

taxonomy and ecology are too poorly known to allow further generalization. Kempf (1961) records *Labidus coecus* (Latreille) from "guacharo" caves in northern Peru and Venezuela. Both collections were made in zones of total darkness, at 90 m. and 800 m. respectively from the cave mouths. As Kempf points out, *L. coecus* is one of the commonest and most adaptable army ant species and ranges, at widely varying elevations, from the southern United States to northern Argentina. Santschi (1914) records eight species collected by Ch. Alluaud and R. Jeannel from caves at Tanga and Shimoni, Tanganyika. These can be roughly characterized as follows: *Ponera dulcis* Ford, widespread but known from only a few records; *Leptogenys jeanneli* Santschi, known only from the type collection but an unexceptional member of the epigeic *falcigera* group; *Odontomachus haematoda* L. var. *trogloodytes* Santschi, probably the same as the very widespread, abundant African "*haematoda*" or "*haematoda stanleyi*" (? *nec haematoda* L. of the New World); *Dorylus fimbriatus* (Shuckard), very widespread and abundant; *Monomorium rhopalocerum* Emery subsp. *speluncarum* Santschi, probably equals *rhopalocerum*, a widespread and apparently relatively common species, collected at Shimoni only at a cave entrance; *Strumigenys stygia* Santschi, known only from the type collection but otherwise a morphologically unexceptional species of the *rogeri* group (see Brown, 1954); *Miccostruma marginata* (Santschi), known only from the type collection taken at cave entrance and not morphologically peculiar; *Paratrechina (Nylanderia) jaegerskioldi* (Mayr), very widespread and abundant. Thus this African cave fauna is made up of five more or less common widely distributed species together with three species still known only from the type caves. The latter exceptional group, however, belong to genera (*Leptogenys*, *Strumigenys*, *Miccostruma*) in which rare, local species are usual, so that no particular ecological significance can be attached to the fact that their known range is at present so limited.

Cave ants do not as a group possess the usual morphological modifications found in extreme cave dwellers. For the most part, they show no exceptional pigment or eye reduction when compared with their congeneric relatives, and, in the cases where their habits are known, they are no less epigeic in their foraging behavior. Conversely, the majority of the most highly modified hypogeic and subterranean tropical ant taxa are unknown from caves, e.g., extreme species of *Amblyopone*, *Centromyrmex*, *Solenopsis (Diplorhoptum)*, *Tranopelta*, *Acropyga*. We may conclude that the troglonexes and troglophiles are characteristically generally adaptable rather than pre-