RESUMEN

Bajo el título que antecede se propone el autor publicar sobre la fauna de Venezuela y los paises que le son limitrofes. En este trabajo se trata de los MEGALOPTERA, Familia *Sialidae*, describiéndose al *Corydalus bolivari* sp. nov. El tipo fué coleccionado por Appun en Venezuela (no se conoce la localidad exacta de su colección). Los paratipos provienen de los Canales de Naiguatá (Vivas Berthier) y el Páramo La Negra (Anduze).

El material venezolano, en su mayor parte ha sido coleccionado por Anduze pero hay varios lotes más. En 1908 A. H. Fassl coleccionó muchos ejemplares en las regiones andinas de Colombia; recientemente los doctores G. Salt y P. J. Darlington coleccionaron en la región del Magdalena en el Noreste de Colombia. El material de la Guayana Británica proviene de colecciones hechas por el finado Dr. W. M. Wheeler y de las colecciones de los doctores William Beebe, N. A. Weber y otros. El material de Surinam fué enviado casi todo por el Dr. D. C. Geijskes y algunos ejemplares de Cayena fueron obtenidos por E. Le Moult.

El Museum of Comparatvie Zoology tenia algún material viejo casi todo de la colección Hagen; también se han estudiado los ejemplares de la colección de Cornell University, los del American Museum of Natural History, los de la Academy of Natural Sciences de Philadelphia y los del Field Museum de Chicago.

NEW ANTS FROM VENEZUELA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES

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The following ants were taken in Venezuela, Trinidad, B. W. I., British Guiana, Surinam and the Panama Canal Zone. They are mostly described at this time in order to use their names in non-taxonomic biological studies.

The new *Pogonomyrmex (Ephebomyrmex)* from Venezuela is of particular interest in that it bridges the considerable gap in the distribution of these harvesting ants between Guatemala and southern Brazil, Bolivia and Chile. British Guiana is also added to the range through the ocurrence of a form, closely related to the Venezuelan species, on the Rupununi Savannahs. The members of this genus and subgenus occur from Texas to Uruguay and Argentina but intermediate records are rare. They are animals of the desert or dry plains and are represented in the Old World by the Biblical harvester, *Messor*, very common in Africa, Southwestern Asia and neighboring regions.

The distinctness of the Venezuelan and British Guiana *Ephebomyrmex*, like the distinctness of two fungus-growing ants from the same two localities *(Acromyrmex (Moellerius) balzani*, susbpecies *planorum* and *myersi* Weber), presents a problem. It would seem that the Venezuelan llanos immediately north of Ciudad Bolivar and the Rupununi Savannahs in British Guiana, although not separated greatly in space, must either afford different ecological niches or have been long separated by other barriers. The Sierra Pacaraima may well be a more important barrier than the rivers between the localities.

The new *Leptothorax*, from a bat cave in Venezuela and sent by Mr. Pablo J. Anduze, is particularly striking in coloration, sculpturing and large size. It does not appear to have especial morphological adaptations to life in a cave.

The tree ants, *Dendromyrmex*, are rarely seen nocturnal ants living in arboreal carton nests and will undoubtedly be found in Venezuelan Guiana although those here described are from Panama, British Guiana and its boundary with Surinam.

Eciton

Eciton (Neivamyrmex) angustinode Emery, *haskinsi* ssp. nov.

Worker. Extended length 2.9-3.5 mm. (thorax, excluding "neck", 0.9-1.1 mm.) Meso-epinotal suture in side view indicated feebly by the change in the slight convexity of the promesonotum passing into the almost plane epinotum. Eyes faintly indicated by a pale spot 0.029 mm. in diameter in the maxima worker. Smooth and shining except for coarse piligerous punctations and an epinotum which is striate-punctate, the striae extending anteriorly on the thoracic sides above all coxae and on the petiole. Pilosity of scattered, long, fine, yellowish hairs. Rich brown, gaster distinctly, and pedicel less distinctly, paler.

Described from workers found in high rain forest on the slopes of Morne Bleu in the Northern Range of Trinidad, B. W. I. June 23, 1935 (Nº 209.2) by my companion, Dr. C. P. Haskins. The ants were exploring tunnels in rotted wood of old stumps.

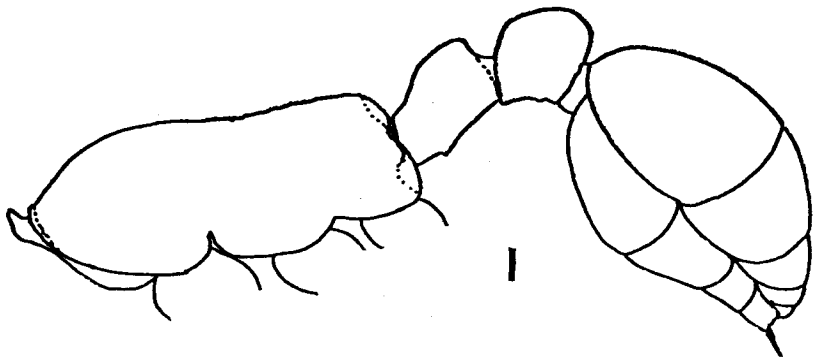

Fig. 1.—Worker of *Eciton (Neivamyrmex) angustinode ssp. haskinsi*, ssp. nov.

Differing from the typical *angustinode* in possessing a postpetiole which is broader, when viewed from above, a head much longer with distinctly longer antennal scapes, the meso-epinotal suture much less marked and the body more shining, having a less coarse sculpturing. Differing from cotypes of the subspecies *emersoni* Wheeler in possessing a less marked meso-epinotal suture and a less trapezoidal postpetiole when viewed from above. In general habitus resembling cotypes of *N. adnepos* Wheeler but much larger and darker with a meso-epinotal suture less distinct.

