

A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF MALLOPHAGA.

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RECENTLY Dr. Theresa Clay, British Museum (Natural History) provided for study a series of Mallophaga which apparently represents a new genus and species. The form is herewith described and illustrated.

The family Trimenoponidae previously contained eight species and four genera, all of which are well-known. The new genus and species described here is from a neotropical host, as are other species of the family. Additional collections from probable hosts found in the southern portion of South America are likely to further enlarge the family. To date collections have been from hosts found in the northern and central portions of South America.

Key to the genera of Trimenoponidae.

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| 1. Head with prominent spinelike processes..... | 2 |
| Head without spinelike processes..... | 4 |
| 2. Head with two pairs of spinelike processes..... | 3 |
| Head with one pair of spinelike processes..... | <i>Chinchillophaga</i> |
| 3. Both pairs of spinelike processes on the head located laterally, one preantennal and one postantennal..... | <i>Harrisonia</i> . |
| Both pairs of spinelike processes on the head located ventrally and preantennal..... | <i>Cummingsia</i> . |
| 4. Dorsal expansion of head over antennal fossa deeply emarginate.... | <i>Philandesia</i> . |
| Dorsal expansion of head over antennal fossa only slightly convex.. | <i>Trimenopon</i> . |

Chinchillophaga n. gen.

Mallophaga of the family Trimenoponidae with dorsal expansion of head over antennal fossa convex and temporal lobes rounded. Ventrally one pair of spinelike processes, recurved laterally, arising from near bases of antennæ. Antennæ exposed ventrally. Prothorax and pterothorax each triangular-shaped. Abdominal tergites and sternites, except for terminal segments, each with two transverse rows of setæ. Male genitalia with simple parameres.

Genotype. *Chinchillophaga clayae* n. sp.

Chinchillophaga clayae n. sp.

Holotype male: External morphology and chaetotaxy as shown in fig. 1. Genitalia as shown in fig. 2. Total length 1.06 mm.

Allotype female: External morphology and chaetotaxy, except for terminal abdominal segments, as in the male. Lateral angles of vulva each with a fringe of ten medium-length setæ. Total length 1.55 mm.

Type host: *Dolichotis patagonum* (Zimmermann, 1780).

Type material: Holotype male, allotype female, and seven paratypes collected off a specimen of the type host in the London Zoo. Holotype and allotype are in the collection of the British Museum (Natural History).

Discussion: Features of this monotypic genus which distinguish it from other genera in the family Trimenoponidae are: (1) the reduced

Figs. 1 and 2.

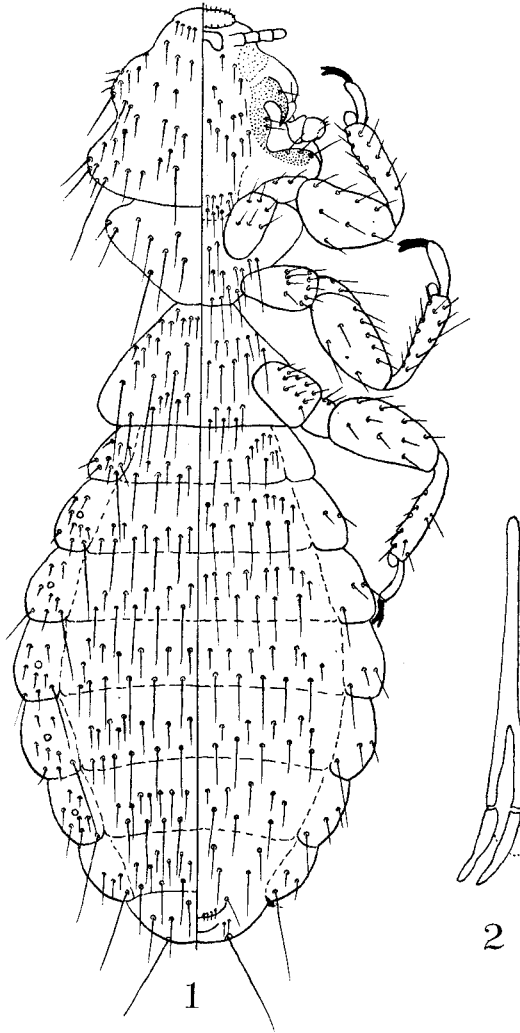


Fig. 1. Dorsal-ventral view of holotype male. Fig. 2. Genitalia of holotype male.

ventral portion of the antennal grooves, (2) the distinctive spine-like hook on the ventral portion of the forehead, and (3) the triangular-shaped prothorax and pterothorax. This is the first species of Mallophaga to be recorded from this host genus.

REFERENCE

WERNECK, F. L. 1948. Os Malofagos de Mamiferos, Parte 1 : Amblycera e Ischnocera (Philopteridae e parte de Trichodectidae). Rio de Janeiro, 243 pages.