

### Notes on *Pheidole* (*Decapheidole*) and the Description of a New Species (Hymenoptera: Formicidae).

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Recently there has been received for determination a number of unusually interesting specimens of *Pheidole*, subgenus *Decapheidole*. These specimens include a new species collected on Barro Colorado Island, Canal Zone, by James Zetek, and also specimens intercepted in plant shipments originating at Medellin, Colombia, and in Guatemala (precise locality not known). The Colombian collection is represented by a single worker, the Guatemalan, by soldiers and workers of a single species. Unfortunately I am unable to name the specimens from Colombia and Guatemala, owing to the very poor descriptions of both *perpusilla* and *decem*. On the other hand, the specimens from Barro Colorado Island possess such distinct and readily recognizable characters that I have no hesitancy in describing them as a new species, *zeteki*.

The ants of *Pheidole*, subgenus *Decapheidole*, bear such a striking resemblance to the various forms of *Pheidole* (*Pheidole*) *flavens* Roger that even an accomplished formicologist could easily err if he did not count the antennal segments, ants of the subgenus *Decapheidole* having 10 segments and those of *Pheidole* (*Pheidole*) *flavens*, 12 segments; in fact, Emery (1894, Soc. Ent. Ital. Bol. 26: 157) described *perpusilla* from soldier, worker, and female specimens from Pará, Brazil, as *Pheidole flavens perpusilla*. Forel (1901, Soc. Ent. de Belg. Ann. 45: 366) described a second species, *decem*, from soldier specimens collected in Trinidad (specific locality not cited), calling attention to its similarity to forms of the *flavens* group. Although Forel noted that the soldier had 10 segments in the antenna he did not establish a new subgenus for *perpusilla* and *decem* until 1912 (Soc. Ent.