firmed and some additional features are described, though the risk of damage to the specimen precluded dissection of its mouthparts or sting. The relationship of *Aulacopone* to *Heteroponera* Mayr, suggested by Brown, is supported. This has interesting evolutionary and biogeographical implications.

Taxonomic and Biogeographic Relationships of *Aulacopone*

The allocation of *Aulacopone* to tribe Ectatommini is unquestionable, and is further supported by the absence of arolia from the tarsi of the available specimen. Within subfamily Ponerinae the absence of arolia is apparently unique to species of tribe Ectatommini, except *Paraponera clavata* (Fabricius) (J. Freeland and R. D. Crozier, *pers. comm.*).

In order to understand in modern terms Arnoldi's discussion on the possible affinities of *Aulacopone,* the following synonymies by Brown are relevant: *Gnamptogenys* Roger = *Alfaria* Emery = *Stictoponera* Mayr; *Proceratium* Roger = *Sysphincta* Mayr; Ectatommini = Proceratiini = Stictoponerini.*

Arnoldi considered *Aulacopone* close to *Gnamptogenys,* a genus of somewhat diverse content now strongly and disjunctly represented (a) in the Indo-Australian area (from Ceylon and Western China to the Philippines and Fiji, with one New Guinean species on far northern Cape York Peninsula providing the only known Australian records), and (b) in the New World (from Texas south to Tucumán and Buenos Aires, including the Antilles and Peru, but as yet not Chile). The genus is not known from Africa. Brown recognised 26 Indo-Australian species, and more are now known. Sixty-four neotropical species were listed by Kempf (1972). One extinct species, *G. europaeum* (Mayr), is known from Oligocene Baltic Amber, and according to Brown, *Archiponera wheeleri* Carpenter, of the North American Oligocene Florissant Shale, seems close to *Gnamptogenys.* Arnoldi indicated specific resemblances between *Aulacopone* and the palaeogean "Stictoponera" and neogean "Alfaria" species groups of Brown's *Gnamptogenys* classification. He considered these three taxa, comprising his spurious subtribe Stictoponerini, to represent a

*The name Stictoponerini was proposed by Arnoldi (1930); it seems not to have been used subsequently, or formally synonymized under Ectatommini, where it belongs following Brown's reclassification.