

"*aterrima*." Sculpture, pubescence and color are clearly very close to those of *japonicus*, and there is no convincing, direct evidence known to us to suggest that samples of this class occur at the same exact sites with, and there grade into, any more *herculeanus*-like class. Variation in projection of the clypeal lobe is a character most difficult to evaluate, since it is slight at best, and since it is allometrically controlled in the very size-variable worker-female castes of this complex. It seems that the character is not especially well correlated with density of pubescence or any other feature, and it is not even possible to be sure that specimens from Japan have a more strongly projecting lobe on the average than, say, samples from northwestern China.

It is our opinion now that Class I belongs to *C. japonicus*, and that it is in fact not far from typical for this species. The most conspicuous variate, gastric pubescence, seems to show slight reduction in peripheral areas (i.e., those away from Japan and central China), and not just in the direction of *herculeanus*-inhabited areas. In fact, samples of both species from Sikang Province (at different altitudes) are sharply distinct. The mountains of Sikang form the western scarp of the Tibetan Plateau, here rising sharply from the Red Basin of Szechuan. The *japonicus* samples from this general area of west-central China collected by D. C. Graham and by Brown show no tendency to vary toward *herculeanus* despite the proximity of the latter species here.

So far as can be determined from the many explicit records known to us, *C. japonicus*, including Class I samples, is always a soil nester in eastern Asia. The exact geographical range in full remains to be worked out. In addition to the Volga-Urals populations, there are presumably solid records such as that of Eidmann (1942), who noted *C. japonicus* from 2700 m. at Turbaling, N. W. Himalaya, taken by the Nanga Parbat Expedition. The Siberian records, mostly in Russian publications, are of little use to us, due to their generally obvious taxonomic and nomenclatorial confusion in dealing with this complex. Actually, we have little reliable and explicit information about the northward extent of the *C. japonicus* distribution, where it is sympatric with *C. herculeanus*, if anywhere, and how it behaves toward the latter if the two are in direct contact.

#### *Class II.*

Samples falling in this class are now considered by us to represent probable melanic examples of *C. herculeanus*. They agree with *herculeanus* in all characters except their color, which is nearly or completely black throughout. A sample from the Southern Japanese Alps contains some workers with the alitrunk entirely black, but others