

# Additional records of lice (Insecta, Phthiraptera) from the Faroe Islands

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During 10 years, from 2006 to 2015, samples of parasitic lice were collected and identified from 40 species of birds and four species of mammals in the Faroe Islands, resulting in 34 new records of species and subspecies, four genera, and 20 new host-louse associations for the islands. All these data are presented in this paper. These and previously published records bring the total number of parasitic lice known from the Faroe Islands to 251 species and subspecies (239 from birds and 12 from mammals) including 13 records identified at the generic level only.

Key words: Phthiraptera, lice, host-louse associations, Faroe Islands, new records.

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## Introduction

Palma & Jensen (2005) published a comprehensive account of lice (Insecta, Phthiraptera) from the Faroe Islands, which included 215 species and subspecies recorded from many birds and a few introduced mammals. During the last 10 years, a considerable number of additional louse samples have been collected by J.-K.J. and identified by R.L.P., resulting in a number of new records of genera, species and subspecies, a few updated identifications, and several new host-louse associations for these islands. The new records bring the total number of parasitic lice known from the Faroe Islands to 251 species and subspecies (239 from birds and 12 from mammals), including 13 records identified at the generic level only. Our aim is to list and report all the new data.

The format of the present lists, including abbreviations used and the “Material and methods” are the same as those described in

Palma & Jensen (2005: 50), with the exception of the source for scientific and vernacular English names of birds, which is Gill & Donsker (2014). Identifications of the lice were made by comparison with authenticated material, except for some species from Passeriformes, which were identified from original descriptions and host associations. The material examined for this paper has been deposited in two institutions: the *Faroe Islands National Heritage, Archives, Library and Museums* (Kúrdalsvegur 15, P.O. Box 1155, FO-110 Tórshavn, Faroe Islands) and the *Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa* (P.O. Box 467, Wellington 6140, New Zealand).

## List of additional records of lice from the Faroe Islands

The asterisk (\*) denotes a new record of a louse species or subspecies from the Faroe Islands.

The plus sign (+) denotes a new host record for a louse species or subspecies previously recorded from the Faroe Islands.

PHTHIRAPTERA Haeckel, 1896

AMBLYCERA Kellogg, 1896

Menoponidae Mjöberg, 1910

**Actornithophilus Ferris, 1916**

\* *Actornithophilus piceus lari* (Packard, 1870)

Ex *Larus marinus* Linnaeus, 1758

**Austromenopon Bedford, 1939**

*Austromenopon transversum* (Denny, 1842)

+ Ex *Larus delawarensis* Ord, 1815

+ Ex *Larus marinus* Linnaeus, 1758

+ Ex *Larus glaucooides* Meyer, 1822

+ Ex *Larus hyperboreus* Gunnerus, 1767

Ex *Sterna paradisaea* (Pontoppidan, 1763) STRAGGLER

**Ciconiphilus Bedford, 1939**

*Ciconiphilus decimfasciatus* (Boisduval & Lacordaire, 1835)

+ Ex *Ardea alba* Linnaeus, 1758

+ Ex *Nycticorax nycticorax* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Holomenopon Eichler, 1941**

\* *Holomenopon clypeilargum* Eichler, 1943

Ex *Anas crecca* Linnaeus, 1758

*Holomenopon loomisii* (Kellogg, 1896)

+ Ex *Clangula hyemalis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

\* *Holomenopon tadornae* (Gervais, 1844)

Ex *Tadorna tadorna* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Menacanthus Neumann, 1912**

*Menacanthus curuccae* (Schränk, 1776)<sup>1</sup>

Ex *Acrocephalus scirpaceus* (Hermann, 1804)

**Nosopon Hopkins, 1949**

*Nosopon lucidum* (Rudow, 1869)

+ Ex *Circus cyaneus* (Linnaeus, 1766)

**Pseudomenopon Mjöberg, 1910**

\* *Pseudomenopon dolium* Rudow, 1869

Ex *Podiceps auritus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Trinoton Nitzsch, 1818**

*Trinoton querquedulae* (Linnaeus, 1758)

+ Ex *Anas crecca* Linnaeus, 1758

ISCHNOCERA Kellogg, 1896

Phloptoridae Burmeister, 1838

**Anaticola Clay, 1936**

*Anaticola crassicornis crassicornis* (Scopoli, 1763)

