

There appears little objection to this move, though the differences between the Palearctic *graminicola* and the Nearctic form are very slight. The forms *quadrispina* and *brevispinosa*, however, cannot be considered valid forms.

The Enzmannian subspecies (*quadrispina*) was taken (holotype worker) on the south slope of the Blue Hills, a rather restricted elevated area just outside Boston, Massachusetts. Two colonies collected by me in this locality were confined for several months in artificial nests. Specimens killed at the time of collection and others examined after two months of rearing show a wide range of variation in size, sculpture and color. The larger workers, mostly those killed at the time of collection, agree well with the description and figures, as well as my impressions, gained from a rather cursory examination of the type, of *quadrispina*. These workers also agree with Emery's original description of *americana* and with specimens identified as *americana* by Wheeler and by Creighton.

My nests also produced, after a month or so of substarvation conditions, small light-colored workers corresponding well with published descriptions of *brevispinosa* and with specimens determined as such in the Wheeler Collection. These workers were raised from small larvæ during a period in which the colonies refused all types of prepared foods, including bread and fats. When ripe seed-heads of timothy and some small herbaceous plants were later introduced, the colony eagerly accepted the seeds as food, but the workers which had previously hatched never became, even after four weeks, as fully colored as the workers reared in the wild. I conclude that the variant *brevispinosa* is merely the stunted workers from either an incipient or poorly-nourished colony.

Both my nests were taken under large, well-embedded stones in a rich, shady beech woods. Each colony occupied a small oval chamber in the soil, about three quarters of an inch in greatest diameter and less than a quarter inch deep, with the smooth lower surface of the stone