

***Craspedorrhynchus linardii*, a new species of chewing louse
(Phthiraptera: Ischnocera: Philopteridae) from the Gray-headed
Kite (Aves: Falconiformes: Accipitridae)**

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Craspedorrhynchus* Kéler, 1938 (Phthiraptera: Ischnocera: Philopteridae) is described and illustrated based on specimens from a Gray-headed Kite, *Leptodon cayanensis* (Latham, 1790) (Aves: Falconiformes: Accipitridae), collected in Fazenda Água Limpa, Brasília-DF, Brazil. This is the first species of chewing louse described from the Gray-headed Kite.

Key words. *Craspedorrhynchus linardii*; new species; chewing lice; Philopteridae; ectoparasite; *Leptodon cayanensis*

Introduction

The chewing louse genus *Craspedorrhynchus* Kéler, 1938 (Phthiraptera: Ischnocera: Philopteridae) comprises 40 valid species restricted to the avian order Falconiformes, with a worldwide distribution. Thirty-five species are parasitic on birds of the family Accipitridae, three on the Falconidae and two have uncertain hosts (Price *et al.*, 2003). The family Accipitridae comprises 237 species, of which less than 10% have been recorded as harbouring *Craspedorrhynchus*. Mey (2001) published an annotated list of the valid species, and documented some morphological characters. Partial taxonomic revisions are available for some areas such as those of Carriker (1956) for neotropical species; Emerson (1960) for North American species; Pérez and Martin-Mateo (1995) for species that occur in Spain; and Złotorzycka (1977) for those from Poland. *Craspedorrhynchus* spp. are typically restricted to a single host species (Mey, 2001), and are usually located in the head plumage.

Considering (1) the morphological differences between studied specimens and previously described species; (2) the high degree of specificity found in this genus; and (3) that