

THE OCCURRENCE OF THE SUBFAMILY LEPTANILLINAE
IN JAPAN*

(Hymenoptera, Formicidae)

By

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The subfamily Leptanillinae has been represented by three genera (*Leptanilla*, *Leptomesites* and *Phaulomyrma*) and sixteen species, and its range of geographical distribution is peculiar. It is found in two islands in the Mediterranean Sea, North Africa, India, Ceylon, Malaya, Java and in the southwest of Australia. Not a single species of the subfamily has hitherto been discovered in China or Japan.

To my surprise one species of the genus *Leptanilla* was recently found on Mt. Hiko, Kyushu, Japan, by Messrs. K. Morimoto and R. Morimoto.

This species represents a new, and the thirteenth, species of the genus, very different from any other known member of the group. The occurrence of the subfamily in Japan suggests that the ants of this group originated in Tropical India and from this original center long ago dispersed in three directions.

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***Leptanilla morimotoi* sp. nov.**

Worker. Head flattened above, oblong, about 1.4 times as long as wide, widest at the middle, as wide in front as behind, with posterior corners rounded and posterior border feebly concave, about 1.5 times as wide as propodeum, very

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