisfactory picture of the host-parasite relationships within the Strigiformes.

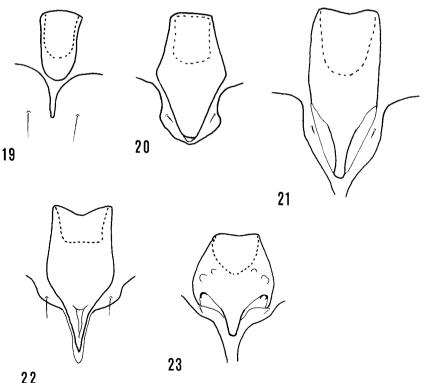
KEY TO SPECIES GROUPS OF STRIGIPHILUS

- 2(1). No seta on pleurite III; dorsal anterior plate without posterior projection and



Figs. 13-18. Male genitalia: 13, Strigiphilus rostratus (Burm.); 14, Strigiphilus heterocerus (Grube); 15, Strigiphilus cursor (Burm.); 16, Strigiphilus macrogenitalis Emerson & Elbel; 17, Strigiphilus heterogenitalis Emerson & Elbel; 18, Strigiphilus marshalli n. sp.

anterior dorsal setae well removed from dorsal suture (fig. 19); genitalia characteristic (fig. 13).....rostratus group Seta on pleurite III; dorsal anterior plate and setae and genitalia not as above...3 3 (2). A tergites VII VIII fragmented into 2-3 thickened areas on each side, and IX into central and lateral each side; Q last sternite with narrow angulated proximal strip (fig. 30); lateral pterothoracic setae X, 3-4 (fig. 31); & 3 genitalia without thickened central prolongation of basal apodeme (fig. 15); 4(3). ♀ tergite IX without narrow horizontal more strongly pigmented strip; usually only tergites II-III with posterolateral projections (fig. 4) cursor By genitalia with distally forked central prolongation of basal apodeme (fig. 29): Q tergite IX with narrow horizontal more strongly pigmented strip; tergites II-IV with posterolateral projections......crenulatus 5(1). A tergite VII continuous across segment and tergites VII-VIII with some smaller setae near center (fig. 7); basal apodeme separated from mesosome by suture and without central prolongation, "endomeres" reaching to or near end of parameres (figs. 16-18). Dorsal anterior plate either with slight



Figs. 19-23. Strigiphilus spp. Dorsal anterior plate and suture: 19, S. rostratus (Burm.); 20, S. marshalli n. sp.; 21, S. ketupae Emerson & Elbel; 22, S. heterogenitalis Emerson & Elbel; 23, S. cursitans (Nitzsch)

	distal modification (elongate point with Without above combin	central gutter (f ation of charact	fig. 22)ters	(macrogenits	alis group) 6
6 (5).	Head not elongate, C. gate point with cent				
	Head elongate, C. I.	under 0.80; dor	sal anterior p	late not as abo	ove (fig.
7:6).	Ist antennal segment of lst antennal segment of	enlarged in 🗗			nacrogenitalis
8 (5).	₹₹ ₹₹				9
9 (8),	Basal apodeme with c	entral forked pr	olongation not	fused to penis	(fig. 27)
			•••••••••••••••••	cu	rsitans group
	24		25		26
	27				29
	41	- NA	28		

Figs. 24-29. Male genitalia: 24. Strigiphilus strigis Pontoppidan: 25. Strigiphilus ketupae Emerson & Elbel: 26. Strigiphilus siamensis Emerson & Flbel: 27. Strigiphilus cursitans Nitzsch: 28. Strigiphilus ceblebrachys Denny: 29. Strigiphilus crenulatus Giebel.

macrogenitalis group has been discussed above.

Apart from the possibility of contamination during collecting, the distribution of some of these species appear to be geographical and may be due to secondary infestations. Clay 1946). When more material is available from both the known hosts and from a wider range of hosts and regions, it may be possible to obtain a more satisfactory picture of the host-parasite relationships within the Strigiformes

KEY TO SPECIES GROUPS OF STRIGTPHILUS

- 2(1). No seta on pleurite III; dorsal anterior plate without posterior projection and



Figs. 13-18. Male genitalia: 13. Strigiphilus rostratus Burm.; 14. Strigiphilus heterocerus (Grube); 15, Strigiphilus cursor (Burm.); 16, Strigiphilus macrogenitalis Emerson & Elbel; 17. Strigiphilus heterogenitalis Emerson & Elbel; 18. Strigiphilus marshalli n. sp.

