

**A NEW SPECIES OF AMYRSIDEA FROM AN
ORIENTAL PARTRIDGE
(Mallophaga: Menoponidae)¹**

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Amyrsidea oculeae*, is described and illustrated for material taken on the ferruginous wood partridge, *Caloperdix o. oculea*, from the Malay Peninsula.

A series of lice representing fresh and dried material from the ferruginous wood partridge, *Caloperdix oculea oculea* (Temminck), contained an undescribed species of *Amyrsidea*. This species is described and illustrated herewith. The fresh material was collected in peninsular Thailand by Wanit Songprakob and Wichit Suwan Laong, and the host skin was identified by H. G. Deignan, United States National Museum (USNM). The dried material was obtained from museum skins by T. James Lewis at the Field Museum of Natural History (FMNH) and by Robert E. Elbel at the USNM.

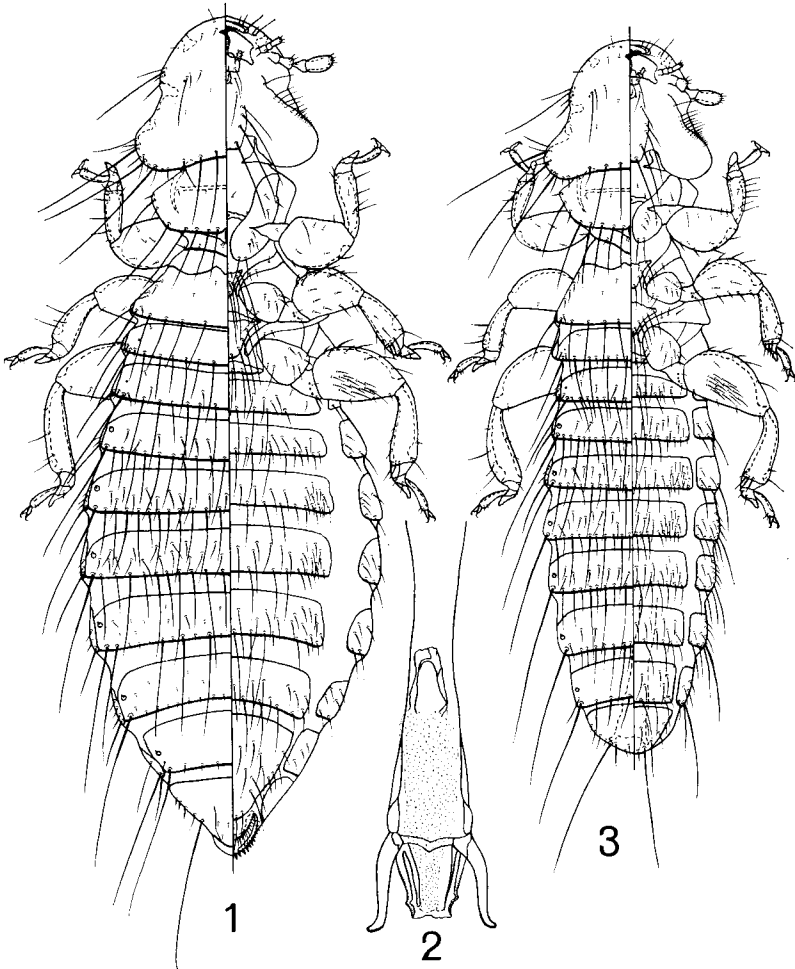
***Amyrsidea oculeae*, new species
(Figs. 1-3)**

