Neottialges (Pelecanectes) leptoptilus sp. n. from the Marabou
(Acarina, Astigmates, Hypoderidae)

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The junior author discovered under the skin of a Marabou Stork numerous specimens of an hypopus that belongs to a new species of the genus Neottialges Fain, 1966, subgenus Pelecanectes Fain, 1966.

It resembles N. (P.) evansi Fain, 1966 but it is however clearly distinguished from this species by the following characters:

1) The genital median sclerite is incomplete.
2) The cuticle bears large punctate areas.
3) The cuticle situated in front of the epimera I is strongly sclerotized.
4) The tarsus IV bears a spine close to its apex. In evansi this spine is far from the apex.
5) The tarsus III is longer (75 μ) than tarsus IV (68 μ). In evansi tarsus III is shorter (87 μ) than tarsus IV (96 μ).

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Hypopus (fig. 1-5): Holotype 780 μ long and 406 μ wide. In 3 paratypes these measurements (length × width) are: 750 μ × 310 μ; 720 μ × 360 μ and 600 μ × 318 μ. The cuticle is distinctly sclerotized. The sclerotization is more marked dorsally on the propodosoma and ven-

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trally on the coxae I to IV and in a small triangular area in front of epimera I. There is a distinct secondary sclerotization of the cuticle along the epimera I to IV. Genital sclerite incomplete, represented by a small anterior Y-like median sclerite and a shorter longitudinal posterior sclerite. Anus very small situated at 35 μ behind the posterior genital suckers. Tarsi III and IV 75 μ and 68 μ long respectively.

**Fig. 1-2.** *Neottialges (Pelecanectes) leptoptilus* sp. n. Hypopus in ventral (fig. 1) and dorsal view (fig. 2).

**Chaetotaxy:** the *d* 1, *d* 2, *d* 3, *l* 1 are approximately 100 μ long. The *sh* is a little longer (120-130 μ). The *d* 5 is 200-230 μ long. The *l* 3 and *l* 4 are very short. Tarsus IV with three strong and short spines, one is subterminal and two are situated in the basal half of tarsus. Tibiae III-IV and genu III with a strong and short spine.
Host and locality.

On a Marabou *Leptoptilus crumeniferus* (Lesson), Kampala, Uganda, 10.IV.1975. Holotype and numerous paratypes. The hypopi were located in the fascia along the thighs. They were mixed with hypopi of *Neottialges (Caloenectes) ciconiarum* Fain, 1974.

Holotype n° 146.485 and 8 paratypes in the Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

