

Overall, the minor and major workers associated with the *microgyna* queens are different enough to be tentatively regarded as representing a species distinct from *minutula*. It might seem to follow that they are the offspring of *microgyna* queens. However, a complicating factor is the existence in the Museum of Comparative Zoology of a series from Kalacoon, Guyana, of which the minor and major workers resemble those associated with *microgyna* at Kartabo and the queens are large forms closely similar to the Brazilian *minutula*.

The latter circumstance is consistent with the hypothesis that *microgyna* is a temporary social parasite of *minutula* or some related free-living species. The peculiar morphology of the *microgyna* queens also suggests such a life cycle. However, the mystery of the status of this remarkable form will not be solved until additional collections are made, permitting the taxonomy of the *minutula* group to be more fully clarified.

#### AN ANNOTATED LIST OF ADDITIONAL KNOWN AND POSSIBLE SOCIAL PARASITES OF *PHEIDOLE*

*Pheidole acutidens* (Santschi), *An. Soc. Cient. Argent.*, 94, 248-251, figures A-D (1922). *Bruchomyrma acutidens*. Type locality: Alta Gracia, Córdoba, Argentina. Queen. Host: *Pheidole nitidula*. *Pheidole* (= *Bruchomyrma*), New synonymy.

BRUCH (1931) provided extensive notes on the ecology, behavior, life cycle, and anatomy of this remarkable workerless inquiline. The male is brachypterous and pupiform. The queen possesses many degenerate traits of her own. For example, the number of antennal segments in 11 queens I have examined varies from 9 to 11; in some cases the number differs on the antennae of the same individual. The instability of the trait is further evidenced by the fact that various degrees of fusion, from partial to complete, can be observed from one adjacent pair of segments to the next. The mandibles of the queen are reduced to tiny appendages, toothless, tapered to a blunt point at the end, and only 0.06-0.07 mm long. They leave a gap of 0.13 mm between their tips when in repose.

BROWN (1973) suggested the possibility of generic synonymy of *Bruchomyrma* under *Pheidole*. For reasons to be given in the later section on phylogeny, I am making this change as a formal step.

*Pheidole argentina* (Bruch), *Rev. Mus. La Plata, Buenos Aires*, 33, 271-275, figures 1-8 (1932). *Gallardomyrma argentina*. Type locality: Alta Gracia (La Granja), Sierra de Córdoba, Argentina. Queen. Host: *Pheidole nitidula*. Generic synonymy by Brown W.L., in Meggers B.J. et al., eds., *Tropical Forest Ecosystems in Africa and South America* (Smithsonian Institution Press), p. 180 (1973).