+ Ex *Anas crecca* Linnaeus, 1758

*Anaticola mergiserrati* (de Geer, 1778)

+ Ex *Aythya marila* (Linnaeus, 1761)

+ Ex *Aythya fuligula* (Linnaeus, 1758)

\* *Anaticola tadornae* (Denny, 1842)

Ex *Tadorna tadorna* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Anatoecus Cummings, 1916**

*Anatoecus dentatus* (Scopoli, 1763)

+ Ex *Anas platyrhynchos* Linnaeus, 1758

\* *Anatoecus cygni bracteatus* Kéler, 1960<sup>2</sup>

Ex *Cygnus cygnus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

*Anatoecus icterodes icterodes* (Nitzsch, 1818)

+ Ex *Anas crecca* Linnaeus, 1758

+ Ex *Anas platyrhynchos* Linnaeus, 1758

+ Ex *Aythya fuligula* (Linnaeus, 1758)

*Anatoecus* sp.

+ Ex *Aythya marila* (Linnaeus, 1761)

**Ardeicola Clay, 1936**

\* *Ardeicola ardeae* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Ex *Ardea cinerea* Linnaeus, 1758

\* *Ardeicola* sp.

Ex *Ardea alba* Linnaeus, 1758

**Brueelia Kéler, 1936**

\* *Brueelia kluzi* Balát, 1955

Ex *Fringilla coelebs* Linnaeus, 1758

\* *Brueelia pyrrhularum* Eichler, 1954

Ex *Pyrrhula pyrrhula pyrrhula* (Linnaeus, 1758)

\* *Brueelia* sp.

Ex *Loxia leucoptera* Gmelin, 1789

**Coloceras Taschenberg, 1882**

\* *Coloceras piageti* (Johnston & Harrison, 1912)<sup>3</sup>

Ex *Streptopelia decaocto* (Fruvaldszky, 1838)

**Craspedorrhynchus Kéler, 1938**

\* *Craspedorrhynchus dilatatus* (Rudow, 1869)

Ex *Buteo lagopus sanctijohannis* (Gmelin, 1788)

**Degeeriella Neumann, 1906**

\* *Degeeriella fusca* (Denny, 1842)

Ex *Circus cyaneus* (Linnaeus, 1766)

**Goniodes Nitzsch, 1818**

- \* *Goniodes lagopi* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Ex *Falco rusticolus* Linnaeus, 1758 STRAGGLER

**Ibidoecus Cummings, 1916**

- \* *Ibidoecus bisignatus* (Nitzsch [in Giebel], 1866)  
Ex *Plegadis falcinellus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Lunaceps Clay & Meinertzhagen, 1939**

- \* *Lunaceps schismatus* Gustafsson & Olsson, 2012<sup>4</sup>  
Ex *Calidris alpina schinzii* (Brehm & Schilling, 1822)

**Paraclisis Timmermann, 1965**

- Paraclisis diomedae* (J.C. Fabricius, 1775)  
+ Ex *Thalassarche chlororhynchos* (Gmelin, 1789)

**Pectinopygus Mjöberg, 1910**

- \* *Pectinopygus gyricornis* (Denny, 1842)  
Ex *Phalacrocorax carbo carbo* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Philopterus Nitzsch, 1818**

- \* *Philopterus citrinellae* (Schrank, 1776)  
Ex *Pyrrhula pyrrhula pyrrhula* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- \* *Philopterus excisus microsomaticus* Tandan, 1955  
Ex *Hirundo rustica* Linnaeus, 1758
- \* *Philopterus fortunatus* (Zlotorzycska, 1964)  
Ex *Fringilla coelebs* Linnaeus, 1758
- \* *Philopterus hansmuenchi* (Eichler & Vasjukova, 1981)  
Ex *Loxia leucoptera* Gmelin, 1789
- \* *Philopterus oenanthe* Fedorenko, 1983  
Ex *Oenanthe oenanthe* (Linnaeus, 1758)

*Philopterus* sp.

