

# A NEW SPECIES OF MALLOPHAGA FROM THE CARACARA

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In 1956, Carriker described and illustrated as *Acutifrons caracarensis* (Kellogg and Mann, 1912) specimens taken off *Caracara cheriway* (Jacquin). At that time, Carriker noted he had been unable to examine the type of *A. caracarensis*, which was collected off *Caracara lentosus* (Ridgway); but he suspected the two forms might not be conspecific. I have examined the type material of *A. caracarensis*, and it is not conspecific with specimens from *Caracara cheriway*. The new species is here-with described.

*Acutifrons mexicanus*, new species

(Fig. 1)

**MALE HOLOTYPE:** General shape as illustrated by Carriker (1956) in his Fig. 12. Abdominal tergites narrow but entire: chaetotaxy of each is; II-10, III-14, IV-14, V-14, VI-14, VII-14, and VII-8. Abdominal paratergal plates as illustrated by Carriker. Abdominal sternal plates narrow but entire: chaetotaxy of each is; II-6, III-8, IV-6, V-8, VI-6, VII-6, and VIII-6. Posterior margin of genital opening with 12 long setae. Genitalia is illustrated in Fig. 1.

**ALLOTYPE:** Head and thorax as in the male. General shape of abdomen and chaetotaxy as illustrated by Carriker (1956) in his Fig. 13.

**Measurements:** (male, female) length of head 0.52 mm, 0.53 mm; width of head 0.48, 0.51; width of prothorax 0.32, 0.34; width of pterothorax 0.42, 0.44; width of abdomen 0.62, 0.64; total length 1.54, 1.45.

**Type host:** *Caracara cheriway* (Jacquin).

**Type material:** Holotype, allotype, and five paratypes collected 22 Sept. 1962, by M. A. Price, Cd. Victoria, Mexico; deposited in U. S. National Museum.

**Discussion:** The abdominal chaetotaxy of the male differs from that given by Carriker. Also there are slight differences in the male genitalia (Carriker's Fig. 14). I have the specimens from which Carriker's figures were drawn. It may be that these differences represent the range in number of abdominal setae that may be expected. The differences in size probably resulted from different mounting techniques. Since these differences in the two series do exist, Carriker's specimens have not been designated paratypes.

As might be expected from the relationship of the hosts, *A. caracarensis* and *A. mexicanus* are closely related. The greatest differences are in the male genitalia, which are drawn to the same scale in Fig. 1 and 2.

*Acutifrons caracarensis* (Kellogg and Mann, 1912)

(Fig. 2)

In the original description, Kellogg and Mann stated that three males were examined. This is in error; the series consists of one male and two females. Dr. Roger D. Price has remounted each of these specimens on a

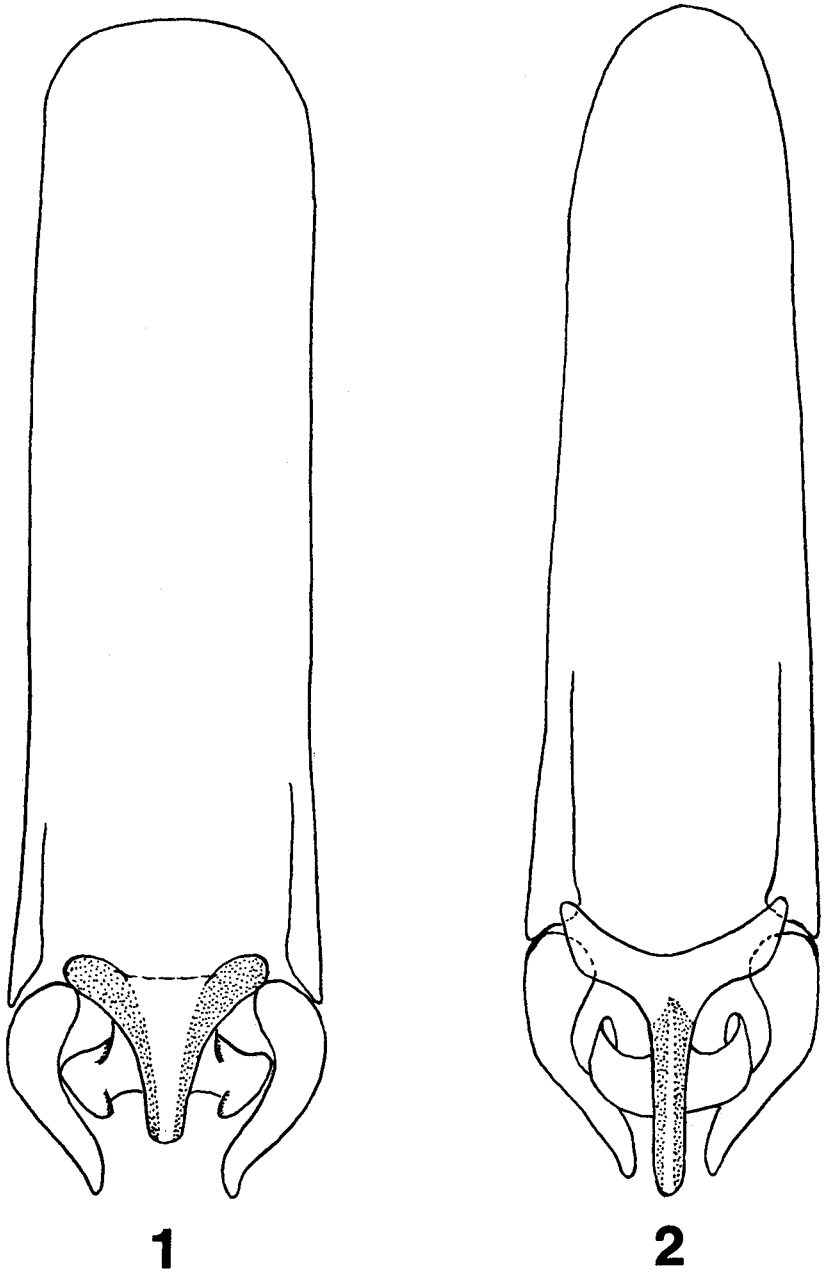


Figure 1. *Acutifrons mexicanus*, n. sp., male genitalia. Fig. 2. *Acutifrons caracarensis* (Kellogg and Mann, 1912), male genitalia.

separate slide, and they are presently in the Entomology Collection, University of California, Berkeley. The male is designated lectotype and a label to the effect has been placed on that slide. The male genitalia of the lectotype is illustrated in Fig. 2.

LITERATURE CITED

- Carriker, M. A.* 1956. Neotropical Mallophaga Miscellany, No. 9, A new genus and species. *Rev. Brasil. Ent.* 5: 111-146.
- Kellogg, V. L., and W. W. Mann.* 1912. Mallophaga from islands off Lower California. *Ent. News* 13: 56-65.

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