

*Female paratypes.*

Of approximately the same length as the holotype worker but with a slightly stouter body. Eye well developed, 0.10 mm. in its greatest diameter and with approximately 8 ommatidia in that diameter. Apex of scape scarcely surpassing the anterior ocellus when the scape is fully extended posteriorly; funicular club not so suddenly enlarged or so strongly thickened as in the worker. Petiolar node in profile more slender (anteroposteriorly), gradually narrowing from the base to the summit of the node. Anterior wing with the following cells: A discoidal, two cubital and a radial. Stigma well developed. Color and pilosity similar to that of the worker. Measurements were made of two alate females, one of these had the following: HW 0.42 mm., HL 0.52 mm., SL 0.34 mm., CI 81, SI 81, PW 0.35 mm., PNL 0.17 mm., DPW 0.25 mm., PH 0.30 mm. The other had similar measurements except that the PH was 0.32 mm.

*Type locality*—Croatan National Forest, 2 miles east of Croatan, Craven County, North Carolina; Aug. 20, 1960, W. G. Carter (Carter Collection No. 11).

Described from a holotype and 28 paratype workers and 4 paratype females, one of the latter dealate. The holotype and 23 paratypes will be placed in the U. S. National Museum under U. S. N. M. No. 65915 and 9 paratypes will be deposited in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Thirteen workers measured for variation in body proportions gave the following figures: HW 0.37 mm.—0.40 mm. (0.38 mm.), HL 0.37 mm.—0.50 mm. (0.45 mm.), SL 0.28 mm.—0.32 mm. (0.30 mm.), CI 79–83 (82), SI 75–80 (78), PW 0.26 mm.—0.29 mm. (0.28 mm.), PNL 0.15 mm.—0.17 mm. (0.16 mm.), DPW 0.20 mm.—0.23 mm. (0.21 mm.), PH 0.27 mm.—0.30 mm. (0.28 mm.). The figures enclosed in parentheses refer to average measurements.

In the key to *Ponera* of the *tenuis* group (Wilson 1957, pps. 359–361), the new species will key out to couplet 9 which contains the species *huonica* Wilson and *tenuis* (Emery). To reach this couplet the worker must possess the following characters: Presence of eyes (although vestigial), HW greater than 0.34 mm., CI greater than 76, DPW greater than 0.15 mm., and a distinct 4-segmented antennal club. From both *huonica* and *tenuis*, *exotica* is distinguished by its smaller size, HW 0.37 mm. to 0.40 mm., the distinct and narrowly impressed mesoepinotal suture and lighter color (light brown or yellowish brown). The sculpturing, particularly that of the head, is less dense and the body surface less opaque than in either *huonica* or *tenuis*.

The following collections were available for study. Those numbered from 1 through 12 were collected by W. C. Carter and that numbered 13 was collected by D. L. Wray. The data below are virtually the same as those submitted by the collectors except for minor changes in arrangement to attain uniformity. The number of individuals listed for each collection does not necessarily represent the total number secured as often the collectors retained specimens.

*Piedmont*

1—Aug. 5, 1958. Alongside Hwy. 70, approximately 6 miles west of Hillsboro, Orange Co., N. C. Collection made in a post oak-blackjack oak-hickory stand. The forest stand at the collection site was open and sunny with clumps of grass common.