

Orinoco are also of wide distribution but in a rain forest habitat. One, *A. hystrix*, is characteristic of Guiana in the broad sense (Orinoco Delta to the Amazon Delta), the other, *octospinosus*, is more widespread (Mexico to the Amazon)

A third species of *Acromyrmex*, s. str., *coronatus globuculis* Forel, may occur in the Delta.

*Acromyrmex* (s. str.) *hystrix* Latr.

Both in the Delta and in British Guiana this species nests above the ground (Weber, 1946, p. 153-154). In British Guiana, however, the localities were never flooded as they were in the Delta.

Two nests were examined along the Caños Horobuku (=Jorobuku), a tributary of the Rio Araturi, southeast of Curiapo in the Delta. One nest was at the mouth of the caños, the other about four miles upstream. Both were in magnificent swamp rain forest and in sites which were flooded at high tide. The ants consequently had to nest above the ground but were always able to forage by crawling over fallen palms and herbs which were not submerged.

One nest was in a mound formed by debris collecting at the base of a clump of palms and my photograph was used in the Wheeler 1937 book (Pl. II, right fig.). Fungus gardens extended under nearly the entire mass of the mound and the total bulk of the numerous gardens must have approximated at least one bushel (30 liters). The base of the mound exceeded a meter in diameter. Though this area was daily flooded by the tide, water came up only to the base of the mound. *Azteca* ants were dominant arboreal insects in this predominately arboreal fauna and were found everywhere, forming carton nests under *Montrichardia*, *Ficus* and other leaves, frequently over water, and tending coccids (Lecanid) on many plants, including *Phyllodendron* leaf petioles. The *Acromyrmex* must have had to forage over the *Azteca*-controlled plants but were probably tolerated.

The other nest was at a height of about two meters in a mass of moss-covered moots and humus between ewo *Manicaria* palm trunks which were standing close together. A single fungus garden, about 165 mm. high and 102 mm. broad, was