

Material Examined

Direct examinations were made of 12 specimens from 9 collections:

BELIZE, Caves Branch, S. & J. Peck berlesate (1 worker); COSTA RICA, Prov. Alajuela, 6.5km E Monteverde, 950m, 10°18'N 84°45'W, J. Longino #861-S (2 workers); Prov. Heredia, 18km N Volcan Barba, 800m, 10°17'N 84°05'W, J. Longino #1383-S (1 worker); Prov. Heredia, 3km S Pto. Viejo, 50m, 10°26'N 84°00'W, J. Longino #1386-S (2 workers); Prov. Heredia, La Selva, Talbot & VanDevender FP2308 (1 worker); Prov. Limon, near Siquirres, 10°06'N 83°22'W, A. M. Young (1 worker); Prov. Limon, Res. Biol. Hitoy-Cerere, 200m, 9°40'N 83°02'W, J. Longino #942-S (2 workers); COLOMBIA, Dpto. Magdalena, 4km N San Pedro, 550m, 10°57'N 74°03'W, J. Longino #763-S (1 worker); PERU, Dpto. Huanuco, nr. conf. Rio Pachitea, Rio Lullapichis, C. A. Toft (1 worker).

The Belize specimen is from the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, the Peruvian specimen is from the University of California, Davis collection, a Costa Rican specimen has been retained in the author's collection, and the remainder are in the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

Characters

Allometric relationships between head length, head width, and mandible length were primary characters used by Kempf to differentiate species within the *T. ferox* group. In Figure 2 I have plotted head length versus head width, and head width versus mandible length, for the 12 specimens I examined directly, and the 7 specimens from Kempf (1975). It can be seen that the points fall reasonably well on a straight line, suggesting uniform allometric relationships, and the points do not form distinct clusters. The same was true for any pair of metric characters I examined. Thus, there is as yet no evidence that differences in relative lengths of metric characters reflect species differences in *Thaumatomyrmex*.

Thaumatomyrmex specimens often exhibit an impressed metanotal suture which separates the mesonotum from the propodeum. In Costa Rica, this trait varies in distinctness, from specimens with a clearly raised, separated mesonotum, to specimens with the mesonotum and propodeum essentially continuous, with only a trace of a metanotal suture. Effacement of the metanotal suture is characteristic of the