

**A NEW SPECIES OF PLEGADIPHILUS  
(Mallophaga: Menoponidae)<sup>1</sup>**

DONALD W. TUFF

Department of Biology, Southwest Texas State College, San Marcos

The genus *Plegadiphilus* Bedford, which is restricted to the ibises, contains three species. Only *P. plegadis* (Dubinin) from *Plegadis falcinellus* (Linn.) is found in North America, whereas *P. mamillatus* (Piaget) from *Theristicus caudatus* (Boddaert) and *P. threskiornis* Bedford from *Threskiornis aethiopicus* (Latham) are extralimital. A second North American species of *Plegadiphilus* is herein described.

*Plegadiphilus eudocimus*, sp. n.

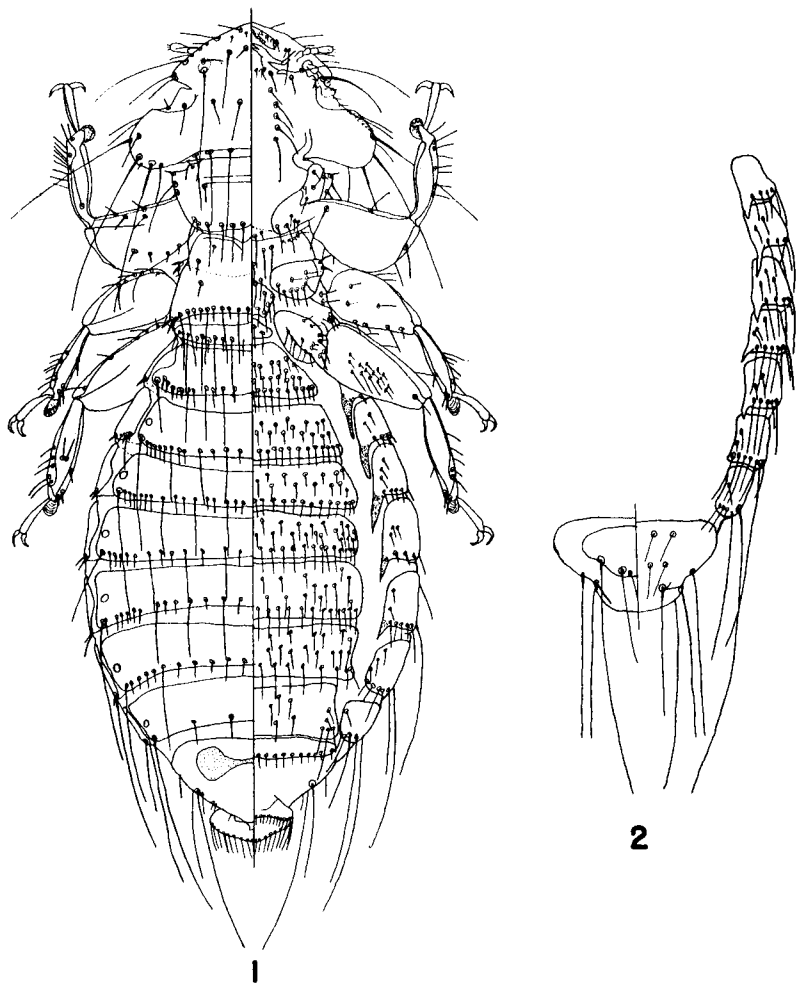
(Figs. 1, 2)

*Type material*: Holotype female, allotype male from *Eudocimus*

<sup>1</sup> A portion of a dissertation accepted as partial requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Department of Entomology, Texas A & M University, College Station.

Research supported in part through an American Philosophical Society Grant, no. 2967-P.

Accepted April 9, 1965. Publication paid.



*Plegadiphilus eudocimus*, sp. n. FIG. 1, dorsal-ventral view of holotype female. FIG. 2, pleural plates and dorsal-ventral view of terminal abdominal segments of allotype male.

*albus* (Linn.), Waller Co., Texas, May 25, 1960, D. W. Tuff, U.S.N.M. No. 67963. One male and two female paratypes with same data as holotype; seven male and 12 female paratypes from type host, Waller Co., Texas, June 29, 1960, D. W. Tuff. Paratypes are deposited in the following collections: British Museum (Natural History); Department of Entomology, Texas A & M University; Dr. K. C. Emerson, Arlington, Virginia, and the author's.

*Additional material examined:* Twelve males and twenty-three females from type host, Ponchatoula, Louisiana, May 15, 1950, H. R. Dodge, Communicable Disease Center collection, Atlanta, Georgia; and Galveston, Texas, May 13, 1961, D. W. Tuff.

**HOLOTYPE FEMALE.** Head nearly twice as wide as long; anterior margin of forehead strongly arched with several medium-length marginal setae; preconal seta long; conal seta moderate in length; antennae normal to genus, clubbed; ocular notch present; rounded temporal lobes with three very long marginal setae; dosoposterior margin of head with six long setae; head with at least four dark spots; two longitudinal rows of medium-length setae on ventral surface.

Prothorax wider than long; dorsal transverse band present; acute anterior angle with two short setae that are on either side of a long seta; dorsoposterior margin with ten medium-length setae.

Pterothorax rectangular, lateral margins diverging and a faint line separating the meso- and metanotum; posterolateral angle with three short, stout setae; remaining chaetotaxy of alternating long and short setae; mesosternal plate well developed with several setae.

Abdomen elongate-oval; segment I greatly reduced; sternite I with four medium setae; tergites, pleurites, and sternites of remaining segments well developed; chaetotaxy as in Fig. 26; pleurites II through VI with ventral posteromedial angle greatly elongated, especially on segments II, III, and IV.

Legs normal to genus; pulvillus at base of tarsus definitely rugose.

**MALE** similar to female except for its smaller size, considerably shorter projections on the pleurites, and its characteristic chaetotaxy of the terminal abdominal segment. The male genitalia are similar to those of other species but in some cases the parameres appear to be considerably longer than those of *plegadis* and with sharply curved tips.

Measurements (in mm):

	Holotype female		Allotype male	
	Length	Width	Length	Width
Head	0.31	—	0.26	—
conic	—	0.37	—	0.30
temples	—	0.55	—	0.44
Prothorax	0.22	0.39	0.17	0.31
Pterothorax	0.24	0.51	0.17	0.36
Abdomen	1.16	0.81	0.88	0.51
Total	1.83	—	1.48	—

This species may be readily recognized by its distinctive chaetotaxy and can be separated from the only other North American species by having the posterior projections only on pleurites II through VI whereas *plegadis* has six pairs of projections on pleurites II through VII.

Six White Ibises were collected and examined during the course of this study. All hosts were moderately infested with this species of Mallophaga. These lice are generally confined to the body proper of the host.