Ex *Cuculus canorus* Linnaeus, 1758 STRAGGLER

**Quadriceps Clay & Meinertzhagen, 1939**

- \* *Quadriceps phalaropi* (Denny, 1842)  
Ex *Phalaropus fulicarius* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- \* *Quadriceps punctatus sublingulatus* Timmermann, 1952  
Ex *Chroicocephalus philadelphia* (Ord, 1815)  
Ex *Larus delawarensis* Ord, 1815
- \* *Quadriceps ravus* (Kellogg, 1899)  
Ex *Actitis hypoleucos* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Rhynonirmus Thompson, 1935**

- \* *Rhynonirmus helvolus* (Burmeister, 1838)  
Ex *Scolopax rusticola* Linnaeus, 1758

**Saemundssonina Timmermann, 1936**

- \* *Saemundssonina* (*Saemundssonina*) *integer* (Nitzsch, 1866)  
Ex *Grus grus* (Linnaeus, 1758)
- Saemundssonina* (*Saemundssonina*) *lari* (O. Fabricius, 1780)  
+ Ex *Chroicocephalus philadelphia* (Ord, 1815)  
+ Ex *Larus delawarensis* Ord, 1815
- \* *Saemundssonina* (*Saemundssonina*) *platygaster platygaster* (Denny, 1842)  
Ex *Charadrius hiaticula* Linnaeus, 1758
- \* *Saemundssonina* (*Saemundssonina*) *platygaster islandica* Timmermann, 1951  
Ex *Calidris canutus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Strigiphilus Mjöberg, 1910**

- \* *Strigiphilus barbatus* (Osborn, 1902)  
Ex *Asio otus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Sturnidoecus Eichler, 1944**

- \* *Sturnidoecus pastoris* (Denny, 1842)  
Ex *Pastor roseus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Trichodectidae Kellogg, 1896

**Felicola Ewing, 1929**

- \* *Felicola subrostratus* (Burmeister, 1838)  
Ex *Felis catus* Linnaeus, 1758

**Bovicola Ewing, 1929**

- \* *Bovicola* (*Bovicola*) *caprae* (Gurlt, 1843)  
Ex *Capra hircus* Linnaeus, 1758.

ANOPLURA Leach, 1815

Polyplacidae Fahrenheit, 1912

**Haemodipsus Enderlein, 1904**

- Haemodipsus lyriocephalus* (Burmeister, 1839)<sup>5</sup>  
Ex *Lepus timidus* Linnaeus, 1758

**Polyplax Enderlein, 1904**

- Polyplax spinulosa* (Burmeister, 1838)<sup>6</sup>  
Ex *Rattus norvegicus* (Berkenhout, 1769)

**Additional host-lice associations in the Faroe Islands**

The sign (°) denotes a louse species or subspecies identified by R.L.P. The asterisk (\*) denotes a new host-lice association for the Faroe Islands

AVES

PODICIPEDIFORMES

Podicipedidae (grebes)

***Podiceps auritus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Horned Grebe – Vagrant (3: dead)

□\* *Pseudomenopon dolium* Rudow, 1869

PROCELLARIIFORMES

Diomedeidae (albatrosses)

***Thalassarche chlororhynchus* (Gmelin, 1789)**

Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross – Vagrant (1: dead)

□\* *Paraclisis diomedae* (J.C. Fabricius, 1775)

PELECANIFORMES

Phalacrocoracidae (shags)

***Phalacrocorax carbo carbo* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Great Cormorant – Vagrant (2: dead)

□\* *Pectinopygus gyricornis* (Denny, 1842)

CICONIIFORMES

Ardeidae (herons)

***Ardea cinerea* Linnaeus, 1758**

Grey Heron – Vagrant (4: dead)

□\* *Ardeicola ardeae* (Linnaeus, 1758)

***Ardea alba* Linnaeus, 1758**

Great Egret – Vagrant (1: dead)

□\* *Ardeicola* sp. (N)

□\* *Ciconiphilus decimfasciatus* (Boisduval & Lacordaire, 1835)

***Nycticorax nycticorax* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Black-crowned Night Heron – Vagrant (1: dead)

□\* *Ciconiphilus decimfasciatus* (Boisduval & Lacordaire, 1835)

Threskiornithidae (ibises)

***Plegadis falcinellus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Glossy Ibis – Vagrant (1: skin)

□\* *Ibidoecus bisignatus* (Nitzsch [in Giebel], 1866)

ANSERIFORMES

Anatidae (ducks, swans, geese)

