

*Pheidole nodus* F. Smith subsp. *rhombinoda* Mayr.—Workers from Back Liang (S. F. Light) and Peking (C. F. Wu); soldiers, workers and females from Tsingtau and Weih sien, Shantung (R. H. Lefevre); soldiers and workers from Chao Yang and Shantung (A. P. Jacot).

From a study of the specimens in my collection I am convinced that Mayr's *rhombinoda* (1878) is merely a subspecies of Smith's *nodus* (1874) of Japan. The latter is somewhat smaller in all the female castes (soldier, 4–4.5 mm.; worker, 2.3–2.5 mm.; female, 5.5–5.7 mm. as compared with *rhombinoda*: soldier, 4.5–5 mm.; worker, 2.8–3 mm.; female, 6.3–6.6 mm.). The head of the soldier *nodus* is distinctly smaller, less deeply excised and impressed behind and more coarsely sculptured. The humeri are somewhat more rounded, the body is less shining, the tibiae more hairy and the color is darker in both soldier and female. The latter is also more heavily sculptured and less shining than the female of *rhombinoda*. Wings opaque brown, with pale brown veins and pterostigma. I refer the specimens recently collected by Prof. F. Silvestri in Japan and described in my paper of 1928 to Smith's type because he gives the color as "obscurely ferruginous." The form collected by Sauter at Okayama, Japan and described as Smith's *nodus* in my paper of 1906 is really a pale variety, which may be called *prævezata*, new variety. The soldier of this form is of the same size as the typical *nodus* but yellowish ferruginous, with the thorax and petiole paler and the legs yellow, the scapes dark brown. The worker is yellowish brown with the gaster and posterior portion of the head somewhat darker. The female is dark red, with the legs and epinotal declivity paler and more yellowish, the gaster dark brown, except at the base.

The subspecies *rhombinoda* seems to be common and widely distributed in China. The soldiers differ from those of India and Indochina in my collection in having the head somewhat less deeply excised and impressed behind and are therefore more like the typical *nodus*. Further study may show that the Chinese form should be regarded as a distinct race or variety. For the present I arrange the known forms of the species as follows:

#### ***Pheidole nodus* F. Smith**

Subspecies *nodus* F. Smith. Japan

Variety *prævezata*, new variety. Japan

Subspecies *rhombinoda* Mayr. India, Ceylon, Burma, Indochina, China

Variety *formosensis* Forel. Formosa

Variety *micantiventris* Forel. Ceylon, Indochina

Variety *taprobanae* Forel. Ceylon

Subspecies *stella* Forel. Sikkim