

Notes on the louse fauna of capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus* L.) from the Kelemen Alps, Romania

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The capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus* L., 1758) inhabits parts of the Alps, the Carpathian, Balkan and Pyrenean mountains and some areas of Scotland, Scandinavia, Eastern and North-eastern Europe.

In Hungary, the first individuals were observed in the 1880s in western Vas and Győr-Sopron counties, presumably due to a colonisation from Austrian breeding fields. Considerable populations became established in Órség and in the Kőszegi and Soproni mountains. Its regular occurrence and breeding decreased gradually through decades and finally capercaillie ran extinct in the 1960s. In the past two decades only vagrant individuals were scarcely observed.

As there is no hope to collect lice from capercaillie in Hungary, those collected by ornithologist László Kalabér are of special value. The lice originate from two male capercaillies (a 7-8 years old and a 3-4 years old) collected on 9 May 1994 in the Kelemen alps, near Galoia (Galonya), Romania. At determination twelve days later on 21 May most lice were still living and feeding on the barbs of the feathers. Lice were also collected from the plumage and from the base of the bill of the second bird. The first bird harboured 19 individuals of lice belonging to two species, while the second one harboured 15 individuals of three species.

MALLOPHAGA Nitzsch, 1818

Ischnocera Kellogg, 1908

Goniodidae Mjöberg, 1910

Zlotorzycella Eichler, 1981

Zlotorzycella bituberculata (Rudow, 1869), 1st host: 7 males, 4 females, 6 nymphs, 2nd host: 1 nymph

Degeeriellidae Leach, 1815

Lagopoecus Waterson, 1922

Lagopoecus pallidovittatus (Grube, 1851), 1st host: 1 male, 1 female, 2nd host: 5 males, 6 females

Lipeuridae Mjöberg, 1910

Reticulipeurus Kéler, 1958

Reticulipeurus tetraonis tetraonis (Grube, 1851), 2nd host: 2 females, 1 nymph