Anserinae (swans, geese)

***Cygnus cygnus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Whooper Swan – Breeding, vagrant (15: dead)

□\* *Anatoecus cygni bracteatus* Kéler, 1960<sup>2</sup>

Anatinae (ducks)

***Anas crecca* Linnaeus, 1758**

Eurasian Teal – Breeding, vagrant (3: dead)

□\* *Anaticola crassicornis crassicornis* (Scopoli, 1763)

□\* *Anatoecus icterodes icterodes* (Nitzsch, 1818)

□\* *Holomenopon clypeilargum* Eichler, 1943

□\* *Trinoton querquedulae* (Linnaeus, 1758)

***Anas platyrhynchos* Linnaeus, 1758**

Mallard – Breeding (11: dead)

□\* *Anatoecus dentatus* (Scopoli, 1763)

□\* *Anatoecus icterodes icterodes* (Nitzsch, 1818)

***Aythya fuligula* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Tufted Duck – Breeding, vagrant (5: dead)

□\* *Anaticola mergiserrati* (de Geer, 1778)

□\* *Anatoecus icterodes icterodes* (Nitzsch, 1818)

***Aythya marila* (Linnaeus, 1761)**

Greater Scaup – Vagrant (3: dead)

□\* *Anaticola mergiserrati* (de Geer, 1778)

□\* *Anatoecus* sp. (F)

***Clangula hyemalis* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Long-tailed Duck – Vagrant (111: dead)

□\* *Holomenopon loomisii* (Kellogg, 1896)

***Tadorna tadorna* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Common Shelduck – Vagrant (1: dead)

□\* *Anaticola tadornae* (Denny, 1842)

□\* *Holomenopon tadornae* (Gervais, 1844)

ACCIPITRIFORMES

Accipitridae (hawks, eagles)

***Circus cyaneus* (Linnaeus, 1766)**

Hen Harrier – Vagrant (1: dead)

□\* *Degeeriella fusca* (Denny, 1842)

□\* *Nosopon lucidum* (Rudow, 1869)

***Buteo lagopus sanctijohannis* (Gmelin, 1788)**

Rough-legged Hawk – Vagrant (2: dead) (see

Jensen & Sørensen 2015: 97)

⊠\* *Craspedorrhynchus dilatatus* (Rudow, 1869)

Laridae (gulls)

## FALCONIFORMES

Falconidae (falcons)

### ***Falco rusticolus* Linnaeus, 1758**

Gyr Falcon – Vagrant (3: dead)

⊠ *Goniodes lagopi* (Linnaeus, 1758) STRAGGLER  
(from *Lagopus* sp.)

## GRUIFORMES

Gruidae (cranes)

### ***Grus grus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Common Crane – Vagrant (2: dead)

⊠\* *Saemundssonina integer* (Nitzsch, 1866)

## CHARADRIIFORMES

Charadriidae (plovers)

### ***Charadrius hiaticula* Linnaeus, 1758**

Common Ringed Plover – Breeding, vagrant (7: dead)

⊠\* *Saemundssonina (Saemundssonina) platygaster platygaster* (Denny, 1842)

Scolopacidae (sandpipers, snipes & allies)

### ***Actitis hypoleucos* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Common Sandpiper – Vagrant (1: dead)

⊠\* *Quadriceps rarus* (Kellogg, 1899)

### ***Calidris canutus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Red Knot – Vagrant (5: dead)

⊠\* *Saemundssonina (Saemundssonina) platygaster islandica* Timmermann, 1951

### ***Calidris alpina schinzii* (Brehm & Schilling, 1822)**

Dunlin – Breeding, vagrant (4: dead)

*Luniceps schismatus* Gustafsson & Olsson, 2012<sup>4</sup>

### ***Phalaropus fulicarius* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Red Phalarope – Vagrant (1: dead)

⊠\* *Quadriceps phalaropi* (Denny, 1842)

### ***Scolopax rusticola* Linnaeus, 1758**

Eurasian Woodcock – Vagrant (1: dead)

⊠\* *Rhynonirmus helvolus* (Burmeister, 1838)

### ***Larus delawarensis* Ord, 1815**

Ring-billed Gull – Vagrant (1: alive)

⊠\* *Austromenopon transversum* (Denny, 1842)

