



***Myrsidea* Waterston (Phthiraptera: Menoponidae) from the Emberizidae (Passeriformes), with descriptions of 13 new species**

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Abstract

The three currently recognized species of *Myrsidea* from passerine emberizid hosts are discussed. Thirteen new species are described and illustrated. They and their type hosts are *Myrsidea campestris* ex *Euneornis campestris* (L.), *M. citrinae* ex *Sicalis citrina* Pelzeln, *M. zonotriciae* ex *Zonotricia capensis* (Stadius Müller), *M. iliaca* ex *Passerella iliaca* (Merrem), *M. coronatae* ex *Paroaria coronata* (J. F. Miller), *M. sinaloae* ex *Melozone kieneri* (Bonaparte), *M. taciturni* ex *Arremon taciturnus* (Hermann), *M. aurantirostris* ex *Arremon aurantirostris* Lafresnaye, *M. brunneinuchi* ex *Buarremon brunneinuchus* (Lafresnaye), *M. gularis* ex *Paroaria gularis* (L.), *M. conirostris* ex *Arremonops conirostris* (Bonaparte), *M. marini* ex *Pezopetes capitalis* Cabanis, and *M. anoxanthi* ex *Loxipasser anoxanthus* (Gosse). *Myrsidea melanorum* (Kellogg) is regarded as a *species sedis incertae*. Keys are provided for the identification of females and males of these species.

Key words: Phthiraptera, Emberizidae, *Myrsidea*

Introduction

Price and Johnson (2006a) reported 260 previously recognized species of *Myrsidea* Waterston from the Passeriformes in addition to nine from the Piciformes: Ramphastidae and three from the Apodiformes: Trochilidae. The new species described by Price and Johnson (2006a and 2006b) bring the total species of *Myrsidea* on passerines to 265. There are three *Myrsidea* species recognized from hosts in the passerine family Emberizidae as delimited by Dickinson (2003). It should be noted that Price *et al.* (2003), in the checklist of chewing lice, followed the avian classification scheme of Howard and Moore (1991). By doing so, they also included four species of *Myrsidea* on Emberizidae that Dickinson now considers as members of the Thraupidae (Price and Dalglish 2006). We have examined a number of lice from emberizids, including hosts of the three previously described species and of 13 new species. Herein we describe, illustrate, and provide keys for these species.

In the following descriptions, all measurements are in millimeters. Abbreviations are TW, temple width; HL, head length at midline; PW, prothorax width; MW, metathorax width; AWIV, abdomen width at segment IV; GL, male genitalia length; ANW, female anus width; TL, total length. Classification of hosts below order follows Dickinson (2003). The number in parentheses following each female and male heading is for the number of quantified specimens.

Holotypes for nine of the new species, as indicated by "(USNM)", are in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; those of the other four new species, as indicated by "(OSU)", are in the K.C. Emerson Museum, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater; paratypes are also deposited in these two collections. The etymology of new species, unless otherwise presented, is derived from either the generic or specific name of the type host.