

TAXONOMIC NOTES ON SOME
MEXICAN CEPHALOTINE ANTS
(HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE)

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ABSTRACT: The previously undescribed male of *Procryptocerus scabriusculus* Emery is characterized and figured. *Cryptocerus insularis* Wheeler, previously known only from the lost holotype, is recharacterized and its relationship to *C. rohweri* Wheeler and *C. wheeleri* Forel is discussed. Soldiers and workers of all three are figured and a key is given for their separation.

***Procryptocerus scabriusculus* Emery, 1894**

Figure 1

In his excellent treatment of the cephalotine ants Kempf (1951) divided the genus *Procryptocerus* into a number of species complexes. In his analyses of these complexes he was able to place some names into synonymy; others were elevated to species level, and in general the systematics of the genus was put on a sound basis. Unfortunately, relationships within a given complex were left unresolved due to a lack of adequate representation of the alate forms. One of Kempf's complexes was composed of the forms previously ascribed to *P. striatus* (F. Smith), a starting total of thirteen "subspecies and varieties," which he reduced to seven species. Of these species, males were known and described for only two, *P. adlerzi* (Mayr) and *P. convergens* (Mayr).

While collecting in the vicinity of Cordoba, Veracruz, Mexico, during July, 1965, I was fortunate enough to secure several complete colonies of *P. scabriusculus* Emery, a member of this complex, in two of which were found alate individuals of both sexes. Since the previously undescribed male of this species exhibits a number of interesting characters which readily permit its separation from those of *P. adlerzi* and *P. convergens*, it seems worthwhile to describe it at this time.

The male differs from that of *P. adlerzi* most obviously in the presence of distinct apical spurs on the middle and hind tibiae, a trait which it shares with *P. convergens*. If I correctly understand Kempf's description of the *P. convergens* male, that of *P. scabriusculus* may be separated by the presence of a distinctly shining, sculptureless area on the frons (sculptured throughout in *P. convergens*, according to Kempf), the shorter hairs on the underside of the head (said to be longer than the antennal scape in *P. convergens*), and the decidedly less truncate subgenital plate.

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