⊠\* *Quadriceps punctatus sublingulatus*

Timmermann, 1952

⊠\* *Saemundssonina (Saemundssonina) lari*  
(O. Fabricius, 1780)

### ***Larus glaucooides* Meyer, 1822**

Iceland Gull – Vagrant (27: dead)

⊠\* *Austromenopon transversum* (Denny, 1842)

### ***Larus hyperboreus* Gunnerus, 1767**

Glaucous Gull – Vagrant (32: dead)

⊠\* *Austromenopon transversum* (Denny, 1842)

### ***Larus marinus* Linnaeus, 1758**

Great Black-backed Gull – Breeding, vagrant (157: dead)

⊠\* *Actornithophilus piceus lari* (Packard, 1870)

⊠\* *Austromenopon transversum* (Denny, 1842)

### ***Chroicocephalus philadelphia* (Ord, 1815)**

Bonaparte's Gull – Vagrant (1: dead)

⊠\* *Quadriceps punctatus sublingulatus*

Timmermann, 1952

⊠\* *Saemundssonina (Saemundssonina) lari*

(O. Fabricius, 1780)

Sternidae (terns)

### ***Sterna paradisaea* (Pontoppidan, 1763)**

Arctic Tern – Breeding (189: dead)

⊠ *Austromenopon transversum* (Denny, 1842) (F)  
STRAGGLER (from *Larus* sp.)

## COLUMBIFORMES

Columbidae (pigeons, doves)

### ***Streptopelia decaocto* (Frivaldszky, 1838)**

Eurasian Collared Dove – Breeding, vagrant (3: dead)

⊠\* *Coloceras piageti* (Johnston & Harrison, 1912)<sup>3</sup>

## STRIGIFORMES

Strigidae (owls)

***Asio otus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Long-eared Owl – Vagrant (4: dead)

□\* *Strigiphilus barbatus* (Osborn, 1902)

CUCULIFORMES

Cuculidae (cuckoos)

***Cuculus canorus* Linnaeus, 1758**

Common Cuckoo – Vagrant (2: dead)

□ *Philopterus* sp. STRAGGLER (from a passerine)

PASSERIFORMES

Hirundinidae (swallows)

***Hirundo rustica* Linnaeus, 1758**

Barn Swallow – Breeding, vagrant (5: dead)

□\* *Philopterus excisus microsomaticus* Tandan, 1955

Acrocephalidae (reed warblers)

***Acrocephalus scirpaceus* (Hermann, 1804)**

Eurasian Reed Warbler – Vagrant (7: alive)

*Menacanthus curuccae* (Schränk, 1776)<sup>1</sup>

Sturnidae (starlings)

***Pastor roseus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Rosy Starling – Vagrant (1: skin)

□\* *Sturnidoecus pastoris* (Denny, 1842)

Fringillidae (finches)

***Fringilla coelebs* Linnaeus, 1758**

Common Chaffinch – Vagrant (1: dead)

□\* *Brueelia kluzi* Balát, 1955

□\* *Philopterus fortunatus* (Zlotorzyczna, 1964)

***Loxia leucoptera* Gmelin, 1789**

Two-barred Crossbill – Vagrant (1: dead)

□\* *Brueelia* sp.

□\* *Philopterus hansmuenchi* (Eichler & Vasjukova, 1981)

***Pyrhula pyrrhula pyrrhula* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Eurasian Bullfinch – Vagrant (7: dead)

□\* *Brueelia pyrrhularum* Eichler, 1954

□\* *Philopterus citrinellae* (Schränk, 1776)

Muscicapidae (old world flycatchers)

***Oenanthe oenanthe* (Linnaeus, 1758)**

Northern Wheatear – Breeding, vagrant (6: dead)

□\* *Philopterus oenanthe* Fedorenko, 1983

MAMMALIA

CARNIVORA

Felidae (cats)

***Felis catus* Linnaeus, 1758**

Cat – Domestic (1: alive)

□\* *Felicola subrostratus* (Burmeister, 1838)

ARCTIODACTYLA

Bovidae (hoofed ruminants)

***Capra hircus* Linnaeus, 1758**

Goat – Domestic flock (10: alive)

□\* *Bovicola (Bovicola) caprae* (Gurlt, 1843)

