

The Ant Larvae of the Myrmicine Tribes Meranoplinae, Ochetomyrmecinae and Tetramoriinae

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Tribe MERANOPLINI Emery

This is a little-known tribe of about 70 species in eight genera. *Meranoplus* is the largest, with 40 species (mostly in Australia); *Calyptomymex* numbers 14; the remaining genera contain only a single rare species each. Many species of *Meranoplus* are harvesters; their workers move very slowly and "feign death" readily when disturbed. The Meranoplinae occur only in the Old World Tropics.

Genus MERANOPLUS F. Smith

Body hairs moderately numerous and of one type: simple and flexible. Cranium subrectangular in anterior view, slightly longer than broad. Head hairs moderately numerous and simple. Antennae small. Labrum small and feebly bilobed; posterior surface sparsely spinulose. Mandible subtriangular in anterior view; apex slightly turned medially and forming a sharp-pointed tooth; middle half of the anterior surface of inner border blade-like, furnished with a few ridges (or grooves?) and sometimes bearing one or more small denticles. Maxillary palp a low knob bearing five sensilla. Labial palps each represented by a cluster of five sensilla; an isolated sensillum between each palp and the opening of the sericteries. Hypopharynx sparsely spinulose, the spinules minute and in a few long subtransverse rows.

MERANOPLUS OCEANICUS F. Smith

Pl. I, figs. 16-18

Leg, wing and gonopod vestiges present. Body hairs moderately numerous, simple and flexible, 0.054-0.245 mm long. Cranium subrectangular in anterior view, slightly longer than broad. Head hairs moderately numerous, simple, slightly curved, minute to long (0.018-0.14 mm). Antennae small; each with three sensilla, each of which bears a minute spinule. Labrum small, breadth 2× length, feebly bilobed due to a median impression of the ventral border; slightly narrowed dorsally; anterior surface of each lobe with 5-7 minute (about 0.009 mm) hairs and/or spinulose sensilla; ventral border of each lobe with a cluster of two or three sensilla; posterior surface with a few subtransverse rows of rather sparse minute spinules; posterior surface of each half with a cluster of two or three sensilla and three isolated sensilla. Mandibles moderately sclerotized; subtriangular in anterior view, apex slightly turned medially and forming a sharp-pointed tooth; middle half of anterior surface of inner border blade-like and furnished with a few ridges (or grooves?), sometimes bearing one or more small denticles. Maxillae with the apex paraboloidal; palp a low knob with five sensilla, four of which bear a spinule each; galea a frustum with two apical sensilla. Labial palps each represented by a cluster of five sensilla, four of which bear a spinule each; an isolated sensillum between each palp and the opening of the sericteries; the latter a short transverse slit. Hypopharynx sparsely spinulose, the spinules minute and arranged in a few long subtransverse rows. (*Material studied*: seven tattered integuments from New South Wales.)

Tribe OCHETOMYRMICINI Emery

This is a small Neotropical tribe of ten species—two in *Ochetomyrmex* and eight in *Wasmannia*. *W. auropunctata* "has recently become established in southern Florida. It is not surprising that this insect should have made its appearance there, since it has been carried all over the tropics in both the Old and New World. Moreover, *auropunctata* appears to be an exceedingly adaptable species as far as the type of nest site is concerned. M. R. Smith (1936) has pointed out that it will tolerate all sort of nesting conditions from heavy shade to areas of extreme dryness and intense illumination. On the other hand, *auropunctata* shows no such adaptability in the matter of mean yearly temperature. It