

NOTES ON THE INDO-AUSTRALIAN ANTS OF GENUS *SIMOPONE* FOREL (HYMENOPTERA-FORMICIDAE)¹

By Robert W. Taylor
Biological Laboratories, Harvard University

I recently discussed a Philippine specimen of *Simopone* which was tentatively identified as *S. bakeri* Menozzi (Taylor, 1965: 6). Subsequent examination of the *bakeri* holotype has shown the Philippine specimen to be representative of a new species, which is described below, along with diagnostic notes on the *bakeri* type. Three species of *Simopone* are now known from the Indo-Australian area. All are represented only by their worker holotypes. They are similar in habitus, and constitute a compact and undoubtedly closely related complex within this predominantly African cerapachyine genus. The generic diagnosis presented earlier (Taylor, *loc. cit.*) needs no modification at this point.

Simopone chapmani sp. n.

Type locality. PHILIPPINE ISLANDS: *Negros*: Horns of Negros, 3600 ft. The unique worker holotype was collected, presumably in rain forest, by the late Dr. James W. Chapman, for whom this species is named.

Type deposition. Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University (Type No. 31199).

Description. Dimensions (in mm): aggregate total length (TL) ca. 5.0; head length at midline (HL) 0.91; maximum head width (HW) 0.68; cephalic index ($HW \times 100/HL$) (CI) 75; maximum eye diameter 0.30; ocular index (eye diameter $\times 100/HW$) (OI) 44; minimum interocular distance 0.34 ($1.14 \times$ eye diameter); PW 0.55; WL 1.2; petiolar node length at midline 0.68; maximum petiolar node width 0.56; postpetiolar length at midline 0.64; maximum postpetiolar width 0.61. Generally similar to the New Guinean *S. gressitti* Taylor, and agreeing with its original description (Taylor, 1965, *Breviora* 221: 3), except in the following characters:

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