A New Species of *Rhynonirmus* (Mallophaga: Philopteridae) from the Noble Snipe (*Capella nobilis*)

**K. C. Emerson** and **Roger D. Price**

**Abstract:** The new species, *Rhynonirmus carrikeri*, is described and illustrated from specimens taken off *Capella nobilis* (Sclater) (Charadriiformes: Scolopacidae) from Colombia. A key to the species of *Rhynonirmus* and a host list are provided.

We recently examined a series of Mallophaga in the genus *Rhynonirmus* Thompson which was collected by our friend and colleague, the late M. A. Carriker, Jr., and which represents a new species. This is herewith described and illustrated. *Rhynonirmus* contains only a small number of species that are normally found on snipes, woodcocks, and the upland plover. There are 10 species of snipes from which we have not seen specimens; it is expected that some or all of these species of snipes will have species of *Rhynonirmus*. *Rhynonirmus kingi* Emerson and Price, 1968, found on *Carpococcyx renauldi* Oustalet (Cuculiformes: Cuculidae), the coral-billed ground-cuckoo found in Thailand, is also included in the genus. Differences between this species and the other species of the genus are not great enough to warrant erection of a monotypic genus.

*Rhynonirmus carrikeri* n. sp.

(Figs. 1–3)

**Male:** As in Fig. 1. Anterior head margin flat to slightly concave. Preantennal suture narrow. Temples narrow, 0.30–0.31 mm. Antennae sexually dimorphic. Length of head, 0.46–0.47 mm. Legs and thorax not distinctive. Abdominal tergal plates on segments II and IV each with deep median indentation; III separated medially; V–X entire; and with small median plates between IV–V, V–VI, and VI–VII. Abdominal sternal plates not prominent. Chaetotaxy and external morphology as shown in Fig. 1. Width of abdomen, 0.33–0.40 mm. Mesosome and parameres of genitalia almost of equal length, as shown in Fig. 2. Total length, 1.63–1.75 mm.

**Female:** As in Fig. 3. Anterior head margin flat to slightly concave. Preantennal suture narrow. Temples narrow, 0.33–0.35 mm. Antennae filiform. Length of head, 0.49–0.51 mm. Legs and thorax not distinctive. Ab-

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1 560 Boulder Drive, Sanibel Island, Florida 33957.
2 Department of Entomology, Fisheries, and Wildlife, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

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dominal tergal plates on segments II–III each separated medially, IV–VIII each with deep median indentation, and IX–X each entire. Abdominal segments II–VI each with median sternal plate, VII–VIII sharing median sternal plate, and IX with larger median plate. Chaetotaxy and external morphology as shown in Fig. 3. Total length, 1.82–1.96 mm.
TYPE-HOST: Capella nobilis (Sclater), the noble snipe.

TYPE-MATERIAL: Holotype male, 8 female paratypes collected off Capella nobilis (Carriker skin number 20925), 20 Aug. 1951, Paramo Frontina, Antioquia, Colombia, by M. A. Carriker, Jr.; allotype female, 2 male paratypes, 3 female paratypes collected off C. nobilis (Carriker skin number 20636), 30 June 1951, Paramo Sonson, Antioquia, Colombia, by M. A. Carriker, Jr.; 1 male paratype, 11 female paratypes collected off C. nobilis (Carriker skin number 11314), 9 Aug. 1947, Los Angostura, Santander, Colombia, by M. A. Carriker, Jr. The holotype and allotype are deposited in the U.S. National Museum.

REMARKS: Rhynonirmus carrikeri is morphologically closest to R. medius Timmermann, 1955, R. stenurae Timmermann, 1955, and R. scolopacis (Denny, 1842). The male of R. carrikeri is separable from the first 2 of these by its relatively broad genitalia and shorter parameres; it is apparently inseparable from R. scolopacis except by host association. The female of R. carrikeri is recognized from these other species by its head shape in conjunction with the divisions of the abdominal tergites.

Key to Species of Rhynonirmus

1. Without preantennal suture ................. kingi Emerson and Price, 1968
   - With preantennal suture ........................................ 2
2. Anterior head margin rounded ...................................... 3
   - Anterior head margin laterally angled ............................ 5
3. Anterior head margin medially pointed ... helvolus (Burmeister, 1838)
   - Anterior head margin not pointed medially .................... 4
4. Abdominal tergal plates III–V of female entire; male with genitalic mesosome having divided plate and with anterior head margin evenly rounded .......................... infuscatus (Osborn, 1896)
   - Abdominal tergal plates III–V of female medially divided; male with anterior head margin somewhat flattened and genitalic mesosome lacking divided plate ....................... parsonsae Clay, 1961
5. Male with parameres short, distal end not reaching to middle pair of mesosomal setae; female with anterior head margin flat to slightly indented and abdominal tergites VII–VIII without median division ............................................. medius Timmermann, 1955
   - Male with parameres long, distal end reaching to or beyond middle pair of mesosomal setae (see Fig. 2); female with anterior head margin with distinct median indentation or, if flat to only slightly indented, then abdominal tergites VII–VIII with deep median division 6
6. Anterior head margin flat to only slightly indented; male genitalia wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome, as in Fig. 2 .........
   - Anterior head margin with distinct median indentation; male geni-
talia either wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome or much narrower .................................................. 7

7. Male genitalia wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome, much as in Fig. 2 ....................... scolopacis (Denny, 1842)
– Male genitalia only two-thirds as wide at juncture of parameres and mesosome .................. stenurae Timmermann, 1955

List of Species of Rhynonirmus and Their Hosts

Rhynonirmus carrikeri n. sp.—Capella nobilis (Sclater), noble snipe.
Rhynonirmus helvolus (Burmeister, 1838)—Scolopax rusticola Linnaeus, European woodcock.
Rhynonirmus infuscatus (Osborn, 1896)—Bartramia longicauda (Bechstein), upland plover.
Rhynonirmus medius Timmermann, 1955—Capella media (Latham), great snipe.
Rhynonirmus parsoniae Clay, 1961—Philohela minor (Gmelin), American woodcock.
Rhynonirmus scolopacis (Denny, 1842)—Capella gallinago (Linnaeus), common snipe.
Rhynonirmus stenurae Timmermann, 1955—Capella stenura (Bonaparte), pintail snipe.

Literature Cited