

mecia (Hölldobler and Taylor, 1983). Dissections of workers indicate ovarian development is reduced in mature individuals. Although queen/queen aggression was not observed, in a colony with two queens workers were seen attacking one queen, which was eventually dragged out of the nest. Subsequent attempts to reintroduce the queen consistently resulted in aggression by workers. These observations suggest a queen-reduction process similar to what has been described in other ant species. Additional studies on colony foundation are required before the significance of this behavior can be determined.

The results of our recent studies on *A. simoni*, the new information made available on *Nothomyrmecia* since its rediscovery by Taylor (1978), and the results of numerous other studies on primitive ant species (Fresneau *et al.*, 1982) suggest that myrmecologists may not find more information on the nature of sociality that evolved in the history of the Formicidae than is already available in the above cited research. Although certain ancestral traits can be easily identified in so-called primitive ants, it appears that the *basic* theme of sociality in these species reflects the social behavior of ants of the higher subfamilies. In particular, this seems to be true of *Aneuretus*.

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