NEW SPECIES OF *COMATOMENOPON* (MALLOPHAGA: AMBLYCERA).

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In 1920, Uchida erected the genus *Comatomenopon*, and described *C. elongatum* for five specimens supposedly collected off *Sterna albifrons sinensis* Gmelin at Toko, Nanheisho, Formosa, on April 3rd, 1916. Since that time, the status of the genus has been rather confused because the types were not available to other workers, the descriptions and illustrations were not in great detail, and additional specimens from the host listed could not be collected. Recently, through the efforts of Dr. Theresa Clay, the syntypes of *Comatomenopon elongatum* Uchida, 1920, were made available to the author for study. Notes and illustrations of this species and related forms are herewith reported.

Comatomenopon elongatum Uchida.

1920. Annot. Zool. Jap., 9: 649, figs. 1–3.

Dr. Clay informs me that according to notes on the Uchida collection sent to her by John E. Scanlon, specimens of *Egretta garzetta* (Linnaeus) were taken on the same day as *Sterna albifrons sinensis* Gmelin. Recent collections from other host species of Ciconiiformes have produced specimens of Mallophaga which are congeneric with Uchida's types. From the evidence available, the type host of *Comatomenopon elongatum* Uchida, 1920, is probably *Egretta garzetta* (Linnaeus).

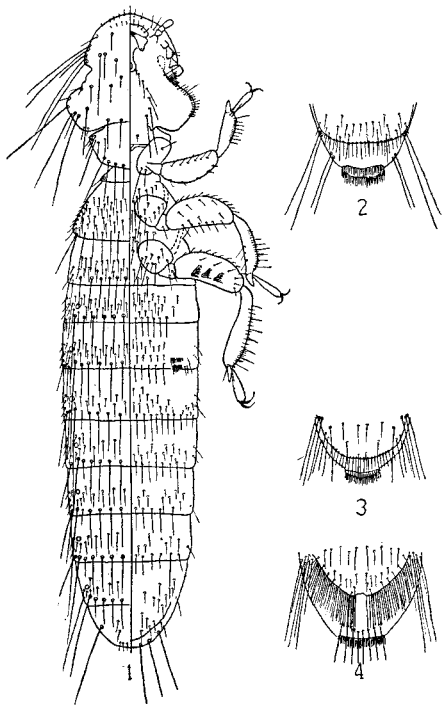
The male specimen on slide No. 7 of the syntypes is hereby designated as lectotype of *Comatomenopon elongatum* Uchida, 1920, and has been so labelled. This specimen is illustrated in figure 1. The male genitalia resemble those found in other species of *Colpocephalum* and *Ciconiphilus*, and do not appear to be of specific taxonomic value. There is no marked sexual dimorphism. The ventral view of the terminal abdominal segment of the female syntype on slide No. 6 is illustrated in figure 2.

Measurements of the lectotype male and syntype female on slide No. 6 are:

	Male mm.	Female mm.
Length of head	0·35	0·37
Breadth of head	0·44	0·44
Breadth of prothorax	0·31	0·35
Breadth of metathorax	0·42	0·48
Breadth of abdomen	0·51	0·56
Total length	2·18	2·33

There is little doubt that *Comatomenopon* belongs to the *Colpocephalum* complex of genera. It can be separated from *Colpocephalum* sens. str. by the absence of dark pigmented areas of the head, the elongated slender lightly sclerotized abdomen, and the structure of the abdominal segments ; all of which are shown in figure 1. Within the genus *Comatomenopon*, the chaetotaxy apparently offers the best means for separation of the species.

Figs. 1–4.



1. *Comatomenopon elongatum* Uchida, dorsal-ventral view of lectotype male. 2. *Comatomenopon elongatum* Uchida, ventral view of terminal abdominal segment of female syntype. 3. *Comatomenopon ibis* n. sp., ventral view of terminal abdominal segment of allotype female. 4. *Comatomenopon elbeli* n. sp., ventral view of terminal abdominal segment of allotype female.

Comatomenopon ibis, n. sp.

This species is very similar to *C. elongatum*. It can be separated from that species as follows : in the male, the dorsal surface of the forehead has numerous medium-length setæ, while in *C. elongatum* this chaetotaxy is sparse and composed of short setæ ; in the female, the chaetotaxy of the terminal abdominal segment is more sparse as shown by a comparison of figures 2 and 3.

Measurements :

	Male mm.	Female mm.
Length of head	0·35	0·37
Breadth of head	0·43	0·43
Breadth of prothorax	0·33	0·35
Breadth of mesothorax	0·39	0·39
Breadth of abdomen	0·50	0·62
Total length	2·21	2·07

Type host : *Bubulcus ibis ibis* Linnaeus.

Type material : Holotype male and allotype female, slide no. 7384 in the British Museum (Natural History), were collected off the type host in Kenya during March, 1936. Nine male and five female paratypes were collected off *Bubulcus ibis coromandus* (Boddaert) on Khao Oerawan Mountain, Lop Buri, Thailand on July 17th, 1953 by Robert E. Elbel.

Comatomenopon elbeli, n. sp.

This species is readily separated from the other two species by the chaetotaxy of the abdominal segments. In both sexes, the chaetotaxy of the abdominal segments is sparse. The abdominal sternites and tergites each have a row of setæ on the posterior margin, and two or four median setæ. Combs on the venter of the third femur and third abdominal sternite are as in the other two species. Chaetotaxy of the terminal abdominal segment of the female is very distinctive, and as shown in figure 4.

Measurements :

	Male mm.	Female mm.
Length of head	0·35	0·36
Breadth of head	0·41	0·31
Breadth of prothorax	0·30	0·31
Breadth of mesothorax	0·40	0·43
Breadth of abdomen	0·50	0·63
Total length	2·25	2·25

Type host : *Ardea purpurea purpurea* Linnaeus.

Type material : Holotype male, allotype female, slide No. 7581a in the British Museum (Natural History), were collected from the type host in Kenya during April, 1936 ; 33 paratypes from the same host form from Kenya and Sudan.

This species is named for Mr. Robert E. Elbel who has made extensive collections of Mallophaga in Thailand. This study was supported by research grant E–1722 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Public Health Service.

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