

The unusual species *Hagioxenus schmitzi*, described by FOREL (1910) from a single alate queen collected in Jerusalem, should be reexamined with reference to its possible parasitic status and relationship either to *Pheidole* or, as noted by W.L. BROWN (in Ettershank, 1966), to *Monomorium*. The specimen was collected in a nest of *Tapinoma erraticum*. Being alate, it is not a strong candidate for a parasite of that dolichoderine species. But it has at least some traits expected of a parasitic *Pheidole*: 12-segmented antenna with a 3-segmented club (characteristic of *Pheidole* generally), small body size, rounded head, unarmed propodeum which is also flattened and lacking distinct division into basal and declivitous faces, thickened petiole and postpetiole, and shining body surface. On the other hand the scapes do not reach the occipital border, and the body color is predominantly brown, a darker color not encountered in other pheidoline parasites. The petiole and postpetiole bear ventral processes, which are atypical of *Pheidole*. Of uncertain significance is the large, flat clypeus and indistinct frontal areas, perhaps overemphasized by Forel as a character state of generic rank.

*Hagioxenus mayri* (Forel), *Zool. Jahrb.* (suppl.), 15, 1-57 (1912). Type locality: Poona, India. Host: *Pheidole latinoda*. *Rhoptromyrmex mayri* Forel; generic transfer by Brown W.L., *Pilot Register of Zoology*, No. 19 (1964).

The Indian *H. mayri* is an even more promising candidate than *H. schmitzi* to be a pheidoline (and possibly a member of *Pheidole*), because of its apparent parasitic association with *Pheidole latinoda*: « mit *Pheidole latinoda* zusammen von Herrn R. Wroughton gesammelt » (FOREL, 1912). As BROWN (1964) notes, the resemblance of the species to *Hagioxenus schmitzi* could be due to convergence, and its phylogenetic origin is wholly conjectural. The distinguishing traits of *H. mayri* include the following: scapes exceeding occipital border by one-third their length; body wholly smooth and shining; and body and appendages covered by thick, standing hairs.

*Parapheidole oculata* (Emery), *Boll. Soc. Ent. Ital.*, 3, 276-277 (1899). *Aphaenogaster oculata*. Queen, a unique specimen. Type locality: Baie d'Antongil, Malagasy Republic (Madagascar). Host: unknown. *Parapheidole* Emery, *Rend. Accad. Sci. Bologna*, 1914-15, p. 68 (type species: *Aphaenogaster oculata* Emery).

Until the unique type can be restudied, and perhaps additional collections made in Madagascar, the validity and phylogenetic position of this problematic genus are insoluble. Its status as a social parasite, suggested by several authors in the past, is also under question. As noted in table I, *Parapheidole oculata* possesses few traits of the parasitic syndrome. Most suggestively, the queen is relatively large in size (total length 5.25 mm, scape length 1.4 mm)