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A NOTE ON THE GENDER OF TWO GENERIC NAMES IN THE MALLOPHAGA (INSECTA)

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Dr. Curtis W. Sabrosky has recently drawn our attention to the fact that the Greek word *gaster* is feminine and that generic names based on this word must be treated as feminine. This applies to two names in the Mallophaga, namely *Cuclotogaster* Carriker, 1936, and *Heptapsogaster* Carriker, 1936, both of which were treated as masculine in the Check List of Mallophaga (Hopkins & Clay, 1952). At the time the Check List was compiled, the rules about the gender of generic names were obscure, and in both cases we followed the original author who treated the names as masculine. However, the revised edition of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature has now been published (1961) and the procedure to be adopted regarding the gender of generic names has been formulated in Article 30. The case of *gaster* is specifically dealt with in the example to Article 30 (a). We have therefore no alternative but to adopt the change in gender for these two generic names and in future consider them as feminine. Rather more than one hundred specific names are probably affected.