

DESCRIPTION OF *HAEMATOPINUS OLIVERI* SP. NOV. (ANOPLURA :
HAEMATOPINIDAE) PARASITIZING *SUS SALVANIUS* IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

A new species of sucking lice, *Haematopinus oliveri* sp. nov. has been illustrated and described from *Sus (Porcula) salvanius*, a rare species of swine, from N. W. Assam in India.

Six species of sucking lice, all belonging to genus *Haematopinus*, are known to parasitize members of the family Suidae (Artiodactyla). Of these *H. meinertzhageni* Werneck ex. *Hylochoerus meinertzhageni*, *H. phacocoeri* Enderlein ex. *Phacochoerus aethiopicus* (Pallas), *H. latus* Newman ex. *Potamochoerus porcus* (Linnaeus) are known from Ethiopian Region ; *H. suis* (Linnaeus) parasitizing wild boars in the Oriental Region and domestic pigs from all over the world, *H. apri* Gour parasitizing wild boars of Europe, *Sus scrofa* in the Palearctic Region ; and *H. ludwigi* Weisser parasitizing *Sus verrucosus* is from Philippine Islands (Stimie and Merwe, 1967 ; Weisser, 1974).

A new species of lice parasitizing *Sus (Porcula) salvanius* is being described in this paper. The species is named after Mr. William L. R. Oliver, Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, U. K. in grateful appreciation of his courtesy to supply the valuable specimens, collected by him, for this study. Morphological terminology of Weisser and Kim (1972) is followed in this paper.

Haematopinus oliveri sp. nov.

(Figs. 1-3)

Female (Fig. 1) : General body colouration is paler. Total body length 4.1 mm. (X, N=3) ; range 3.9 to 4.2 mm.

Head (Fig. 2) : Slightly longer than wide, with distinct ocular points ; head index (head length : head width x 10) X=16.1. Arrangement of setae typical haematopinoid type, as shown in figure ; clypeus, ocular sinuses and occipital regions well sclerotized. Antennae 5 segmented, sensoria separate, situated on the distal end of segment 4 & 5.

Thorax : Dorsum with distinct notal pit and one large dorsolateral well-chitinized projections of metanotum, metathoracic pleural phragma, on each side ; each half with prethoracic seta anteriorly, 1 mesothoracic seta next to spiracle, and 2 metathoracic setae near metathoracic pleural phragma Venter. with a well developed distinct thoracic sternal plate. Sternal plate 0.49 mm. long 0.36 mm. wide ; anterolateral

projections triangular, enclosing the pits of prothoracic pleural apophyses, laterally with a median triangular protuberance.

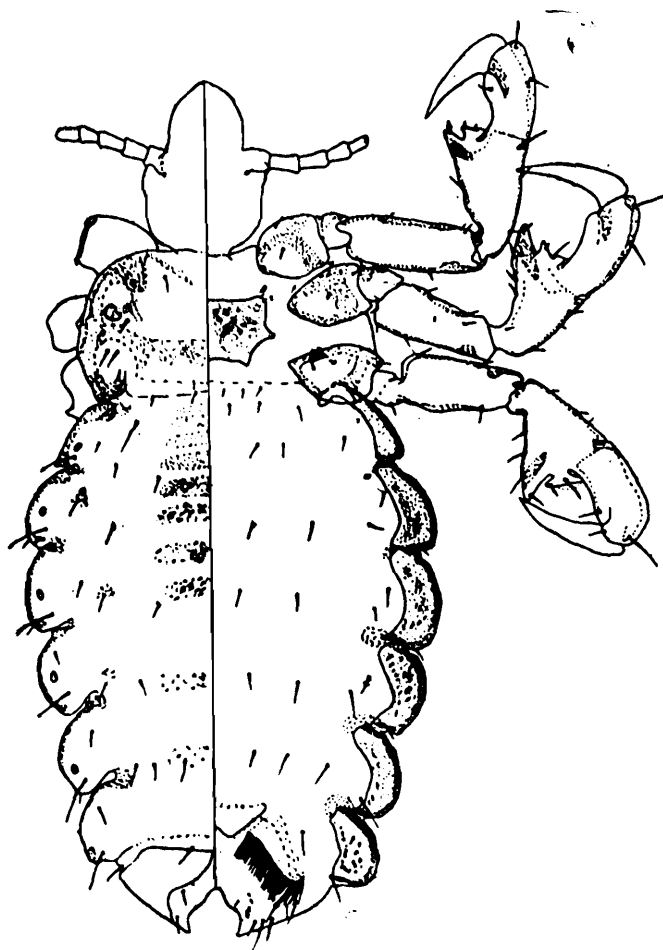


Fig. 1. *Haematopinus oliveri* sp. nov. Female, dorsal and ventral views (Setae on head and antennae omitted).

