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KARYOTYPES OF A DOZEN ANT SPECIES FROM THE SOUTHWESTERN U.S.A. (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE)

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SUMMARY — The karyotypes of ten species of ants belonging to two different subfamilies (Ecitoninae and Myrmicinae) are reported for the first time. Previously published karyotypes of a species of Myrmicinae and one species of a third subfamily (Dolichoderinae) are confirmed. The diploid number of 36 for *Neivamyrmex texanus* is the first report for the subfamily Ecitoninae. The diploid number reported for *Veromessor andrei* ($2n=40$) is the first published karyotype of this genus. The other karyotypes are from members of *Pheidole* ($2n=18$ and 20), *Solenopsis* ($2n=32$), *Leptothorax* ($2n=26, 27$), *Tetramorium* ($2n=26$), and *Tapinoma* ($2n=16$).

INTRODUCTION

Almost 500 species of ants have been karyotyped (see BUSCHINGER *et al.* 1980; GOÑI *et al.* 1983; HAUSCHTECK-JUNGEN and JUNGEN 1983; IMAI, BARONI URBANI *et al.* 1984; IMAI, BROWN *et al.* 1984; COKENDOLPHER and FRANCKE 1985; TJAN *et al.* 1986; and citations therein), but few of these species are native to western North America. In an effort to provide new data for the systematic study of North American ants, we karyotyped 10 previously unexamined species and confirmed reports on two others. The first karyotypes from the subfamily Ecitoninae and the xerophilous Nearctic Myrmicinae genus *Veromessor* were obtained during this study.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Prepupal ants were collected directly from the mounds in the spring, summer, and fall of 1984 and 1985. Specific collection data are given in Table 1.

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