not bearing short, erect, or suberect hairs. Gaster smooth and shiny, head and thorax shagreened and more subopaque, head in certain lights somewhat shiny. Workers of typical species have yellowish red or reddish head, thorax, and petiole, and blackish or black gaster. Occasionally the base or much of the first gastric segment is lighter than the remainder of the gaster. Femora and tibiae of legs lacking or almost lacking erect hairs. Bears superficial resemblance to *caryae discolor* but can be distinguished from that species by less coarse, subopaque cheeks and clypeus, and especially by lack of short, erect hairs arising from foveolae of cheeks.

Biology and Economic Importance

The ants form small colonies of only a few hundred individuals They nest in galleries made by borers in twigs and branches of trees; in insect galls, particularly those of *Disholcaspis cinerosa* (Bassett) on oak; in cavities in the stalks of plants; under the bark of trees; in logs and stumps, wooden posts, and in houses. A new colony is founded by a single fertilized female, unaided by workers. It is normal for males and winged females produced in one year to overwinter in the parental nest and make their nuptial flights the next year. The natural food of *rasilis* workers is largely the honeydew excreted by scale insects and plant lice on the surface of leaves and twigs of trees and plants. This diet is largely supplemented by the dead bodies of insects. The species frequently nests in the woodwork of houses, although it may also invade houses from outdoors. Quite often workers invade houses at night. It is assumed that the ants start their nest in faulty wood or preformed cavities. On one occasion a colony was found nesting in the roller of a window shade. Because of the small size of the ants and their colonies, it does not seem possible for them to do any significant damage to woodwork. Workers frequently feed on such household food and drink as breads, fruits, cakes, syrup, sugar, jam, and coca cola. The ants appear to show a preference for sweets.

References: Wheeler, 1910b, pp. 227–228; Smith, 1924, p. 126; Smith, 1950, pp. 297–298; Hess, 1958, pp. 48–49, 56, 58–59.

Paratrechina longicornis (Latreille)

Crazy ant. This introduced species, apparently of African or, more likely, Oriental origin, has become widely disseminated by commerce to various parts of the World. It is frequently intercepted in plant quarantine. The species is well established in many towns and cities of the Gulf coast region, especially in Florida. Farther north and inland it is more sporadically distributed, occurring in apartment buildings, hotels, and greenhouses. The crazy ant gets its name from the worker's habit of darting here and there in a jerky, haphazard manner, as if lacking a definite sense of direction.

Taxonomic Characters

Subfamily and generic characters: Monomorphic. Antenna 12-segmented, without a club. Scape extraordinarily long, apex surpassing posterior border of head by at least one-half the length of the