10	(9).	Basal apodeme without central prolo 24)	d prolongation	
			tion 11	
11	(10).		ne fused to penis (fig. 25) ketupae	
12	(8).	Central prolongation of basal plate not fused to penis (fig. 26)siamensis Anterior plate elongate and without strongly thickened posterior point (fig. 21)		
			ketupae	
12	(12)			
1,5	(12).			
14	(13)	-	permathecal tube as in fig. 32strigis	
	(10).		cursitans group	
		Table I. Species C	Groups in Strigiphilus	
1.	The i	rostratus Group		
		rostratus (Burmeister 1838)	Tyto alba	
	+S.	aitkeni (Clay 1966)	Tyto alba	
2.	The I	heterocerus Group		
		heterocerus (Grube 1851)	Strix uralensis	
		laticephalus (Uchida 1949)	Strix aluco & S. uralensis	
		goniodicerus Eichler 1949	Bubo bubo	
		portigi Eichler 1952	Strix aluco	
3.		cursor Group		
		cursor (Burmeister 1838)	Asio flammeus	
		barbatus (Osborn 1902)	Asio otus	
4.		crenulatus Group (?=cursitans Group)		
_		crenulatus (Giebel 1874)	Surnia ulula	
5.		macrogenitalis Group		
		macrogenitalis Emerson & Elbel 1957	Glaucidium cuculoides	
	_	heterogenitalis Emerson & Elbel 1957	Otus bakkamoena	
,		marshalli n. sp.	Phodilus badius	
о.		strigis Group	Dul- kud-	
7		strigis (Pontoppidan 1763)	Bubo budo	
/.		siamensis Group	Clausidian kandisi	
0		siamensis Emerson & Elbel 1957	Glaucidium brodiei	
٥.		ketupae Group	Vetunge govlerensis	
Ω		ketupae Emerson & Elbel 1957 cursitans Group	Ketupae zeylonensis	
9.			Otus gaio	
		otus Emerson 1955 tuleskovi Balat 1958	Otus asio Otus scops	
		senegalensis Tendeiro 1963	Otus scops Otus senegalensis	
		oculatus (Rudow 1870)	Bubo virginianus	
		acutifrons Emerson 1961	Bubo virginianus Bubo virginianus	
		ceblebrachys (Denny 1842)	Nyctea scandiaca	
		cursitans (Nitzsch 1861)	Athene noctua	
		bramae (Qadri 1935)	Athene brama	

Speotyto cunicularia

S. speotyti (Osborn 1896)

S. virgo (Giebel 1874)

S. syrnii (Packard 1873)

+S. varius Carriker 1958

+S. capensis Tendeiro 1963

S. pallidus (Giebel 1874)

Ciccaba virgata Strix nebulosa Strix varia Asio capensis Aegolius funereus

Explanations to markings in Table 1:

+Holotype, Neotype or Paratype seen.

? Identification uncertain; types in existence.

No mark. Specimens seen from type host and presumed to be the species.

The species of the *cursitans* group are arranged in chronological order within the host genera according to Peters, 1940.

- 1. The following species have been omitted from the list:
 - S. asionis (Eichler 1949) = S. barbatus (Osborn), see Emerson 1955: 145.
- S. boomae Ansari 1955. A female of this species from Otus bakkamoena was figured in Ansari, 1959: 58. This figure and the measurements given are not those of S. heterogenitalis from the same host; the identification of boomae must await an examination of the type specimen.

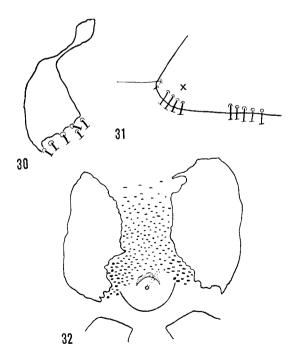


Fig. 30-32. Strigiphilus spp. 30-31, S. heterocerus (Grube 1851): 30, last abdominal sternite, female; 31, posterior margin of pterothorax, female; 32, Strigiphilus strigis (Pontoppidan), female internal genital sclerites.

- S. clypeatus (Mjöberg 1910). Probab ly=S. pallidus (Giebel) from the same host.
- S. nudipes (Piaget 1880)=S. cursor (Burm.). New Synonymy.
- S. remotus (Kell. & Chapman 1899). Probably = S. syrnii (Packard) from the same host.
- S. speotyto (Eichler 1954). Unidentifiable from original description.
- S. splendens (Giebel 1874). No specimens from type host and locality.
- S. viridicus Carriker 1954.=S. virgo (Giebel). Carriker (1954: 135) considered that his specimens from Ciccaba virgata, the type host of virgo, could not be Giebel's species and named them viridicus. However, the description of virgo is sufficiently indefinite to make its application to the species of Strigiphilus found on Ciccaba virgata possible, remembering that Giebel was probably working with uncleared specimens. It seems more satisfactory to continue the use of Giebel's name, which has been listed as that of the

species from *Ciccaba virgata* since 1874, than to replace it by another name which will not necessarily be adopted by everyone.

Those names already synonymised in Hopkins & Clay, 1952, 1953 and 1955 are also omitted. No attempt has been made to check the synonymy of all the names listed and and some may prove to be synonyms.

2. S. goniodicerus Eichler 1949. This was a new name for Docophorus heteroceros Nitzsch, 1861 nec Grube 1851, type host: Bubo. b. bubo. The specimens on which Nitzsch based his description were figured in Giebel, 1874, Pl. XII, figs. 1-2. The figure of the male is not that of S. strigis the species usually found on Bubo bubo. The presence of the enlarged first antennal segment, the prolongation of the anterodistal angle of the third segment as a short process and the enlarged last abdominal segment suggest that this species is similar to heterocerus Grube and is therefore, here included in the heterocerus group.

