

# A New Species and Record of the Genus *Ardeiphilus* in North America (Mallophaga: Menoponidae)<sup>1</sup>

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Hopkins and Clay (1951) list three valid species in the genus *Ardeiphilus*, all of which are extralimital. They are: *A. trochioxus* (Burmeister) from *Botaurus stellaris*; *A. vittatus* (Rudow) from *Ardeola ralloides*; and *A. mirzae* (Qadri) from *Ardeola grayii*.

There has heretofore been no records of any species of *Ardeiphilus* occurring in America north of Mexico. During a recent study of ciconiiform Mallophaga, a species of *Ardeiphilus* was collected and is herein described as new.

*Ardeiphilus floridae* sp.n. (Figs. 1, 2, 3)

*Type material:* Holotype female from *Florida [Leucophoyx] thula* (Molina), Waller Co., Texas, 27 April 1960, D. W. Tuff. U.S. National Museum No. 67642. One male and six female paratypes from the type host, Waller Co., Texas, 9 May 1961, D. W. Tuff. One male and three female paratypes from type host collected at Rio Americano, Tampico, Tamaulipas, Mexico, 25 Aug. 1961, M. A. Price and O. H. Graham. Paratypes are in the author's collection and in the Department of Entomology Collection, Texas A&M University.

*Description:* Holotype female. Head much wider than long, anterior margin arched. Lateral angles of forehead acute, with a single long seta; ocular emarginations deep; temporal lobes broadly rounded with five long marginal setae; occipital margin with four long setae dorsally; eyes present, prominent; third antennal segment constricted at base, broadly joined to truncate terminal segment.

Prothorax wider than long with lateral angles acute, each of which bears a short spine, lateral margin with one long and one short seta; dorsoposterior margin evenly rounded, beset with eight long setae; a short seta dorsally at each end of dark transverse band.

Pterothorax with lateral margins strongly divergent, forming acute angles at posterior border; several short setae on lateral margins; acute angles with two short and one long setae; posterior margin beset

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with eight long and four short setae, two short setae being located between the first and second long seta on each side; mesosternal plate triangular, with several marginal setae; apex of plate extending to first abdominal segment.

Abdomen elongate-oval, paratergal and sternal sclerites well developed; two dark spots (internal) on pleurites of segments II–VII; chaetotaxy of tergites as in Fig. 1, several long setae interspersed with short setae in segments I–VIII; terminal abdominal segment broadly rounded, beset with two long setae at posterolateral angle and a fringe of short setae on posterior margin; sternites II–VIII well developed, with numerous short setae; posterolateral angles of sternites III and IV with double rows of ctenidia; sternites VII and VIII fused, posterior margin with several stout setae.

Legs well developed; femora robust, femora III beset ventrally with four rows of ctenidia; apex of tibiae II and III with three stout spines ventrally; tarsal claws each with a small tooth at base.

Male similar to female except for its smaller size and chaetotaxy of terminal abdominal segments (Fig. 2). The male genitalia are figured (Fig. 3) and are noticeably different from the genitalia of a closely related species, *Ardeiphilus trochioxus* (Burmeister), shown in Figure 4.

#### Measurements (in mm.):

	Holotype female		Male	
	Length	Width	Length	Width
Head	0.39	...	0.41	...
con	...	0.56	...	0.51
temples	...	0.80	...	0.73
Prothorax	0.28	0.52	0.20	0.50
Pterothorax	0.27	0.78	0.24	0.66
Abdomen	1.56	1.15	0.95	0.93
Total	2.50	...	1.80	...

#### DIAGNOSIS

*Ardeiphilus floridae*, sp.n. can be separated from *A. trochioxus* (Burmeister), the most closely related species, by the abdominal chaetotaxy and smaller size and by the form of its male genitalia (Figs. 3 and 4).

#### DISCUSSION

This is the first record of any species of *Ardeiphilus* from the American continent. The genus *Ardeiphilus* is found in small numbers on

the host, and is apparently restricted to the family Ardeidae. More extensive collection of Mallophaga on ardeids throughout the world should yield additional species of this genus.

#### LITERATURE CITED

HOPKINS, G. H. E., and THERESA CLAY, 1952—*A Checklist of the Genera and Species of Mallophaga*. Norwich: Jarrold and Sons, Ltd., 362 pp.

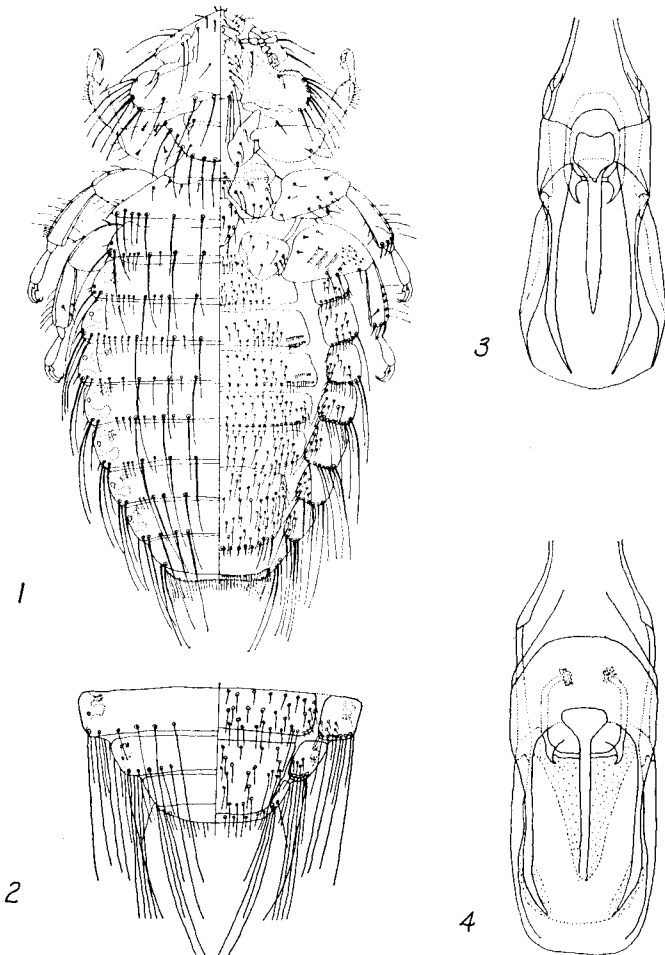


Fig. 1. *Ardeiphilus floridae*, sp.n., dorsal-ventral view of holotype female.

Fig. 2. *Ardeiphilus floridae*, sp.n., dorsal-ventral view of terminal abdominal segments of male.

Fig. 3. *Ardeiphilus floridae*, sp.n., ventral view of male genitalia.

Fig. 4. *Ardeiphilus trochioxus* (Burmeister), ventral view of male genitalia.

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