

Hairs yellowish or golden, moderately long and abundant on body. Antennal scape with approximately six prominent, erect hairs.

Thorax, petiole, postpetiole, and gaster blackish; head dark reddish brown; legs yellowish.

Type locality.—Along bank of Gama River, Milne Bay, New Guinea; 300 feet elevation.

Type.—United States National Museum No. 58209.

The unique soldier holotype was collected March 5, 1944, by Karl V. Krombein.

A NEW SPECIES OF METAPONE FOREL FROM NEW GUINEA (Hymenoptera, Formicidae)

BY MARION R. SMITH, *Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine,
United States Department of Agriculture*

Among the interesting ants collected by Karl V. Krombein in New Guinea is a new species of *Metapone* which is described below. This is the eleventh recognized species in the genus. In 1919, when Wheeler revised *Metapone* (Ent. Soc. Amer. Ann. 12 (3): 173, 7 figs), he treated seven species. These and their type localities are as follows: *M. bakeri* Wheeler, Mount Banahao, Luzon Island, Philippines; *greeni* Forel, Peradeniya, Ceylon; *hewitti* Wheeler, Kuching, Borneo; *leae* Wheeler, Mount Tambourine, Queensland; *mjoebergi* Forel, Malanda, Queensland; *sauteri* Forel, Sokutsu, Banshoryo District, Formosa; *tillyardi* Wheeler, Dorrigo, New South Wales. Later Crawley 1924, Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist. 13 (76): 389) described *jacobsoni* from Fort de Kock, Sumatra; Karawajew (1933, Konowia 12 (1-2): 115) described *johni* from Hantana, Ceylon; and Wheeler (1935, Psyche 42 (1): 38) described *gracilis* from Dapitan on Mindanao Island, Philippines.

The genus *Metapone* includes forms of such peculiar structure that the taxonomic relationships and status of the group have not yet been clearly determined. In 1911 Forel placed the genus in a new tribe, the Metaponini, of the subfamily Ponerinae; and in 1912 Emery concluded that the larvae of *M. greeni* were definitely myrmicine and placed the tribe Metaponini along with the tribe Pseudomyrmicini in the section Promyrmicinae of the subfamily Myrmicinae. Finally Wheeler after much study stated, "It should, of course, constitute an independent tribe, Metaponini, as Forel and Emery maintain, but its position among the other tribes of the Myrmicinae is not easily determined. It might be placed provisionally be-