

The one record of *Cerapachys* (*Syscia*) in the New World is of *Syscia seini* described from Puerto Rico in 1931 by Dr. W. M. Mann,³ who considered it and *S. silvestrii* of Hawaii probably endemic to New Guinea and introduced into these islands. The few other species are recorded from Australia, India, and New Guinea.

The finding of a new species of this subgenus in Trinidad would seem to indicate that perhaps both this subgenus and *C. (Cerapachys)* may be endemic to the New World. They both may be archaic relicts of a formerly world-wide genus.

The two species would seem to have none of the behavior characteristics which enable such introduced ants as *Pheidole megacephala*, *Monomorium pharaonis*, *Tapinoma melanocephalum* and *Paratrechina longicornis* to establish themselves over the warmer parts of the world and even drive out much of the native ant fauna. One of the species was found upon three occasions in two years, but only in a very small area and intensive collecting in many other nearby parts of the island never revealed it.

Three of the rarest genera in the primitive subfamily of ants, the Ponerinae, are the genera *Acanthoponera*, *Thaumatomyrmex*, and *Discothyrea*, each known from but a few specimens of a very few species. All are striking and easily distinguished from other ants. Ants of the genus *Acanthoponera* possess an antennal fossa prolonged backwards over the eyes, epinotal spines or dentations, and usually a petiole terminating in a spine. Ants of the genus *Thaumatomyrmex* are characterized by their narrow, arcuate mandibles with long, spiniform teeth. All of the ants of the genus *Discothyrea* are very small, the worker being only a millimeter or two in length, with the number of its antennal joints reduced to nine or even less, and with the terminal joint comparatively large and ovate.

Aside from their rarity and unusual appearance these ants merit special attention because of their distribution.

Of the ten described species of *Acanthoponera*, including the species here described, seven are found in the Neotropical Region, two in Australia, and one in New Zealand. The neotropical distribution is chiefly in the southern part of South

³The late Dr. W. M. Wheeler (1937, p. 441) overlooked this record when he stated: "This remarkable genus (*Cylindromyrmex*) and the subfamily Cerapachyinae to which it belongs were not previously known to have representatives in the Antilles."