



Map 2. Reconstruction of the situation of the Strait of Gibraltar during the Mesiniense (modified from MONTENAT, 1977), (—) present-day Mediterranean coastline; (---) Mediterranean coastline during the Mesiniense, (★) location of the Doñana National Park. (A= Almería, AL= Alicante, C= Cádiz, CO= Córdoba, G= Granada, H= Huelva, M= Málaga, ME= Melilla, T= Tetuán)

It is known that the Mediterranean Sea last opened during the Pliocene and that the African and Iberian plates have not closed again. Therefore, any common area for these two species, or one with breachable separations, must predate the Pliocene (Map 2). The paleogeology of this westernmost part of the Mediterranean is extremely complex, due to the origin of its elements and the successive connexions and ruptures between the North African and the Iberian plates (Hsü, 1978; Hsü *et al.*, 1973; MONTENAT, 1977), but this complexity does not preclude the existence of Atlantic coastal dunes which could have constituted a common area for *C. emmae* or for the ancestor of both species. The appearance of brachypterous and apterous females with limited dispersion capacity, together with the opening of the Mediterranean must have contributed to the isolation of these populations and thereby to the origin of *C. floricola* nov. sp., which probably would already have occupied the dunes of the Atlantic Iberian coast.

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RÉSUMÉ

Une nouvelle espèce de fourmi, *Cataglyphis floricola* nov. sp. est décrite. Certaines particularités intéressantes que montre cette espèce sont discutées, notamment l'existence d'un double type de coloration. Des considérations de natures biométriques et géographiques nous amènent à considérer que les deux types de colorations appartiennent à une seule et même espèce.