

live hemipteran nymph was seized by a minor, carried to the nest, and then torn apart and consumed by several individuals.

A clump of about 35 fig seeds was present within the *A. notabilis* nest (fig. 2). Similar tiny seeds were found in the nests of *A. notabilis* colonies collected from rotten wood by W. L. Brown, Jr. on Mount Klabat, not far from Tangkoko-Batuangus Reserve. A minority of other, unidentified seeds of a size comparable to the fig seeds or slightly larger were also present in these nests. In the field *A. notabilis* minors carried three sesame seeds to their nest from a bait of bird seeds. However, captive *A. notabilis* ants completely ignored all seeds provided, including the fig seeds taken from their own colony.

There are indications that seeds are normally a significant part of the diet. Many of the fig seeds taken from *A. notabilis* nests had their outer layer gnawed away. Moreover, the mandibles of the majors were badly worn, which would be expected if this caste mills seeds. The region of northern Sulawesi that includes Mt. Klabat and the neighboring Tangkoko-Batuangus Reserve is exceptionally rich

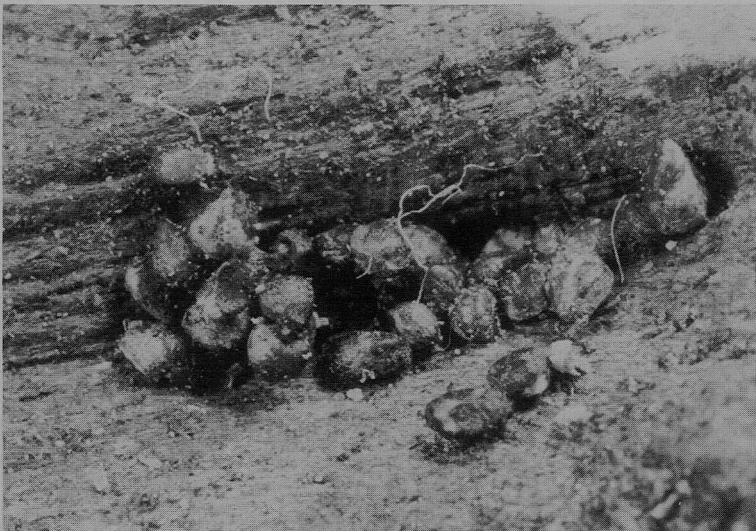


Figure 2. Fig seeds from *Acanthomyrmex notabilis* colony in situ.