

thorax and petiole, as well as the vertex, occiput and posterior corners of the head and the upper surface of the gaster beset with small, rather blunt tubercles. These are largest on the posterior corners of the head. Antennal scapes and legs covered with smaller and much less distinct tubercles.

Hairs and pubescence fulvous, the former hooked, uniformly distributed over the body, scapes and legs, suberect on the body, scapes and legs, more reclinate on the legs. Pubescence very short and delicate, confined to the antennal funiculi.

Body ferruginous red; mandibles, antennæ and legs somewhat paler; clypeus darker, mandibular teeth, frontal area and a longitudinal mid-dorsal streak on the gaster, black.

Described from nine specimens taken Nov. 24, 1910 a few hundred yards from the Carnegie Desert Botanical Laboratory near Tucson, Arizona.

This species is readily distinguished from all our other North American species of *Trachymrmex* by its smaller size and the conformation of the pro- and mesonotum. Seen from above this region presents three successive pairs of bluntly angular projections of much the same size and shape, whereas in all our other forms at least the first pair is long, rather slender and pointed and differs considerably either in shape or size from the succeeding pairs.

*T. desertorum* was first seen on the banks of a dry arroyo that skirts the rocky hill on which the Desert Botanical Laboratory is situated. Here in the feeble shade of the *Parkinsonia* and *Acacia* trees and in the very hard, pebbly, desert soil, two nests were located by following single workers that were returning home laden with caterpillar excrement or with green or yellow *Acacia* leaflets. These nests were so inconspicuous that they could not have been found in any other way, for the entrance to each was merely a circular opening only 1/16 of an inch in diameter among the pebbles, with a few dead leaves forming a small and very indistinct crater around it. The entrance gallery descended perpendicularly into the soil. As I did not discover the ants till late in the afternoon and was obliged to leave Tucson the following morning, I was unable to excavate the nests. These are probably similar in structure to those of *T. turrifex* which I have described in detail in my paper on the North American Attii (*loco citato* p. 753).

*T. desertorum* is one of three fungus-growing ants I have found in the dry arroyo near the Desert Botanical Laboratory. As these insects will be within very convenient reach of the botanist who