

seems a fairly safe conjecture that *longi* soldiers will be discovered when whole colonies of that species are collected.

As just noted, the Oropouche *urichi* and a colony taken at Bernhardsdorp, Surinam, are considered conspecific. The minor workers of the two colonies are virtually identical. In the Oropouche soldier the anterior face of the petiolar node is slightly more inclined posteriorly (thus forming a greater angle with its anterior peduncle), the anterodorsal nodal angle somewhat more rounded, the propodeal angles are more pronounced and acute, and there are some differences in thoracic form and sculpturing (see text-figure). The Oropouche queens have slightly more developed propodeal spines and larger ocelli. In other respects the soldiers and queens appear identical between the two colonies.

Together, the Trinidad and Surinam *urichi* differ markedly from those in a series of *Erebomyrma* collected recently at Barro Colorado (W. L. Brown and E. S. McCluskey *leg.*) and tentatively determined as *nevermanni* Mann. The *urichi* minor worker has distinctly narrower, more erect propodeal spines; while the *urichi* soldier is much smaller and with more pronounced propodeal spines (text-figure).

#### ECOLOGY

*Trinidad.* The Oropouche Cave is the source of the Oropouche River, which extends back into the cave as a clear stream several meters in width. A colony of *Erebomyrma urichi* was found approximately 30 meters inside the cave on the bank of the stream, in very feeble light coming from the plainly visible cave mouth. Much of the ground was covered by guano dropped from the large numbers of guacharos nesting overhead. The arthropod fauna at this point was rich and diverse, consisting of ants [*Mesoponera constricta* Mayr, *Odontomachus haematodus* (Linné), and *Solenopsis (Diplorhoptrum) tenuis* Mayr], as well as the *Erebomyrma*, entomobryid collembolans, cave crickets, dermapterans, small flies, and mites. The ant species, other than *Erebomyrma*, have been collected outside caves in Trinidad. *Mesoponera constricta*, which was the most common forager in the vicinity of the *Erebomyrma* nest, was also a dominant ant along the trails through cacao plantations in the Cumaca area. Most of the other insects appeared to be troglaphiles. Fifteen meters farther in, and in almost total darkness, a large *Bufo marinus* was found. In short, at the site of the first *Erebomyrma* nest, troglaphilic (facultatively cavernicolous) animals predominated.

A second group of foraging *Erebomyrma* workers, almost certainly