FEMALE (Fig. 1). Head without preocular slit, at most with shallow indentation; gular setae 4 + 4. Margin of pronotum with 12 long, 4 short setae; both inner and outer dorsal pronotal setae short to minute; prosternum with 2 short median setae. Metanotum marginally with 10 long setae and a short seta associated with each corner seta; with 4 minute medioanterior setae; mesosternal and metasternal plates roughly triangular, with 9-11 and 9-10 setae, respectively. Venter of each femur III with brush of 13-17 setae. Marginal abdominal tergal setae: I, 19-21; II, 19-23; III-V, 21-25; VI, 19-21; VII, 18-21; VIII, 8; medially with long among longer setae on I-V, minute among very long on VI, and minute on VII-VIII. Anterior tergal setae: I, 0-1; II, 2-5; III, 7-11; IV, 10-19; V, 9-27; VI, 9-23; VII, 1-12; VIII, 0-1; predominantly minute setae on VI-VII. Postspiracular setae long on I, very long on II-VIII, with short seta lateral to each on I-II. Last tergite with 1 very long seta on each side, a fine seta and 3 short, heavier setae lateroanterior to this, and 5-6 minute inner posterior setae. Sternal setae: I, 4; II, 17-23; III, 28-

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FIGS. 1-3. *Amyrsidea oculeae*, n. sp. 1, entire female; 2, male genitalia; 3, entire male.

30; IV, 45-54 (including lateral brushes of 15-20 setae each); V, 44-52 (including lateral brushes of 14-21 setae each); VI, 32-38 (including poorly defined lateral brushes of 6-12 setae each); VII, 23-27. Sternites VIII and IX fused, medioposteriorly with 3-5 setae, anteriorly with 21-25. Anus with 21-26 setae in each fringe, including 12-15 median short spiniform setae dorsally.

MALE (Fig. 3). Head and thorax essentially as for female. Marginal abdominal tergal setae: I, 18-19; II, 17-21; III-V, 19-22; VI, 18-21;

VII, 15-19; VIII, 8; medially with short among longer setae on I-VII, uniformly medium setae on VIII. Anterior tergal and postspiracular setae as for female, except with longer anterior setae on VI-VII. Last tergite with 1 very long seta on each side, 4 fine setae lateroanterior to this, and 4 inner posterior setae, the outer pair stouter and longer than inner pair. Sternal setae on I-VII essentially as for female. Sternites VIII and IX not fused, VIII with 19-22 setae, IX with 16-17. Genitalia as in Figure 2, with prominent outwardly bent parameres; width 0.06 mm, length 0.28-0.32 mm.

Dimensions (in mm). Preocular width, female 0.24-0.26, male 0.23-0.25; temple width, female 0.34-0.36, male 0.29-0.32; head length, female 0.26-0.29, male 0.26; prothorax width, female 0.27-0.30, male 0.25-0.27; metathorax width, female 0.36-0.40, male 0.30-0.32; total length, female 1.54-1.65, male 1.34-1.46.

Type host. *Caloperdix o. oculea* (Temminck).

Type material. Holotype female, from FMNH skin from Tavoy River, Burma, 1 Feb. 1918, J. C. Hopwood, in FMNH. Paratypes: 6♂, 2♀, from USNM skin from Lay Song Hong, Trang, Thailand, 11 Oct. 1896, W. L. Abbott; 3♂, 6♀, from USNM skins from Bandon, Tholo, Thailand, 16 and 20 Sept. 1931, H. M. Smith; 8♂, 7♀, from Muang Kluang, Kapoe, Ranong, Thailand, 26 Dec. 1962, W. Songprakob and W. Suwan Laong, USNM.

Discussion. Although smaller in size, *A. oculeae* appears closest to *A. elbeli* Emerson and Stojanovich. This latter species also differs from *A. oculeae* by having long anterior and marginal setae on the female abdominal tergites VI to VIII, by lacking the short spiniform setae on the posterior margin of the female abdomen, by having the posterior margin of the male terminal tergite with a series of long setae, and by having the parameres and internal elements in the male genitalia more curved. The type species, *A. ventralis* (Nitzsch), is approximately the same size as *A. oculeae*; but, *A. ventralis* differs by having thick sternal brushes on III, by having heavy spines along the posterior margin of the last female segment, by having more complicated endomeres in the male genitalia, and by having anterior setae across the female tergite VIII and the male terminal tergite.

Specimens of *Menopon gallinae* (Linnaeus) were also present in three of the four collections from the ferruginous wood partridge.