

of their close relationship with subterranean plant lice, mealybugs, and coccids, and it is highly possible that workers may transmit plant diseases by their transportation of these insects. Observers have noted catbirds, *Dumetella carolinensis* (Linnaeus), and robins, *Turdus migratorius* Linnaeus, using workers of *umbratus* in "anting."

References: Wheeler, 1905b, pp. 373, 397; Wheeler, 1910a, pp. 236-237; Wheeler, 1917, pp. 167-176; Donisthorpe, 1927, pp. 264-272; Rau, 1934, pp. 207-208; Dennis, 1938, pp. 273-274, 296, 306; Wheeler and Wheeler, 1944, pp. 257-258; Wilson, 1955, pp. 162-164; Kannoński, 1956, p. 181; Kannoński, 1959, pp. 120, 141; Van Pelt, 1963, p. 213.

Acanthomyops claviger (Roger)

Smaller yellow ant. A native species, which ranges from Washington to Ontario, south to New Mexico and Florida. It is one of the most common species of *Acanthomyops*, especially in the eastern and central United States.

Taxonomic Characters

Subfamily and generic characters: Monomorphic. Antenna 12-segmented. Antennal fossa very close to or touching the posterior border of the clypeus. Eye very small to small, placed closer to posterior border of head than to base of mandible. Maxillary palpus short, 3-segmented. Abdominal pedicel composed of a single segment, the petiole. Cloacal orifice terminal, circular, surrounded by a fringe of hairs (fig. 48, co). Sting lacking. Body not large but stout and with a smooth, shiny integument. Body hairs commonly barbed. Body color usually a pale yellowish to yellowish red. Workers light-avoiding, capable of emitting a pleasant odor similar to lemon verbena or citronella. *Specific characters:* Bearing superficial resemblance to *interjectus* but distinguished from that species by its smaller size (3-4 mm. long); absence of pronounced tooth on superior border of mandible near junction of masticatory and superior borders (fig. 48, b); shorter scape, apex of which never surpasses posterior border of head; very distinctly clavate funiculus, all segments of which are broader than long, except the first and last; and pilosity of dorsum

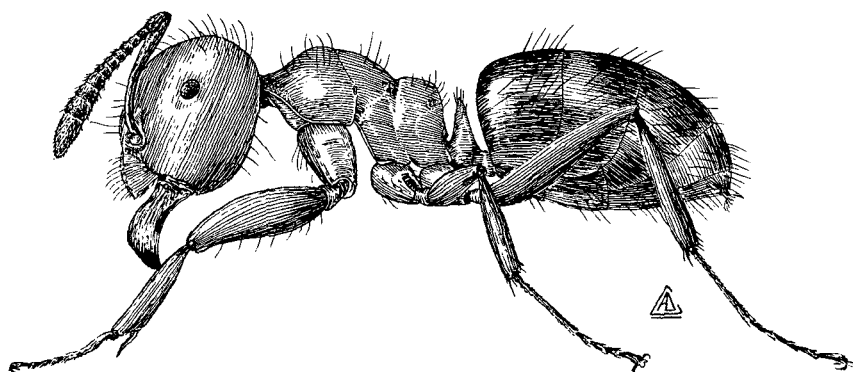


Figure 47.—*Acanthomyops claviger* (Roger), smaller yellow ant, lateral view of worker.