LAGOMORPHA

Leporidae (hares, rabbits)

***Lepus timidus* Linnaeus, 1758**

Mountain Hare – Breeding (6: dead)

□ *Haemodipsus lyriocephalus* (Burmeister, 1839)<sup>5</sup>

RODENTIA

Muridae (rats, mice)

***Rattus norvegicus* (Berkenhout, 1769)**

Brown Rat – Breeding (116: dead)

□ *Polyplax spinulosa* (Burmeister, 1838)<sup>6</sup>

Notes

<sup>1</sup>. This louse was identified as “*Menacanthus eisenachensis* Balát, 1981” in Palma & Jensen (2005: 52). We follow Sychra *et al.* (2008) in regarding *M. eisenachensis* as a junior synonym of *M. curuccae*.

<sup>2</sup>. This taxon was named at the species level as “*Anatoecus cygni* (Denny, 1842)” in Palma & Jensen (2005: 54). We follow Kéler (1960: 227) in recognising it as a subspecies of *A. cygni*.

<sup>3</sup>. This species is a correction to the misidentification of the same material as

“*Coloceras chinense* (Kellogg & Chapman, 1902)” in Palma & Jensen (2005: 55).

4. This species was identified as *Lunaceps actophilus* (Kellogg & Chapman, 1899) in Palma & Jensen (2005: 56), but recognised as a new species by Gustafsson & Olsson (2012: 68).

5. This species was recorded by Jensen (2013: 18).

6. This species was recorded by Jensen & Magnussen (2015: 156).

## Discussion

This paper reports 34 new records of species and subspecies of parasitic lice, two new generic records (*Goniodes* and *Ibidoecus*) and 20 new host-lice associations for the Faroe Islands, all identified since the publication by Palma & Jensen (2005). In addition, the sucking louse genera *Haemodipsus* and *Polyplax* were recorded as new for the Faroe Islands by Jensen (2013) and Jensen & Magnussen (2015) respectively.

The records listed in this paper include three louse species that we regard as stragglers (see Palma & Jensen 2005: 50 for its definition), as follows: 1. *Austrromenopon transversum* was found on *Sterna paradisaea*, but it is most likely the result of a transfer from a gull species, its regular and natural host. 2. *Goniodes lagopi* (Linnaeus, 1758) ex *Falco rusticolus* Linnaeus, 1758. Although ptarmigans (*Lagopus* spp.) no longer live on the Faroe Islands (Jensen & Sørensen 2015: 321), this host-lice record is most likely the result of a transfer during the predation of a ptarmigan by the gyrfalcon, which is vagrant to the Faroe Islands (Jensen & Sørensen 2015: 204). 3. *Philopterus* sp. ex *Cuculus canorus* Linnaeus, 1758 is most likely the result of a transitory transfer of the louse from a passerine foster parent to the cuckoo (see Clayton *et al.* 2015: 130).

Palma & Jensen (2005: 68) listed three species of lice from the Northern Raven (*Corvus corax varius* Brünnich, 1764), but they only examined material of one species: *Philopterus corvi* (Linnaeus, 1758). The other two species were taken from a report by Waterston (1915: 34, 39) who examined one nymph of *Brueelia*

sp. (as “*Nirmus varius*”), and one possible adult of unknown sex plus one nymph of *Menacanthus gonophaeus* (Burmeister, 1838). Until 2005, we had examined 85 dead Northern Ravens and since then we have searched for lice on 134 additional birds without finding any specimen of the latter two louse species. However, we have found many more samples of *Philopterus corvi*. These data make us believe that the two records in Waterston (1915) may have been the result of contamination/natural straggling from other bird species, or misidentifications. The fact that two of the three specimens reported by Waterston (1915) were “immature” and that the third was “barely mature” indicates that his identifications may have been assumed from the host identity rather than from the morphology of the lice themselves. We are aware that both *Brueelia* spp. and *Menacanthus gonophaeus* have been recorded from ravens in several localities (Price *et al.* 2003: 338), but they may not be present on the population of *Corvus corax varius* living in the Faroe Islands. Furthermore, the louse species *Myrsidea islandica* Klockenhoff & Schirmers, 1976 – originally recorded from *Corvus corax varius* in Iceland – has not been found on Faroese Northern Ravens either.

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