

A New Species and Subgenus of *Kurodaia* (Mallophaga: Amblycera)*

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The Ischnoceran genus *Falcolius* Clay, 1956, has been recorded only from the falconets or pygmy falcons of south-eastern Asia. This genus apparently has no affinities with any known genera found on the remainder of the Falconiformes. The first results of a study made of several collections of amblyceran Mallophaga from this interesting group of birds are herewith reported.

The amblyceran genus *Kurodaia* Uchida, 1926, as presently defined, contains a number of species found on the Falconiformes and Strigiformes. Examination of several undescribed forms from both host orders indicates that the present generic description is adequate, except for a new form found on the host genus *Microhierax*, the falconets. In general appearance, there is some doubt that the form should be included in the genus *Kurodaia*; however a majority of the generic characters normally considered in the suborder indicate a definite relationship to this genus. Due to the significant differences between the form found on *Microhierax* and the remaining species of *Kurodaia*, a new subgenus is herewith described.

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FALCOMENOPON new subgenus

Large stout Menoponidae distinguished from the known species of the genus *Kurodaia* by the following diagnostic characters: a comb of short setae in the lateral posterior angles of the fourth abdominal sternite, the absence of prominent setae on the median posterior margin of the abdominal tergites, the expanded lateral margins of the forehead, the large prominent male genitalia, and the presence of a row of medium-length setae on the posterior margin of the female vulva.

Type species: *Kurodaia (Falcomenopon) boonsongi* new species.

Kurodaia (Falcomenopon) boonsongi new species

Male. General shape and chaetotaxy as shown in fig. 1. Male genitalia, less the genital sac, as shown in fig. 3. The genital sac is armed with prominent teeth.

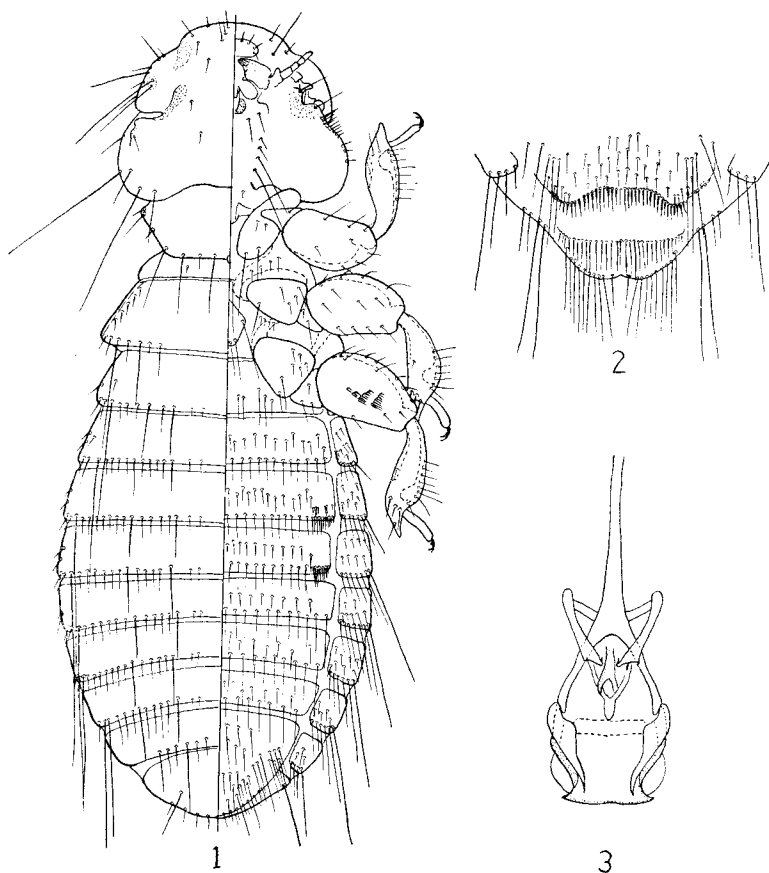
Female. General shape and chaetotaxy, except for terminal abdominal segments, similar to the male. Ventral view of terminal abdominal segment as shown in fig. 2. Dorsal chaetotaxy of terminal abdominal segments similar to that of the male.

Measurements.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Length of head	0.39 mm.	0.40 mm.
Width of head	0.57	0.60
Width of prothorax	0.42	0.45
Width of mesothorax	0.61	0.65
Width of abdomen	0.72	0.91
Total length	1.85	2.06

Type host: *Microhierax caerulescens burmanicus* Swann.

Type material: *Holotype* male, *allotype* female and ten *paratypes* were collected at Ban Thung Chuak, Salok Bat, Kamp-haeng Phet, THAILAND on June 20, 1953, by Robert E. Elbel. Four paratypes were collected at Ban Na Muang, Na Haeo, Dan Sai, Loei, Thailand on October 2, 1954, by Robert E. Elbel. Two paratypes were collected at Bo Phloi, Latya, Kanchanaburi,



Kurodaia (Falcomenopon) boonsongi new species.

FIG. 1. Dorsal-ventral view of male.

FIG. 2. Ventral view of terminal abdominal segments of female.

FIG. 3. Male genitalia.

Thailand on July 14, 1952, by Robert E. Elbel. One paratype was collected on Phu Kho Mountain, Kan Luang, Na Kae, Nakhon Phanom, Thailand on July 19, 1954, by Robert E. Elbel and Boonsong Lekagul. The holotype and allotype have been deposited in the U. S. National Museum.

In the British Museum (Natural History) are two male specimens collected off skins of *Microhierax fringillarius* (Drapiez), which may belong to this species. They have not been included in the type material because of their poor condition which precludes positive identification. If these records are correct, they indicate that the subgenus is not restricted to a single host.

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