Pogonomyrmex

Pogonomyrmex (Ephebomyrmex) venezuelensis, sp. nov.

Worker. Extended length 4.9-5 mm. (thorax 1.4 mm.) Head in front view excluding mandibles, quadrate, slightly longer than broad back of eyes, occipital margin transverse, anterior clypeal margin feebly emarginate; eyes situated approximately in the middle of the head and moderately convex; mandibles strongly convex, with blunt teeth; antennal scapes failing to attain the occipital corners by less than twice their distal diameter, funicular joints 3-7 about as broad as long. Thorax in side view irregularly convex and with triangular, acute epinotal and similar episternal spines, the latter slightly lower, from above triangular with rounded anterior margin and shoulders. Petiole in side view with long peduncle which bears mid-ventrally an obtuse projection, and an acute, forwardly directed node; from above the peduncle appears laterally compressed and the node rectangular with rounded anterior margin and feebly converging sides. Postpetiole in side view with vertical anterior face, convex dorsum and lobate ventral margin; from above as long as broad, sides converging anteriorly and convex. Gaster ovoid with a large sting variably exserted.

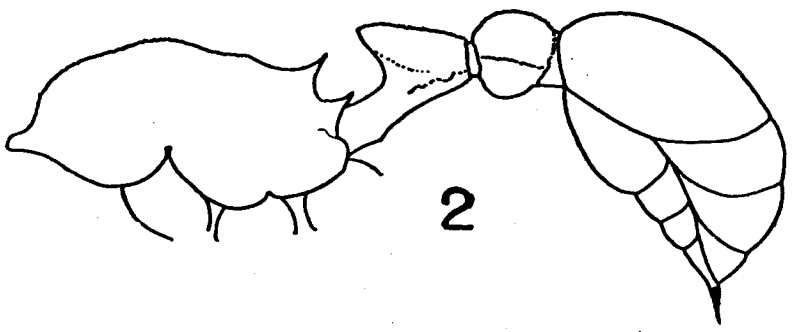

Fig. 2.—Worker of *Leptothorax (Goniothorax) anduzei*, sp. nov.

Coarsely sculptured, finely punctate basally; head striate, becoming reticulate-striate at the occiput and sides; mandibles rugose; scapes striate-punctate; thorax coarsely reticulate, becoming vermiculate posteriorly; nodes of pedicel coarsely reticulate; gaster finely striate-punctate anteriorly, smooth and shining except for piligerous punctations.

Pilosity of scattered, short, coarse, vertical hairs which are for the most part obtusely pointed.

Dark ferruginous except gaster which is blackish brown; hairs basally dark brown, apically paler.

Cotypes: workers of a colony (Nº V9b) from the llanos north of Soledad about 15 km., across from Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela, which I collected January 27, 1935. The ants had crater nests in the sand near the nests of *Acromyrmex (Moellerius) balzani* sp. *planorum* Weber previously described and figured (Wheeler, W. M. 1937. Mosaics and other anomalies among ants. Harvard Univ. Press, Plate II, left photograph; Weber, N. A. 1937. Rev. de Ent. 7:408-409). The llanos here consisted of a type referred to by Dr. J. G. Myers as *Trachypogon-Curatella* savannah, *Trachypogon plumosus* and *Curatella Americana* being the dominants. Other characteristic plants were, according to Myers, *Andropogon condensatus, Axonopus aureus, Aristida* sp. and *Paspalum anceps* among the grasses; *Polygala* sp. and *Paepalanthus capillaceus* among the herbs; *Bowdichia virgilioides, Byrsonima crassifolia, B. coccolobaefolia* and *Casearia carpinifolia* among the woody plants. It is possible that seeds of some of these afforded food for the *Pogonomyrmex*, a genus characteristically vegetarian and especially seed-eating.

A worker taken by Dr. J. G. Myers (Nº 5606) in British Guiana represents a closely related form which may be called *rupununi*, ssp. nov. It is larger, 5.2 mm. (thorax 1.6 mm.), and darker. The gaster is distinctly more heavily sculptured, being at the base shallowly reticulate-punctate. The ant was taken on the southern Rupununi Savannah November 11, 1935 and it is interesting that a fungus-growing ant, *Acromyrmex (Moellerius) balzani myersi* Weber, which he took here differed also subspecifically from those referred to above in Venezuela.

PHEIDOLE

Pheidole opaca Mayr, *apterostigmoides*, ssp. nov.

Soldier. Extended length 8.3-8.5 mm. (thorax 2.1 mm.) Pronotal gibbosities large and blunt, mesonotum with a transverse bidentate carina. Petiole bituberculate above. Postpetiole about one and one ninth broader than long. Dull, densely punctate with longitudinal striae on the head becoming vermiculate to reticulate posteriorly and at the sides and more coarsely so on the thorax and petiole. Pilosity of moderately abundant long, fine, upright hairs which are shortest on the head. Head dark brown with almost black mandibles and adjacent head. Remainder of body paler brown.

Differing from the typical *opaca* soldier in having a longer pŏstpetiole when viewed from above, more coarsely reticulate pro-mesonotum and darker mandibles and adjacent region of the head.

Worker. Extended length 4.7-5 mm. (thorax, excluding "neck", 1.5-1.6 mm.) Occiput of head prolonged slightly as a "neck", antennae long and slender, general habitus as in *Apterostigma urichi* Forel except for long, acute epinotal spines. Dull and densely punctate basally, with scattered vermiculate-reticulate striae on head, thorax and, feebly, on the pedicel. Pilosity of moderately abundant long, fine upright hairs. Brown, head darker than rest of body.