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AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

W. B. Brown C1

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
CITY OF NEW YORK APRIL 7, 1952 NUMBER 1548

STUDIES ON AFRICAN MYRMICINAE, I (HYMENOPTERA, FORMICIDAE)

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This study² is based on collections made while I was biologist to the Central African Expedition of the American Museum of Natural History, types being deposited in this museum. Unpublished records from my 1939 African expedition are also included.

Africa, up to a generation ago, was not considered to have a particularly rich fauna of ants belonging to the subfamily Myrmicinae, but many species have since been added. It can now be shown to have a great and highly varied fauna, and the present paper adds to our knowledge of some of the more obscure genera, several of which are exclusively African.

MELISSOTARSUS EMERY

Melissotarsus EMERY, 1877, Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova, vol. 9, p. 378, worker.

A genus remarkable in having part or all of the tarsal segments greatly enlarged, to as wide or nearly as wide as the tibia; the legs themselves are short and thick. The antennae are six-segmented, with a two-segmented club; the frontal carinae are closely approximated, and the thorax lacks sutures.

Melissotarsus compressus, new species

Figures 28, 29

FEMALE (DEALATE): Length, 3.1 mm.; of thorax, 0.99 mm. Head in front view, excluding mandibles, broader than long, occipital margin broadly concave, sides converging anteriorly

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² Aided by the Brayton Wilbur Research Fund of the American Museum of Natural History.