

valuable phylogenetic characters that it is doubtful whether we shall ever be certain of its true affinities. . . . It is possible that forms as yet unknown will reveal their ancestry more clearly. Until that time, however, subfamily rank for the *Leptanillinae* may as well be maintained. Present opinion seems to favor relating this group to the *Dorylinae*."

The larvae of the Leptanillinae do bear certain resemblances to the known doryline larvae (*Dorylus*, *Aenictus*, *Eciton*, *Cheliomyrmex*): the long slender body and the small feebly sclerotized mandibles. On the other hand, they differ in the constriction at the metathorax, the long hairs on the abdomen, the absence of hairs on the head and the shape of the head. But these differences become trivial and insignificant beside the three which not only differentiate them from the Dorylinae, but also from all other known formicid larvae (160 genera): (1) the peculiar projection from the ventral surface of the prothorax; (2) the reduction of the spiracles from the normal ten pairs to a single pair, which is located on abdominal somite III; and (3) the shape and stance of the mandibles.

Subfamily LEPTANILLINAE Emery

Elongate and very slender; slightly constricted at the metathorax; anterior end curved ventrally; remainder of body straight and clavate. With a curious complex structure projecting anteroventrally from the ventral surface of the prothorax. Only one pair of spiracles, located on abdominal somite III; each spiracle opening eccentrically on a naked circular area. Body hairs simple; the minute hairs very abundant and uniformly distributed; a few conspicuous long hairs sparsely scattered. Head naked and elongate. Antennae small, slightly raised, each with two sensilla. Labrum slightly broader than long, with the ventral border semicircular; posterior surface spinulose, with the spinules in rows. Mandibles apparently turned laterally (instead of medially, as is usual with ant larvae); feebly sclerotized; each with a rather long slender sharp-pointed apical tooth, which curves laterally; lateral (=outer) border furnished with several long slender sharp-pointed teeth; anterior surface with rows of spinules. Labium thin, flap-like and narrowed basally; lateral surfaces sclerotized; each palp a low ventrolateral projection bearing five sensilla.

Of all the ant larvae studied we have found the Leptanillinae the most difficult to process partly because of their small size but chiefly because of their extreme slenderness. A slender larva is more apt to collapse than a stout one. Furthermore the constriction at the metathorax aggravates the difficulty of cleaning and predisposes to breakage in that region. As a result processing has often left us only