



## Chewing lice (Insecta: Phthiraptera) from parrots and parakeets of the genera *Cyanoliseus* and *Enicognathus* in Chile and Argentina, with descriptions of a new species

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### Abstract

The following three species of parrots: *Enicognathus leptorhynchus* (King) (Choroy = Slender-billed Parakeet), *E. ferrugineus* (-Müller) (Cachaña = Austral Parakeet) and *Cyanoliseus patagonus* (Vieillot) (Tricahue or Barranquero Parrot = Burrowing Parrot) from Southern Chile and Argentina were examined for chewing lice. Four louse species were found: *Psittacobrossus patagoni* Price and Beer and *Heteromenopon macrurum* (Eichler) ex the Austral Parakeet, *Paragoniocotes meridionalis* Guimarães, *H. macrurum* and *P. patagoni* ex the Burrowing Parrot, and *H. macrurum* and a new species of *Paragoniocotes* Cummings ex the Slender-billed Parakeet and the Austral Parakeet. *P. meridionalis* is a new record for Chilean fauna, and *E. leptorhynchus* is a new host for *H. macrurum*. *Paragoniocotes enicognathidis* n. sp. is described and illustrated, discussing the morphological affinities with its close relatives.

**Key words:** Insecta, new species, taxonomy, South America, louse

### Introduction

There are not records of chewing lice (Insecta: Phthiraptera) on birds of the Psittacidae (Aves: Psittiformes) in Chile. In Argentina, Mey *et al.* (2002) recorded specimens of *Heteromenopon macrurum* (Eichler, 1952) (Amblycera, Menoponidae sensu lato) and *Paragoniocotes meridionalis* Guimarães, 1975 (Ichnocera, Philopteridae sensu lato) on the barranquero parrot *Cyanoliseus patagonus patagonus* (Vieillot) in Río Negro, while Cicchino and Castro (1998a and 1998b) reported *Heteromenopon macrurum* (like *H. subpilosum*), *Psittacobrossus patagoni* Price & Beer 1968 and *P. meridionalis* on *C. p. patagonus* and *P. patagoni* on *Enicognathus ferrugineus* (Müller).

The original description of *H. macrurum* was made using specimens collected from *Falco sparverius* (L.) and *Sterna paradisaea* collected in the locality of Corral, Región de los Ríos, Chile. These are erroneous hosts according to Price and Beer (1967). Palma (1975) proposed that the real host of *H. macrurum* is *Myopsitta monachus monachus* (Boddaert, 1783). On the other hand, Mey *et al.* (2002) assumed that the *H. macrurum* specimens collected in Corral probably came from one of the three parrots species studied here (choroy, cachaña or tricahue).

### Material and methods

Between March 1964 and April 2006, chewing lice from wild parrots were collected in various locations in