Legs : Typically haematopinoid type ; all the legs almost similar in size, tibiotarsi and claws comparatively large.

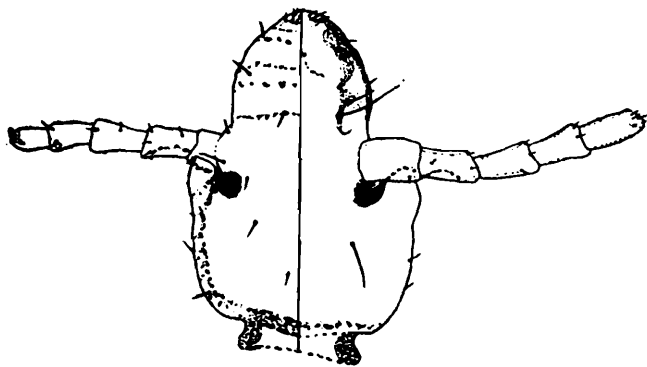


Fig. 2. *Haematopinus oliveri* sp. nov. Head, dorsal and ventral views.

Abdomen[♀] : Obovate, Tergites and sternites absent except some lightly pigmented patches dorsally and clasp-like deeply pigmented tergite of terminal segment, medially connected

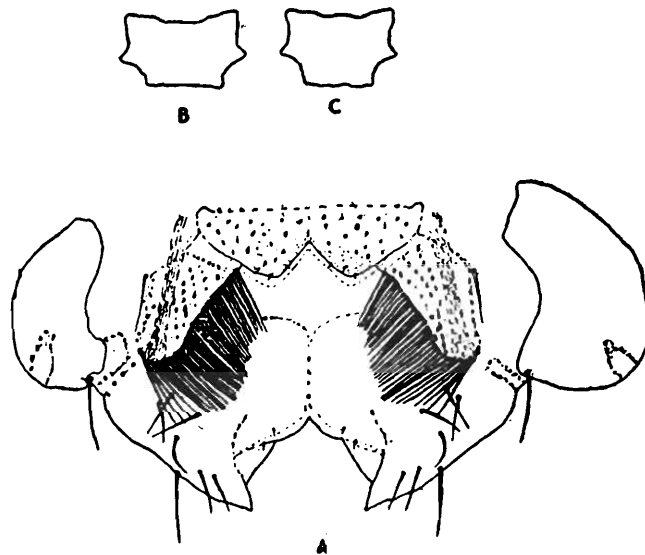


Fig. 3. *Haematopinus oliveri* sp. nov. A. Terminal abdominal segments ♀ B. C. Paratergites ♀

through weak sclerotized bridge. Chaetotaxy as shown in fig. 1. Paratergites large, well defined, present on segments III to VIII. Lateral margin deeply lobed, with the deepest incision between segments VI-VII and VII-VIII. Spiracles present on segments III to VIII.

Genitalia (Fig. 3) : Gonopophyses (Gonopods) elongated, lobe-like, inner margin slightly divergent with almost rounded apex, fringed with numerous long setae. Each gonopophyses with a well developed, strongly chitinized apodeme, close to outolateral margin. Vulva possess the paired and serrated median lobes having several minute setae.

Male : Unknown.

Nymph 1-2 : Unknown.

Nymph 3 : Total body length 2-7 mm. (N=1). Similar to female, except for the thoracic sternal plate, genital sternites and tergite of terminal segment.

Diagnosis : *Haematopinus oliveri* sp. nov. closely resembles *H. ludwigi* Weisser but can be easily separated due to the complete absence of paratergite II, and by the shape of thoracic sternal plate. It resembles the Ethiopian species (*H. latus*, *H. phacochoeri*, *H. melnertzhageni*) due to the relatively short head but easily separable in the absence of paratergite II and the semilunar tergites of the abdomen. In the absence of paratergite II and shape of thoracic sternal plate it approaches the Palaearctic and Oriental species *H. suis* and *H. apri* also but falls well apart due to relatively short head. Thus, species on the basis of external morphology is an intermediate taxon between *H. suis* and *H. apri* on one side and remaining species parasitizing suidae on other side.

Type-data : Holotype ♀, paratypes 2 ♀ and one associated 3rd nymphal instar, ex. Pigmy-hog, *Sus (Porcula) salvanius* Hodgson, Dorrang, N. W. Assam, India, V. 1977, Coll. William L. R. Oliver. All the specimens are deposited in the National Zoological Collection of Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, (Reg. No. 378-381/H16).

Host-distribution : *Sus salvanius* is having a restricted distribution in the Terai region of Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim and N. W. Part of Assam in India.

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