

Subfamilies can get no smaller: 1 genus with 1 species—*Aneuretus simoni* of Ceylon. This genus was formerly placed apologetically in the Dolichoderinae but in a separate tribe. It is regarded as annectant between the Dolichoderinae and the Ponerinae. "There is evidence to suggest, and apparently none to deny, that the aneuretines represent the direct ancestors of the Dolichoderinae, and perhaps also of the Formicinae. At the same time it appears, on the important basis of external abdominal anatomy, that the aneuretines are more closely related to *Nothomyrmecia*, the living 'archetypal' myrmeciine ant of Australia, than to any other primitive ant group." (Wilson, Eisner, Wheeler & Wheeler 1956:92.)

DOLICHERINAE

Workers.—Integument usually relatively thin and flexible. Clypeus produced upward between the frontal carinae. Antennae of 12 segments (except 11 in *Semonius*) Metanotum participating in the thoracic dorsum; its spiracles often forming a dorsal protuberance. Pedicel of 1 segment, which is often surmounted by a scale. Cloacal opening a ventral transverse slit. Sting vestigial. A pair of anal vesicles into which unicellular anal glands empty their secretion; when irritated the worker expels the secretion, which becomes resinous in contact with air and gives off a characteristic aromatic odor.

Females.—Winged but otherwise similar to workers.

Males.—Winged. Antennae always 13-segmented.

Larvae.—Plump, chunky and turgid; straight or slightly curved; mostly subellipsoidal, with both ends broadly and equally rounded; anterior end formed by the enlarged dorsal portion of the prothorax; head ventral near the anterior end; no neck. Practically hairless; when present, hairs are few, short and usually simple. Mouth parts small; spinules sparse or absent. Mandibles small, feebly sclerotized; basal portion inflated; distal portion slender and acuminate, without teeth on the medial border (rarely a single small tooth). Maxillary palps and galeae represented by clusters of sensilla, never paxilliform.

Pupae.—Always naked.

This is a very homogeneous subfamily comprising 230 species in 19 genera. It is largely tropical, but 6 of the genera occur in the Holarctic Realm. The highly specialized larvae are fed with liquid food regurgitated by the workers.

FORMICINAE

Workers.—Integument relatively thin and flexible. Antennae of 8–12 segments; funiculus long and filiform, rarely forming a feebly developed club. Pedicel of 1 segment, which is usually surmounted by a scale. Sting vestigial. Poison glands converted into a cushion of convolutions; the poison (mostly formic acid) can be ejected with great force in certain genera (e.g., *Formica*) through a circular opening (the acidopore, which is not the cloacal opening) at the posterior end of the gaster; acidopore typically fringed with a circle of short fine hairs, which keeps the spray of poison directed outward away from the body.