Table II. Host-Parasite list (Hosts according to Peters, 1940)

Host	Strigiphilus Species	Geographical Region	Species Group
TYTONIDAE			
	(rostratus	P. E.	rostratus
Tyto	aitkeni	N. Nt. O. A.	rostratus
·	cursor	P+. N.	cursor
Phodilus	marshalli	О.	macrogenitalis
STRIGIDAE			
Otus			
asio	otus	N.	cursitans
bakkamoena	heterogenitalis	O. (6)	macrogenitalis
leucotis		E.	cursitans
	(tuleskovi	P. O.	cursitans
scops	<i>heterogenitalis</i>	O. (4)	macrogenitalis
senegalensis	senegalensis	E.	cursitans
spilocephalus	heterogenitalis	O. (5)	macrogenitalis
Bubo			
africanus	strigis	E.	strigis
, ,	(strigis	P. O.	strig is
bubo	goniodicerus	P.	heterocerus
capensis	strigis	E.	strigis
coromandus		О.	cursitans
lacteus	strigis	E.	strigis
sumatrana	ketupae	O. (1)*	ketupae
	(acutifrons	N.	cursitans
vir ginianus	oculatus	N.	cursitans
	cursor	N.	cursor
Ketupa			
ketupa	ketupae	O. (2)	ketupae
	(ketupae	O . (4)	ketupae
zeylonensis	{	O.	cursitans
Scotopelia			
peli	nr. heterogenitalis	E. (1)*	macrogenitalis
-			

⁺Lebanon.

Host	Strigiphilus species	Geographical Region	Species Group
Nytea			
scaniaca	ceblebrachys	N. P.	cursitans
Surnia			
ulula	crenulatus	N. P.	crenulatus
			?cursitans group
Glaucidium			
brasilianum		Nt.	cursitans
, ,,	(siamensis	O. (1)	siamensis
brodiei	(h _{eterogenitalis}	O. (1)*	macrogenitalis
cuculoides	macrogenitalis	O. (13)	macrogenitalis
gnoma		N.	cursitans
passerinum	splendens	Р.	?
perlatum		E.	cursitans
radiatum		O.	cursitans
Micrathene			
whitneyi		N.	cursitans
Uroglaux			
dimorpha	heterogenitalis	A. (1)*	macroge n italis
Ninox			
novaeseelandi	ae 	A.	cursitans
Athene			
br a ma	bramae	O.	cursitans
noctua	cursitans	P. E.	cursitans
Speotyto			
cunicularia	speotyti	N.	cursitans
Ciccaba			
virgata	virgo	Nt.	cursitans
woodfordii	nr. heterogenitalis	E. (1)*	macrogenitalis
Strix			
aluco	[laticephalus	P.	heterocerus
ашсо	heterogenitalis	O. (1)*	macrogenitalis
butleri		P.	cursitans
nebulosa	syrnii	N.	cursitans
ocellata		O.	cursitans
occidentalis		N.	cursitans
seloputo	ketupae	O. (3)	ketup a e
vari a	varius	N.	cursitans
uralensis	heterocerus	P.	heterocerus
Asio			
capensis	capensis	E.	cursitans
flammeus	cursor	N. P. O.	cursor
otus	barbatus	N. P.	cursor
Aegolius			•
acadicus		<u>N</u> .	cursitaus
funereus	pallidus	P.	cursitans

Geographical Regions: N. Nearctic; Nt. Neotropical; P. Palaearctic; E. Ethiopian; O. Oriental; A. Australasian.

[[]For certain species the number of records is given in brackets after the geographical area. * denotes that the record needs confirmation; with the others the number of records or specimens collected make contamination unlikely].

REFERENCES

- Ansari, M. A. R. 1959 Studies on Ischnoceran Mallophaga infesting birds in the Panjab. *Indian J. Ent.* (1948), 20: 77-103.
- Clay, T. 1964 Geographical distribution of the Mallophaga. Bull. Brit. Orn. Cl. 84: 14-16.
 - 1966 The species of Strigiphilus parasitic on the Barn Owls, Tyto (Tytonidae). J. Ent. Soc. Queensland 5: 10-17.
- Elbel, R. E. & K. C. Emerson. 1959 The Taxonomic position of an Asiatic species of *Otus* as indicated by the Mallophaga. *Proc. Okla. Acad. Sci.* 39: 76-78.
- Emerson, K. C. 1955 A note on the identity of Strigiphilus barbatus (Osborn). J. Kansas Ent. Soc. 28: 144-45.
 - 1961 Three new species of Mallophaga from the great horned owl. *Proc. Biol. Soc.* Wash. 74: 187-92.
- Hopkins, G. H. E. & T. Clay. 1952 Check list of genera & species of Mallophaga. *Brit.* Mus. (N. H.). London.
 - 1953 Additions and corrections to the check list of Mallophaga. Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 12, 6: 434-48.
 - 1955 Additions and corrections to the check list of Mallophaga. II. Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 12, 8: 177-90.
- Peters, J. L. 1940. Check list of birds of the world, 4. Cambridge, U.S.A.