

flooded at high tide, as well as among rushes, mangroves, bamboo-like grass (*Gynerium saggitatum*) and other vegetation growing as a dense jungle. Mosquitos were almost unbearable and a noisy hoatzin colony roosted near the nest. These birds and the Attas may well have fed upon leaves of the same plants since the bird crops were filled with green leaves and they did not appear to be wide-ranging.

Chambers containing fungus garden were as shallow as 125 mm. in the nest. The main entrance was at the base of a small tree 85 mm. in diameter. This nest also contained large, possibly sexual, larvae; one after years of preservation still being 8 mm. in shrunken length. It had been killed by the workers in their frenzy when the chambers were exposed.

Trails led in all directions from the nest and it is quite probable that the ants dominated the entire island. A comparable example was found on the tiny island of Kykoveral in the Mazaruni River, British Guiana (Weber, 1946, p. 162).

A large nest on the left bank of Rio Grande opposite Isla Sacoroco was in the form of a low, truncate cone. It was about 1.4 meters high x 3.7 meters in diameter and contained scores of holes, especially on the south side, which were made by large bees. On the north side stood a hard carton nest of termites (*Nasutitermes*) about 65 cm. x 25 cm. in diameter. The termite nest contained small ant brood (not fungus-grower) as well as termites. *Pheidole* and other ants nested in the mound and fly larvae, like trypetid, occurred in a discoid fruit which had fallen on the mound from trees above.

This nest was obviously the center of a biocoenose since it probably was the apex of a small area of soil which was not flooded at high water. The elevation above high tide was estimated to be hardly more than 4.6 meters and during the rainy season water would probably come close to the foot of the mound. It was on a slight slope crowned with a jungle of creepers, prickly and spiny vines and palms and other vegetation. To the south the ground sloped sharply to a depression covered with dense grass, then came a slight rise of vines and bushes and beyond that the sandy beach.