

[28 June 1985]

Reprinted from PSYCHE, Vol. 92, No. 1, 1985

ANTS OF THE DOMINICAN AMBER
(HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE).
3. THE SUBFAMILY DOLICHODERINAE

BY EDWARD O. WILSON

Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University,
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, U.S.A.

The Dolichoderinae, in particular the species of *Azteca* and *Iridomyrmex*, are by a wide margin the most abundantly represented ants in the Dominican amber. They are also exceptional in the number of genera occurring in the amber but not in the modern fauna of the Greater Antilles. In other words the Dolichoderinae appear to have undergone a considerable amount of retreat entailing local extinction since early Miocene times, and for this reason alone the fossil species deserve close attention. In the present review I have relied principally on the large collections I have assembled for the Museum of Comparative Zoology during the past 10 years, supplemented substantially by material loaned by Dr. Robert E. Woodruff. All of the holotypes (except *Dolichoderus dibolia*) and most of the paratypes have been deposited in the Museum of Comparative Zoology. The holotype of *D. dibolia* and a few paratypes have been placed in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville, Florida. Earlier parts of this series have dealt with extinct myrmicine genera and the ecitonine army ants respectively (Wilson, 1985a, b).

Dolichoderus

This genus of large, slender ants is composed today of 8 species limited to the moist tropical forests of South America. The colonies are mostly or exclusively arboreal. The species to be described below is clearly a member of the distinctive *attelaboides* group, which ranges from the Amazonian region of Bolivia north to Trinidad.