

- coxa** The basal segment of the arthropod leg.
- curation** The art and science of preserving biological specimens and organizing, caring for, and maintaining collections of such specimens.
- cuticle** a secretion of the epidermis covering the entire body of an arthropod as well as lining ectodermal invaginations, such as the proctodaeum, stomodaeum, and tracheae.
- denticle** A small tooth.
- dichthadiigyne queen (dichthadiiform ergatogyne, dichthadiiform queen)** In army ants, a member of an aberrant reproductive caste characterized by a wingless alitrunk, a huge gaster, and an expanded postpetiole.
- disarticulation** The separation of one sclerotized component of the arthropod skeleton from a neighboring component to which it was previously attached.
- distal** At or pertaining to the free end of a morphological structure, farthest away from the main body of the organism.
- domatia (myrmecodomatia)** Specialized structures, such as inflated stems or hollow thorns, used by ant plants for the housing of ant colonies.
- dulosis** See *slavemaking*
- ecological succession** The chronological distribution of organisms within an area.
- elaiosome** An ant-attractive nutritive attachment on seeds manufactured by some plants to encourage dispersal.
- endemism** The quality of being native to and exclusively restricted to a particular geographical region.
- energetics** The study of energy transformation within a community or system.
- epigaecic** Living, or at least foraging, above the surface of the ground (opposite of hypogaecic).
- epinotum** See *propodeum*.
- ergatogyne** See *ergatoid*.
- ergatoid (ergatogyne)** In ants, any form intermediate between the worker and the queen.
- eusociality (true sociality, higher sociality)** The condition in which the following three traits are present: cooperation in caring for the young; reproductive division of labor, with more or less sterile individuals working on behalf of individuals engaged in reproduction; and overlap of at least two generations of life stages capable of contributing to colony labor. All ants are eusocial.
- Fluon** A liquid form of Teflon that, when painted onto vertical surfaces and allowed to dry, forms an effective climbing barrier to most insects, including ants.
- Formicidae** The family of Hymenoptera that comprises the ants, characterized by the presence of the metapleural gland (secondarily absent in some groups), petiole, and eusociality.
- formicosis** A disease of the lungs brought on by excessive inhalation of formic acid vapors (produced by ants in the subfamily Formicinae), usually as a result of ant collecting using an aspirator.
- foundress** In ants, the newly fecundated gyne (queen) that begins the colony life cycle.
- frass** Solid larval insect excrement.
- frons** In insects, a sclerite of the head immediately posterior to the clypeus.
- fungivorous** Feeding on fungi.
- furcula** In the aculeate hymenopteran sting, a small, forked apodemal sclerite positioned dorsobasally, to which important muscles of the sting attach.
- gaster (metasoma)** The posterior region of the body in apocritan Hymenoptera; in ants, the portion posterior to the petiole (i.e., true abdominal segments 3–10) or, if a postpetiole is present, the portion posterior to the postpetiole (i.e., true abdominal segments 4–10).
- gena** The insect “cheek,” the area of the head below the eye.
- granivorous** Feeding on grain, i.e., on the seeds of grasses.
- gular teeth** See (more correctly) *hypostomal teeth*.
- gyne (queen)** In ants, the female reproductive caste.
- habitus** Overall general form or appearance.
- head capsule** The fused sclerites of the arthropod head, which form a hardened, compact case, the cranium.
- heterospecific** Of or pertaining to a different species (opposite of conspecific).
- Holarctic Region** The region containing both the Palearctic and Nearctic Regions.
- holotype** In taxonomy, a single specimen designated as the name-bearing type of a species or subspecies when it was established, or the single specimen on which the taxon was based when no type was specified.
- homonym** In species-level taxonomy, each of two or more available names established for different nominal taxa having the same spelling or spellings deemed to be the same by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. Homonymy is the problematic situation in which two or more species in the same genus have the same name.