

However, *concolor* is a preoccupied name according to Mr. Barry Bolton of the British Museum and it seems best to call this well characterised species *M. wasmanni*. It differs from all other similar bicoloured barbatulate *Messor* by the somewhat flattened pronotum which is expanded laterally into a protuberant boss at each side. A similar Middle East species with normal rounded pronotum and larger eyes ($0.21 \times$ head width compared with $0.18 \times$ head width) has generally been recorded as *M. meridionalis* e.g. COLLINGWOOD (1985) but nomenclature needs clarification by reference to André's types.

Pheidole teneriffana forms strong colonies in urban areas. This ant appears to be spreading throughout the Middle East and the Mediterranean coast. *P. megacephala* is a true cosmopolitan and was found only once on the threshold of a small hotel in Pigadhia on Karpathos. The native *P. pallidula* was common everywhere. *Oxyopomyrmex* species are recognised by their long pointed eyes and 11 segmented antennae in the female castes. *O. krueperi* was described from Salonika by FOREL, 1911. This small black ant was found foraging on dry rocky scrubland on Karpathos.

Crematogaster ionia and *C. schmidtii* are both arboreal. They may be conspecific since they are only recognisable by their contrasted colour, the dark *C. ionia* occurring on Karpathos and Chios and the reddish *C. schmidtii* on the other islands. *C. sordidula* is a small earth nesting species more easily overlooked.

Leptothorax species were various but not easily found mainly in rock crevices, under tree bark and on shaded banks. One un-named species found on rocks on Karpathos is similar to *L. nigrata* Emery but is paler with shorter propodeal spines. Another similar more yellow species found on Zante and Kephallonia has been tentatively named *L. aeolius* Forel described from Smyrna. A larger species with reddish alitrunk, *L. semiruber* was found on Karpathos.

Tetramorium species occurred in some variety by only *T. punicum* was locally abundant especially in coastal areas on Karpathos nesting under stones among scattered pine trees. *Strongylognathus dalmaticus*, an uncommon parasite ant was found with this species at Amopi. The strongly sculptured *T. chefteki* is quite common in the Balkans and was found locally on the coast at Zante. A rather similar but less sculptured species, *T. perspicax* Santschi (*T.* sp 1, AGOSTI and COLLINGWOOD, 1987) occurred near Karta on the east coast of Chios.

Ants of the genus *Monomorium* were rather local. The only abundant species found was *M. nitidiventre* which occurred in pastures along the coast north of Pigadhia and recorded also from Santorini.

Solenopsis geminata, a subtropical tramp species widely distributed through the Indian subcontinent and Africa as well as South America was a surprise. Workers were taken foraging at midday near Agalos, a village on Zante. They