

A NEW LEPTOTHORAX COMMONLY INHABITING  
THE CANYON LIVE OAK OF CALIFORNIA  
(HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDÆ)

BY MARION R. SMITH

Agricultural Research Administration, Bureau of  
Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S.  
Department of Agriculture

In the late nineteen thirties Arnold Mallis of the University of California sent me, for determination, a new species of *Leptothorax* which he and Jack Schwartz had collected at Devil's Gate Dam, Pasadena, California. Later the same ant was received for determination from Mrs. Wilda S. Ross of Santa Barbara, California, who had been given specimens of it by C. H. Muller. Dr. Muller's specimens were found nesting in an oak gall in the Figueroa Mountains of Santa Barbara County, California. Although recorded from a small number of California localities only, it is probable that the new ant has a much wider distribution, occurring wherever the canyon live oak is found or perhaps even beyond. Because of the commonness of this new species on canyon live oaks and its association with galls on these trees from near San Francisco to Los Angeles County, it seems desirable to describe the form.

*Leptothorax* (*Leptothorax*) *gallæ*, new species

*Worker*.—Length 3 mm.

Head measured through its greatest breadth and length, one and one-seventh times as long as broad, with approximately straight posterior border, rounded posterior corners and weakly convex, somewhat subparallel sides. Eye rather large, located at approximately the middle of the side of the head. Antenna 12-segmented; apex of scape failing by more than its greatest diameter to attain the posterior border of the head; funiculus with a 3-segmented club, which is scarcely longer than the re-