

## EURHOPALOTHRIX BREVICORNIS (Emery)

*Rhopalothrix brevicornis* Emery, 1897, p. 572.

*Eurhopalothrix brevicornis*: Brown and Kempf, 1960, p. 215.

The following records considerably extend the range of this species (previous records are from N.E. New Guinea and New Britain): BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS: VELLA LAVELLA: 7.v.1966, P. J. M. Greenslade (Acc. No. 22876), a single worker. GUADALCANAL: Mt. Austen, near Honiara (Berlese funnel samples, leaf litter and humus, secondary rain forest, c. 1000 ft), 25.ii.1963, 11.iii.1963, 9.vii.1963, 13.ii.1964, March 1966, 4.vii.1966, Dr. or Mrs. P. J. M. Greenslade (Acc. Nos. 4578, 6743, 8093, 15028, 21317, 23350); Mt. Austen Rd., 10.viii.1966, P. J. M. Greenslade (Acc. Nos. 23453, 23486). The Guadalcanal material includes four dealate queens and 17 workers. The specimens show no significant variation from New Guinea and New Britain samples (MCZ collection). The Greenslades' field records suggest that *E. brevicornis* nests in leafmould, probably in small rotting wood fragments.

## EURHOPALOTHRIX sp.

A single dealate queen in the ANIC could represent an undescribed species or, just possibly, the female of *E. punctata*. N.E. NEW GUINEA: Kunai Creek, Bulolo River Valley, above Wau (Berlese funnel sample, leafmould, midmontane rain forest, c. 1300 m), June 1962, R. W. Taylor (Acc. No. 1466). Dimensions are: HL, 0.60; HW, 0.64; CI, 107; SL, 0.34; greatest diameter of eye, 0.14; WL, 0.80. Close in habitus to *E. brevicornis* female (Brown and Kempf 1960, p. 216), except for larger size and proportionately longer mesosoma. Sculpturation and pilosity similar; middle rank of specialized cephalic hairs lacking (abraded?); first gastric tergite without specialized large hairs, the ground pilosity fine, similar to that of *E. punctata* workers in MCZ collection. First gastric tergite coarsely and closely punctate, slightly less densely so than in *E. punctata* workers.

Many ant species taken at Kunai Creek by the author in 1962 are widespread in, and apparently endemic to, New Guinean midmontane rain forest. Most have a widespread, probably cognate lowland relative. The above female could represent a highland endemic *Eurhopalothrix* species derived from *brevicornis*-like stock.

## EURHOPALOTHRIX AUSTRALIS Brown &amp; Kempf

*Eurhopalothrix australis* Brown and Kempf, 1960, p. 161.

Previous records are from Crawford's Lookout and Mt. Coot-tha, Qld. I have seen three workers from the following additional localities. AUSTRALIA: QUEENSLAND: Lake Eacham National Park, Atherton Tableland (Berlese funnel sample, leafmould, rain forest, c. 800 m), 7.vi.1962, R. W. Taylor (Acc. No. 1692), ANIC. Clump Point, near Tully (Berlese funnel sample, rain forest, near sea level), 3.vi.1953, T. E. Woodward, QM. Vicinity of Mt. Glorious (Berlese funnel sample, leafmould), 27.v.1952, T. E. Woodward, QM. No apparently significant variation is shown by this material.