

*Spelaeomyrmex*, on its status as a troglobite, and on the ecological singularity of cave ants in general.

#### TAXONOMY

##### *Erebomyrma* Wheeler

*Erebomyrma* Wheeler, 1903, Biol. Bull., 4:137-148, minor worker, queen, male. Type species (monobasic): *Erebomyrma longi* Wheeler.

*Spelaeomyrmex* Wheeler, 1922, Amer. Mus. Novitates, 45:9, minor workers. Type species (monobasic): *Spelaeomyrmex urichi* Wheeler. NEW SYNONYMY.

Following is a list of the known species of *Erebomyrma*, with attendant bibliography:

*eidmanni* Menozzi, in H. Eidmann, 1936, Arb. phys. Angew. ent. Berlin-Dahlem, 3:47-48, fig. V (1-4), worker, soldier, queen. Type locality: Mendes, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

*longi* Wheeler, 1903, Biol. Bull., 4:137-148, figs. 1-5, minor worker, queen, male. Type locality: Denton, Texas.

*morai* Menozzi, 1931, Bull. Lab. Zool. Gen. Agr., Portici, 25:271-272, fig. 7, worker. Original localities: Apaican, Vulcano; and San José (Costa Rica). Borgmeier, 1949, Rev. Brasil. Biol., 9:207-208, figs. 8-9, "ergatogyne" (= soldier), second record from San José, Costa Rica.

*nevermanni* Mann, 1926, Psyche, 33:103-104, worker. Type locality: Hamburg Farm, Reventazon, Santa Clara, Costa Rica.

*peruviana* Emery, 1905, Bull. Soc. Ent. Ital., 37:139, nota, queen. Type locality: Marcapata, Peru.

*urichi* (Wheeler), 1922, Amer. Mus. Novitates, 45:9-11, fig. 1A-B, minor worker. Type locality: "Guacharo Cave," Trinidad. (*Spelaeomyrmex urichi*). Other records: Cuba, Yucatan, Surinam.

The minor-worker characters cited by Wheeler as most strongly separating *urichi* from *longi*, and hence *Spelaeomyrmex* from *Erebomyrma*, are: larger head size; angulate (vs. round) humeri; proportionately larger first gastric segment; and minor features in the shape of the petiole, postpetiole, and legs. These differences probably signify a specific distinction between *urichi* and *longi*, but they are not great enough to justify a generic break, even by liberal standards. The synonymy is supported by the fact that the newly-discovered queen and male of *urichi* are closely similar to these castes in *longi*. One possible difference of generic magnitude, unknown to Wheeler, still remains: *eidmanni*, *morai*, *nevermanni*, and *urichi* are now known to