

**A NEW SPECIES OF COLPOCEPHALUM
(Mallophaga: Menoponidae) FROM AN
INDIAN FLAMINGO¹**

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ABSTRACT

The new species, *Colpocephalum rosei*, is described and illustrated from specimens taken from an Indian flamingo, *Phoenicopterus roseus*.

There are currently 2 species of *Colpocephalum* Nitzsch recognized as occurring on the flamingoes (Aves: Ciconiiformes: Phoenicopteridae). These are *C. heterosoma* Piaget and *C. salimalii* Clay, both of which constitute the *heterosoma*-group as delimited by Price and Beer (1965). We recently received a pair of *Colpocephalum* taken from *Phoenicopterus roseus* (Pallas) in southern India. A study of these lice has shown them to represent a third as yet undescribed species of this group and it is our purpose to herewith describe and illustrate this new species. The nomenclature of the host follows that of Ripley (1961).

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Colpocephalum rosei n.sp.

(Figs. 1-3)

Female: As in Fig. 3. Head with minute occipital and middorsal setae; 2 very long marginal temple setae each side; gular setae 3 + 3. Pronotum with minute dorsal and 14 short to medium marginal setae; prosternal plate weakly developed, without setae. Metanotum marginally with 3 medium setae each side, medially and anteriorly with minute setae; venter of each femur III with 2-3 ctenidia. Abdominal tergites all essentially same length, those of I and IX divided medially, those of II-VIII clearly to weakly tripartite; each of tergites I-VIII with 8-14 marginal setae and few minute anterior setae; postspiracular setae short on tergites I, II, and VII, longer on III-VI and VIII. Spiracles located on pleura III-VIII. Last tergite with only short to minute setae. Sternite III with single ctenidium each side; 8-10 setae on sternites I and III, 20-40 on II and IV-VII; sternites VII and VIII partially fused, with portion of subgenital plate posterior to VII having 26 marginal and 40 anterior setae. Anus oval, with 30 ventral, 37 dorsal, and 10 inner dorsal setae.

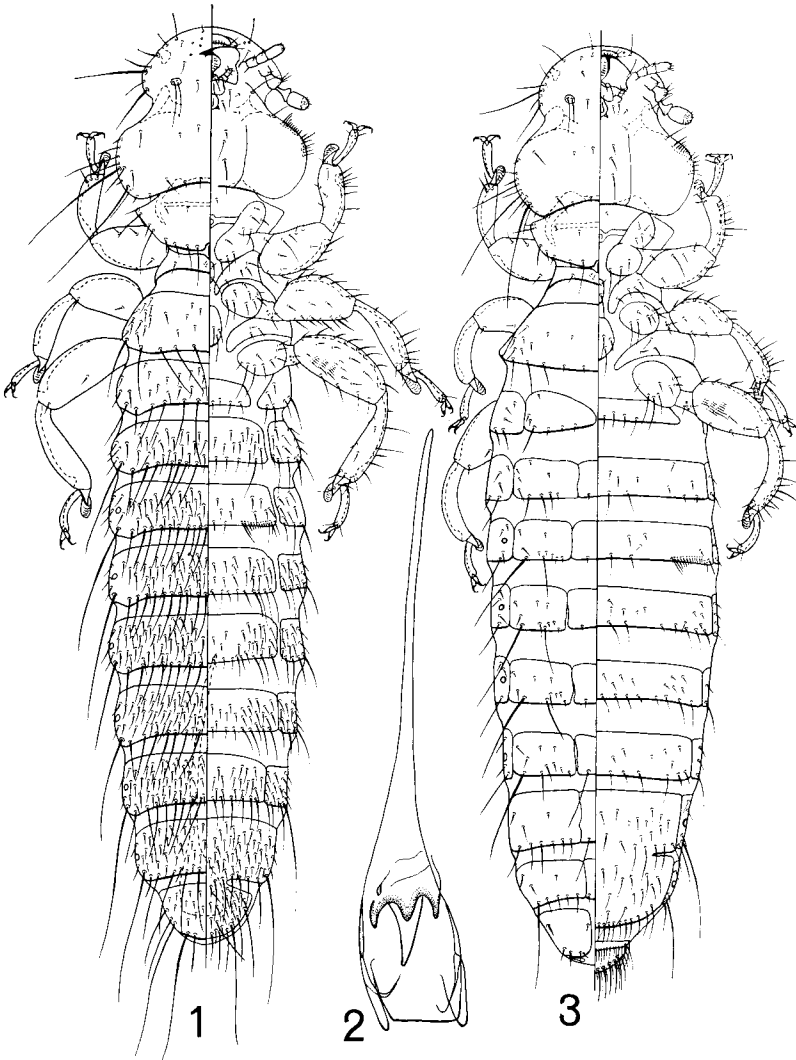
Male: As in Fig. 1. Head and prothorax much as for female, except for some slightly longer setae. Metanotum marginally with 10 long setae, medioanteriorly with about 10 minute setae; venter of each femur III with 3 ctenidia. Abdominal tergites of similar length, undivided; postspiracular setae medium on I, long to very long on II-VIII; remaining marginal setae all fairly long; 11-12 total marginal setae on I and VIII, 16-21 on II-VII; with short anterior setae, most numerous on V-VII. Last tergite with 2 very long, 3-4 shorter setae each side, and about 25 short anterior setae. Sternite III with single ctenidium each side; sternal setae sparser and shorter medially on II-VI. Genitalia (Fig. 2) 0.60 mm long, 0.09 mm wide, with unbarbed tapered penis, and sclerite with blunt lateroposterior projections and median process.

Dimensions (female and male, respectively; in mm): Preocular width, 0.27, 0.29; temple width, 0.39, 0.40; head length, 0.31, 0.32; prothorax width, 0.30, 0.31; metathorax width, 0.42, 0.37; total length, 1.94, 1.93.

Type-host: *Phoenicopterus roseus* (Pallas).

Material: Holotype male, allotype female, from type-host, Point Calimere, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, India, 19 April 1970, S. No. X5E-912; in collection of U.S. National Museum.

Remarks: *Colpocephalum rosei* is closest to *C. heterosoma*, with both of these grossly differing from the other member of this species-group, *C. salimalii* (Clay, 1951; Price and Beer, 1965). The female of *C. rosei*, by having longer postspiracular setae on III-V, only short setae on last tergite, fewer minute anterior abdominal tergal setae, a distinct row of inner dorsal anal setae, apparently all abdominal tergites divided, an unenlarged sternite II, and much smaller dimensions, is separable from that of *C. heterosoma*. The male of *C. rosei* has equally



FIGS. 1-3. *Colpocephalum rosei* n. sp. 1, dorsal-ventral view of male; 2, male genitalia; 3, dorsal-ventral view of female.

long and heavy medial marginal setae on the metathorax and abdominal tergites I-VIII as contrasted to the very short corresponding setae on at least the metathorax and anterior abdominal tergites of *C. heterosoma*; additionally, even the "small" male of *C. heterosoma* (Clay, 1951) is larger in all dimensions than that of *C. rosei*.

LITERATURE CITED

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