

and C-shaped; ventral very short; ventral surface of abdomen broad, convex and protruding at the center; body very broad due to a distinct flange on either side extending from the first through the eighth abdominal somites; each flange is about one eighth of the total width. Terminal somite forming a broad rounded tail, which is pointed forward. Body naked. Integument thickly beset with minute spinules, except on the lateral flanges, which are smooth. Head naked and smooth; cranium subhexagonal in anterior view. (Material studied: several specimens from Mississippi.)

*Half-grown Larva.*—Length 1.25 mm. Plump; still curved ventrally but with the middle of the body somewhat straightened; ends farther apart but still pointed toward each other; lateral flanges deeper, narrower and broken into incipient bosses by intersomitic furrows; bosses have developed on the thorax and on the ventral surface of the abdomen. Body naked. Integument densely spinulose except on the sides. Head naked; rudiments of a few bosses have appeared. (Material studied: a single specimen from Virginia.)

The following notes are based upon observations made in an artificial formicary in this laboratory in July, 1931; the living larvae and workers of *P. croceum* were collected in Mississippi and sent to us through the courtesy of Dr. M. R. Smith: The larvae (all immature) were sluggish but moved actively upon tactile stimulation. When disturbed the head and tail were repeatedly approximated and separated. The broad and somewhat flattened ventral surface served as a table for food. The tail aided in holding the food. When a larva was offered the viscera of a mealworm, they were seized by approximation of head and tail. The mouth parts were applied to the food; bubbles passed into the body rhythmically at intervals as short as two seconds. The mandibles moved but served no apparent function. The larvae were translucent—almost transparent—and colorless except for many small white lumps beneath the integument; these might have been clumps of urate crystals.

Several of the living larvae referred to above were infested with tarsonemid mites, which were identified by Dr. H. E. Ewing of the United State National Museum as *Pigmephorus* sp.

Haskins, 1930, pp. 123-124: "The larvae, when hatched, are left on the egg packet for three or four days, and during this period are not differentiated by the nurses from unhatched ova. The larvae are short and thick set, with large heads, and are noticeably inactive. They show no tendency to devour unhatched eggs, and during the first week of life give no indication of hunger, nor are they, as far as could be observed, fed. When about a week old, the larvae are removed from the unhatched eggs, and are then placed on whatever food may chance to have been brought into the brood chamber. Even at this stage they show none of the activity usual to Ponerine larvae, but attach themselves to their victims and remain in this position for days, feeding extremely slowly. While feeding they are eagerly licked for exudates, and some indication has been seen of a tendency to pinch them to hasten the flow. When full-fed they drop from their victims, more after the fashion of the larvae of